

# BIA success up to members



## CATCH THE WIND

Spring brings winds, as well as rain and that first taste of summer sunshine. Marty Rogers took advantage of the wind with some fancy kite-flying in the yard at Centennial School recently, with a little help from his friends in untangling the knots and keeping the kite aloft. All too soon, the spring winds will drop to the summer breezes and kite-flying will be over for a while. (Herald photo by Lori Taylor)

**Herald Special**  
Business improvement areas (BIA) are only as effective as the members who form them, and members need to participate in order to improve their community, according to Acton BIA president Larry Greaves.

Studies released in the United States show that shopping malls and plazas are dropping off drastically as increasing energy costs make travelling to malls uneconomical. Mr. Greaves told BIA members at their recent annual meeting.

Women going back to work often find employment in core areas and get into the habit of shopping near their place of business. Between them, these two factors may indicate that

malls will eventually "go the way of the dinosaur."

Mr. Greaves urged Acton merchants to organize so they can offer consumers a cohesive place to shop. Planning shouldn't be a dirty word for merchants, he said.

Although the BIA can't do the physical work involved in improving the downtown core it can stand behind plans and support merchants in their own improvements as well as organizing things like advertising campaigns, uniform store hours and beautification programs.

He noted that the provincial government is committed to renewing downtown Ontario and has instituted programs for revitalizing downtowns and

mainstreets. Sally Hannon, a community renewal officer with the provincial government encouraged the members to be present at a government conference in June in Toronto aimed at information exchange on various aspects of downtown renewal.

### BAD NEWS

She gave members some bad news when she said that although Acton itself would appear to qualify for support under the mainstreet revitalization program it is classed as

part of Halton Hills which gives it a population in excess of 30,000 and makes it ineligible.

She said she sympathized with their need for assistance and notes that programs are being reviewed constantly but was not in a position to promise any changes in the qualifications in future.

She advised members to have their plans in order so that if changes were made the BIA can take advantage of them.

Paul Neilson showed slides

of the downtown pointing out improvements already made and some in progress.

He told members that Acton has been more fortunate than some small towns in that its residents spend a high percentage of their purchasing dollars locally.

Now it is up to the merchants to see that they continue the trend by giving shoppers an attractive place to conduct their business so that new residents coming to the town learn to shop here as long-time residents do, he said.



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## GLT ROMANCE

Greg and Ginny as played by Mike MacDonald and Debbie Douglas kiss and attempt to makeup in GLT's production of "Relatively Speaking" which opens April 18. (Herald photo)

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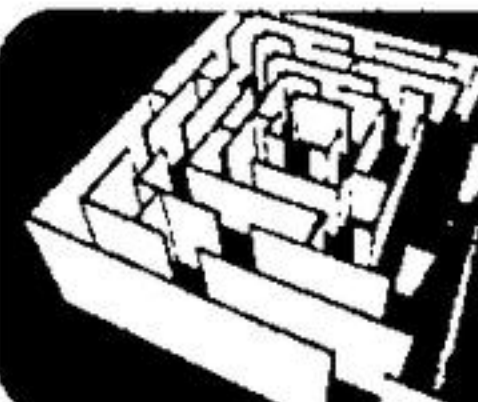
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3 Bedroom that is spotless. Beautiful lot that backs on to open land. Don't miss this one. Call Bert Boersma or Bob MacDonald for your own personal inspection.

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**THIS IS A REAL BARGAIN**  
**23 ACRE FARM**

Only 10 minutes to Georgetown. 3 bedroom home with huge kitchen. Large, bank barn, excellent 10 1/4 percent Mortgage due in '82. Cam or Gloria Eades

**A RARE FIND—**  
**3 ACRES**

Delightful 3 bedroom bungalow nestled amongst mature trees. 2 baths, fireplace, 6th line location. Under \$95,000. Call Susan Carrier.

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**CHECK THIS FOR VALUE**

Reduced for quick sale, now only \$62,700, for this 3+ bedroom home in desirable area. Spotless condition, extras too numerous to mention. Priced to sell. Call Susan Carrier.

**HERE'S YOUR CHANCE**

You name it, this home has it. Looks like something right out of a decorating magazine. 3 bedrooms, family room, fireplace, beautifully landscaped. Don't miss this one. Call Susan Carrier, only \$73,900.

**SPRING VALUE!**

Sold brick 3 bedroom bungalow in excellent condition, large finished rec. room with fireplace, 4th bedroom down, large fenced lot in GOOD LOCATION. Asking \$62,900. Call Del d'Entremont.

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