

EDITORIAL

with Frances Learment

Lest We Forget

Every year, on 11 November at 11 a.m. – the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month – we pause to remember the men and women who suffered or died in all wars, conflicts and peace operations.

Each year the number of aging Canadian veterans dwindles – none who fought in WWI are alive – and the current death rate for WWII veterans is approximately 300 each week, an attrition rate higher than of the war itself.

Veterans Affairs reported as of last March, 107,600 of the more than one-million Canadians and Newfoundlanders in service from 1939 and 1945 were still alive. Their average age is 88, and with them will die many of the first-hand accounts of the bloody battles that secured our freedom.

At ceremonies this weekend in Acton and Rockwood, we will remember ordinary men and women who did extraordinary things and pay homage to those who died in service to their country. We remember their sacrifices and resolve to work for peace.

The Book of Proverbs says, “Good men must die, but death cannot kill their names.” So, with the solemn reading of the names of the Glorious dead engraved on Cenotaphs around the world, we intone Lest We Forget.

Looking Back



Ten Years Ago

• Acton is ready to grow – Council gave final planning approval for 441 single-family lots on the south side of Highway 7 and 227 lots on the north side.

• A record hot summer and opening of the hydro market to competition doubled and tripled hydro bills, leaving Halton Hills Hydro inundated with phone calls from concerned customers.

Five Years Ago

• St. Joseph’s Catholic Women’s League celebrated its 50th anniversary with congratulations for expanding parish activities beyond traditional ministries.

• Eramosa Township established a special niche in Ontario agriculture with formation of Elk Alley, six are elk farmers and industry members who will work together to market breeding stock, antler velvet, meat and skins.

Correction

In last week’s photo caption “Knox Nosh” several names were mis-stated including Ross Briton, Colleen Venema and Bert Venema. The New Tanner regrets the errors and apologizes.



TWO POPPIES: During last year’s Remembrance Day ceremonies Duchess Kate Middleton wore two poppies, one a memorial to all those touched by war, and one for her late grandfather, Peter Middleton, who trained as a pilot in Calgary during WWII. At least one Acton resident suggests wearing two poppies is a respectful gesture which could be copied in Canada. – Submitted photo

From the desk of...

Oh, there is so much stuff in the news lately that makes me wonder and re-read articles just to make sure I didn’t read it wrong. This is a hodge-podge of different things that has caught my eye in the last little while. Keep an open mind when reading, and remember it’s just one person’s thoughts.

Let’s start with Canada Post... one of my pet peeves of the past. I say in the past because I let my People magazine subscription expire and since my life with Canada Post has been much less stressful. However, Canada Post has decided to now charge housing developers to install those ugly community mail boxes at \$200 per address...\$200 per address! Apparently each year approximately 200,000 mailing address are added to mail delivery. Do the math...it’s a lot of money. What I don’t understand if community mail boxes are more efficient as they make delivery more prompt and I would assume their Worker’s Compensation claims are down if they have fewer “mailmen” walking routes and carrying heavy bags. Why would Canada Post want to charge for this instead of encourage it? I understand it is to cover the cost of maintenance and installation, yet wouldn’t that for any other business be a cost of “doing business”?

Did you know there are at least



By
Angela Tyler

six businesses for sale in downtown Acton alone? Have you looked downtown Acton lately? More importantly have you shopped in any of the stores in between the Sobeys and Giant Tiger lately? There are a lot of stores. Six businesses are listed with a realtor for sale which means they potentially could close if not sold. This would be a huge impact on the town and the downtown core. Christmas is only a little over a month away. If you’re giving presents this year please check out the merchants throughout the entire town. Doing business in town does this town good and maybe keeps a neighbour employed.

Speaking of shopping, Acton is on a teeter-totter now for getting another grocery store. This is a touchy yet important item for the residents of this town. Five residents showed up at a recent meeting to discuss and voice their concerns over the zoning and amendments requested by the developers. Here is how I see the situation in general terms. I am not versed on zoning, traffic studies and all the other stuff needed for this

project to go ahead. I’m not here to bash the other places to buy grocery items in town. After all, the big grocery store just dropped millions of dollars in renovations and employs a great deal of local people, however, what I like is the ability to have a choice in town. We do have quite a bit of choice for groceries, but more choice, I think, is wanted.

What concerns me was it was brought forward by one of the residents that we in Acton could drive to Georgetown if we wanted to shop elsewhere close by. Well, who wants to do that especially with the price of gas? I am now at an age where I can’t be bothered driving here and there to get this and that. It’s too exhausting and time consuming. I find malls draining, box malls too much effort, and just the time going out of town is a waste of my time. I would rather shop in town and I want to shop in town.

If you want another grocery store then tell your elected officials or get a hold of the town planner and make your voice known. If we want to attract more retail and restaurants we have to have a reason for businesses to want to come here and having many for sale downtown isn’t exactly encouraging news for potential new businesses. If you want businesses to survive in town then buy in town. If we build it, they will come.



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