

# GRAPE VINE

Susanne's own cat (an American Shorthair named Sunny) was judged second-best kitten overall, while Sandra Runalls-Lichty also had an impressive showing with her two Balinese cats. Runalls-Lichty, a club member, decorated the Legion hall for the event.

"And we've already booked the hall for 1995!" reports Susanne.

## Santa's helpers will be at Saturday's parade

Here's a special note to parents: For the second straight year, Acton postal workers will be walking along the Santa Claus parade route Saturday, collecting letters from local youngsters.

"After the parade, the letters will be sent straight to the North Pole — and Santa definitely will respond to each and every one," explains parade organizer Bill Spielvogel.

Letters to Santa should be slipped into an envelope and addressed to Mr. Claus, North Pole, HOH OHO.

The annual holiday parade starts at 1 pm and will wind its way from McKenzie-Smith school to the Public Library.

## Good Mews was great

Although three of four "Best of the Best" awards were scooped by Quebec felines, the first annual Good Mews Cat Show was a "definite success," according to Good Mews Cat Club's Susanne Keith.

Susanne reports that the Sunday show, which took place at the Acton Legion, saw "over 400 people actually come as visitors to the show, and that's not counting the people who had cats entered."

There were 80 different exhibitors at the show, with a total of 110 cats entered in competitions.

As for local participants,

## Study supports casino

Halton North MPP Noel Duignan reports that, so far, Windsor's casino has been successful in creating jobs and attracting tourists. That assessment is based on an Ernst and Young report prepared for the NDP government.

The study contends that the casino has generated 10,700 new jobs, with 2,000 of those jobs within the casino, making it Windsor's largest downtown employer.

What about new casinos? "If we decide to expand casinos, we'll be guided by a number of principles," explains Duignan. "The goals of job creation, tourism, economic development and revenue generation would be most important. New casinos must be located strategically in areas of the province that best fit these goals."

Which begs the question: "How about a new casino in the perfectly-situated and job-scarce hamlet of Acton, Mr. Duignan?"

## Holiday workshop

Acton's Parent-Child Resource Centre is holding a Christmas workshop on making Christmas hors d'oeuvres. The event, hosted by Cocktail Hour Catering, is on Tuesday, Nov. 22 from 9:30 to 11:30 at the Band Hall.

For info or to register (there is a \$5 food cost) call 853-2574.



## LEST WE FORGET!

Once again this year, the 11th hour on the 11th day of November was marked with a Remembrance Day service at the cenotaph in front of the United Church. Here Legion members (from left) Ab Irwin, service officer, Branch 197 president Gus Jeffrey and first V.P. Frank Koen gather with Rev. Emery Jenkins and Acton Citizens' Band leader George Elliott following the Friday service. Dr. Elliott played *The Last Post*. (Doug Harrison photo)

# Hey Julie, choose me for G-G!

Memo to Julian Reed, MP, House of Commons, Ottawa:

With all the problems we have in this country, I am concerned that the Prime Minister has spent so much time and effort on one appointment. I refer, of course, to the problem of finding a new Governor-General.

Everyone agrees he has lots to do. The economy needs fixing, the separatists are at the ramparts, the jobless need work, Sergio Marchi needs a brain, the list goes on and on. I'd like to make the PM's job easier and let him get on with more important things.

I'm a patriotic guy, so tell the PM that I'll take the job as Governor General.

As a concerned Canadian, I came to this decision last weekend. I read that Jean Beliveau turned down the job. There is speculation that other high-profile candidates might also turn it down in a fit of pique, because they are second choice. Please Julian, assure Jean, I'm not that thin-skinned — consider my qualifications.

I know he had his heart set on a hockey player. Don't you think it's bad enough that hockey players won't play hockey?

If it's any consolation, I played hockey, albeit badly. There's a prejudice against the game in the Irish community. Even Notre Dame doesn't have a hockey program.

The good friars reasoned that any activity that puts clubs in the hands — and knives on the feet — of Irishmen, wasn't safe for society. But I know one end of the puck from the other, so that shouldn't rule out my candidacy.

