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"ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED"

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1994

Acton's Bert Hinton passes away at age 81

BY PAUL NOLAN
The Acton Tanner

Bert Hinton, one of Acton's most respected and celebrated citizens, died Sunday. He was 81.

Hinton, who lived for many years on Park Avenue, had been living with his son John in Alberta for a short time before he died. He passed away at University Hospital in Edmonton after a battle with cancer.

Hinton was an Acton merchant

since 1929, operating "Hinton's Five-Cent-to-a-Dollar" store on Mill Street. He also was a president of the Acton Chamber of Commerce and the Acton Fall Fair, reeve of the Town of Acton and warden of Halton County.

Indeed, Hinton's list of accomplishments is long and varied.

"Perhaps the biggest thing my dad did was take Sheridan College and build it from a field of dirt into what it is now," said son John

yesterday (Tuesday).

Hinton, who often mentioned the fact that he never received his high school diploma, was a charter member and chairman of the board of governors at Sheridan College. He also was the founding member and president of the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario and he was a trustee with the Halton Board of Education.

The war-time flight lieutenant

in the Royal Canadian Air Force (from 1939 to '45) was married to the late Mary Jackson. The couple is survived by two sons, Robert and John, and daughter Catherine.

Son John, 49, now practices law in Edmonton: "My father had a tremendous influence on me. We didn't always see eye-to-eye, but he gave me supreme values which guide me through my life.

"There was a certain amount of distance between us until the last

couple of years, but we came together in the last 10 days before he died. I believe that's what Dad wanted, and that's why he finally agreed to come out here and live with me; he wanted the whole family together at Christmas.

"When he passed away it was, to the minute, the exact anniversary of my birth."

Funeral service will be held at St. Alban's church on Saturday at 1 pm.

Teens hold up store

Two Acton teenagers, aged 14 and 15, held up the Lakeview Convenience store with what appeared to be a handgun, a week ago last Wednesday.

The pair walked into the store, demanded an undisclosed amount of cash and then fled with the clerk in hot pursuit. The would-be robbers managed to elude the clerk, but one of them was apprehended by police responding to the initial call, and the other was found shortly after a canine unit arrived.

An RWDaisy handgun has been recovered by police and the pair are charged under the Young Offenders Act for weapons and robbery offences.

Luau Friday

Acton Social Services will honour its volunteers this Friday at a festive Hawaiian Luau.

The staff and community thank-you is scheduled for 1 to 3 pm at the ASSIC offices on Willow Street North.

Volunteers from the centre's Parent-Child Centre, Meals-on-Wheels, transportation pools and other programs are invited to attend. Call 853-3310 for info.

Mystery pain turns out to be baby girl

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

Tracey Gordon's 12 days of Christmas came a little early and rang to a different tune.

Two days before Halloween, the Acton woman learned she was pregnant, and 12 days later, on Nov. 10, she delivered a baby girl.

In mid-October, Gordon complained of discomfort in her right side, but "at first even my doctor didn't think I was pregnant.

"He thought it was a tumour because the baby was a strange shape," says Gordon, who along with husband Pete Holmes, are the proud parents of Ashley Colleen Holmes. Ashley weighed just 2 pounds 9-1/4 ounces at birth.

"I guess she didn't have much room to grow under my rib," says Gordon of the now-five pound, five ounce Ashley.

Ashley was born at Guelph General Hospital prematurely at 28 weeks — 12 weeks shy of the average pregnancy period.

"It was a shock. I thought I would have had a little time to get used to it before actually having the baby," says Gordon,

recalling the night she and Pete rushed from Acton to Guelph. They arrived at 6:10 pm and Ashley was born at 6:35. "She came home New Year's Eve, so she started the year off with us."

Gordon didn't see much of her daughter after the birth. About an hour after delivery, a team of four doctors from McMaster Hospital in Hamilton transferred Ashley to the neo-natal care unit at Chedoke-McMaster Hospital.

There, she improved rapidly and was soon released to Guelph General, where she was taken out of her isolette incubator at the beginning of December.

However, Ashley wasn't able to spend Christmas at home as she developed a bowel infection. Premature babies are susceptible to this type of infection because of their size.

Gordon made the 55-minute drive to Hamilton for Ashley's feedings every day, but wasn't crazy about the \$7.50 parking fee.

But Ashley is home now, and Mom is thrilled.

"She sleeps most of the night. I've got everything I need for her now," says Gordon, who initially found it difficult to find diapers small enough.



CHRISTMAS SURPRISE! Tracey Gordon and daughter Ashley at their Church Street home. (Doug Harrison photo)

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