I understand that as Governor General I would have to preside over a wide range of cultural events. No problem — culture works for me.

I can do a rousing "I se the b'y that builds the boat." I know most of the words to "Alouette." My "Rose Marie" has been described as "unforgettable." I believe anything done by Stompin' Tom is classical music. I won't be like that last PM who could only do

## The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



ethnic music. My repertoire extends far beyond "Danny Boy" and "Irish Eyes." It's obvious, culture is my middle name.

Did I mention that I think beavers are cute?

I have to admit, my Français c'est une peut rusty. I can get by in Newfoundlandese, can carry a conversation in the Ottawa Valley, I'm passable in Albertan and fluent in B.C.-isms. There are far more than two languages spoken in this country, but I promise to bone-up on French.

As the Queen's representative, I know that the English have to approve of my appointment. No problem — the Brits will love me. On "the bride's" side, we are descendants of the United Empire Loyalists; I think the Queen Mom is a sweetie; I'll steer conversations away from dysfunctional families; I won't hurl when the Queen offers to take me out for a "chip buttie." I'm prepared for English formal dining, which is french fries eaten off a newspaper. I can drink warm Guinness. Don't worry, the Queen will love me.

The Governor General should know a lot about the country. I'm a life-long student of Canadian history. I've gotten far beyond the usual Courier de Bois and War of 1812 stuff. I've delved into the true but little-known facts of our heritage.

For instance, I know why Marconi set up his radio in St. Johns. He didn't think that he'd get the same respect if he set up down the road in Dildo. It's true! Do you think Marconi would have a place in our schools if the first words spoken on radio were "Hello, this is Dildo calling?" Julian, I'm a walking encyclopedia of unusual Canadiana.

Past Governor Generals have

complained about the heavy schedule of banquets. No problemo, I love chicken. I even know which fork is for what, why you have several knives (not for self-defense), and that the big spoon is for soup and the little one is for flicking mashed potatoes during the food fight. Assure the PM I won't embarrass him. I've got so much couth, I could rent some out.

Confidentially Julian, I could use the job. Business has been tough the last few years. The hard times have taught me to be frugal. Your government wouldn't have to worry about lavish spending like the current occupant. My tastes are simple.

I'll brew my own beer for official receptions. I think valet is something you use to get out of a sand trap. As you can see, I won't need to have a barber follow me around like that Clinton guy down south. If the house needs painting, I'll call Jean from across the street some Saturday and we'll get it done. I'll even spring for a pizza. I'm not cheap.

In the past, Governor Generals have been military or senior business and political types. Honestly now, don't you think most of them were kind of, well ... stuffy? The time has come to give an "ordinary Mike" a turn at the big job.

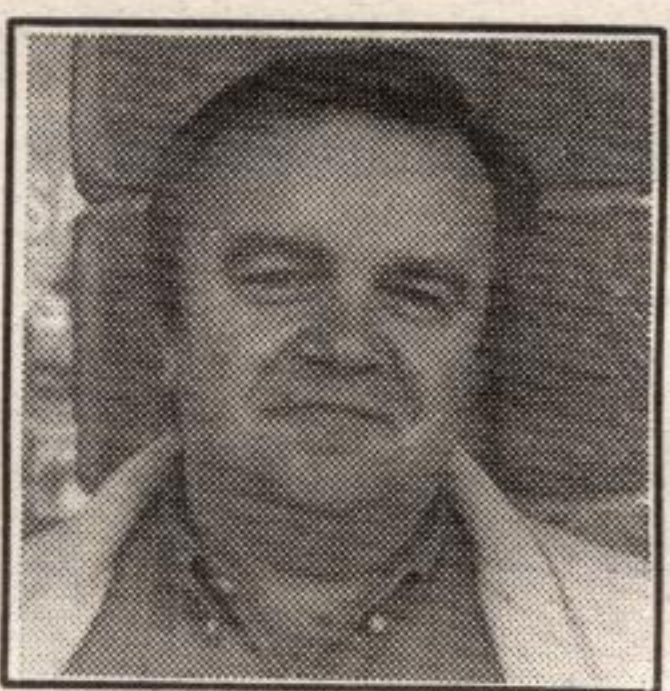
Why shouldn't the Governor General come to Rideau Hall with no more political agenda than to tell and sell Canada to Canadians? All Canadians!

If you need someone who can describe the dawn's first kiss of light on Conception Bay, or the hush of snow on a Laurentian wood; the whisper of wind through an eternity of wheat or the grandeur of a mountain meadow — been there, done that. I'm your man.

I'll keep "the kid" off the phone so the PM won't have any trouble getting through. I'm looking forward to moving to Ottawa and assuming my new duties. I'm counting on you Julian, to make my case with Mr. Chretien. If I don't get the nod, I'm really going to be ticked.

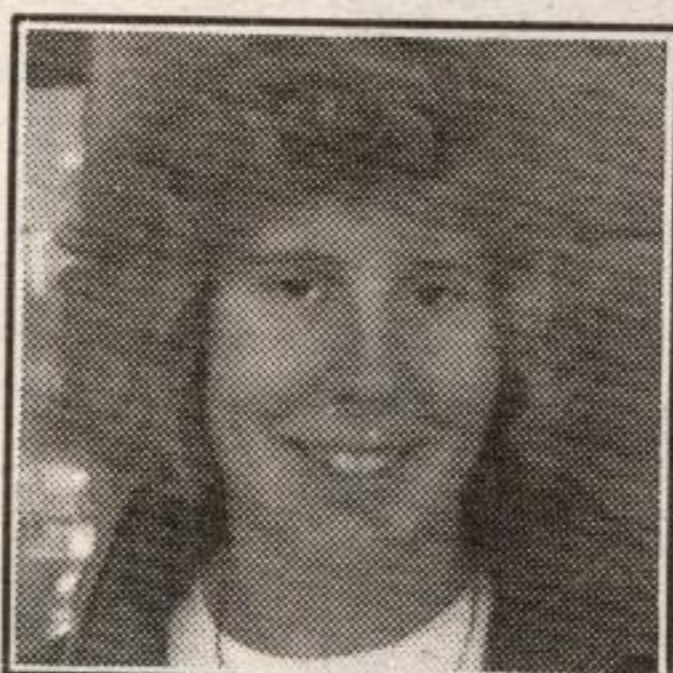
# HEY!

Without hockey, how are you spending your Saturday nights?



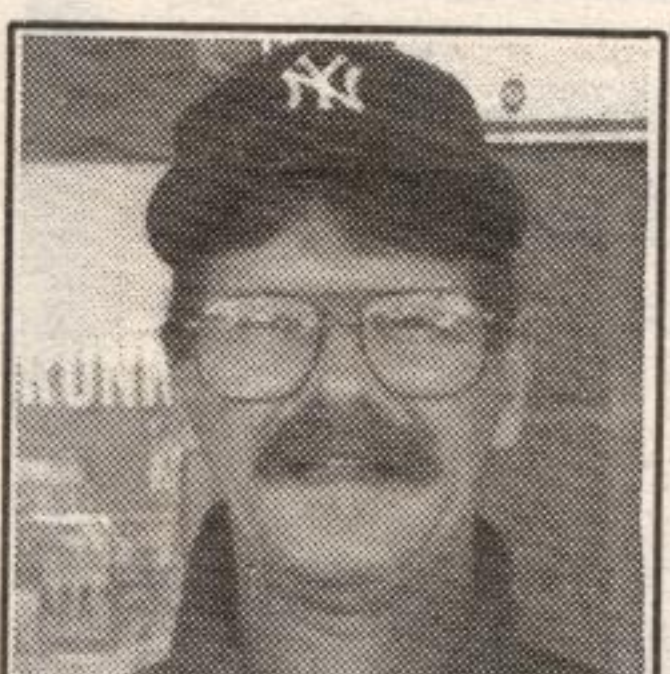
"Well, Christmas parties have started, plus I'm renting movies and having friends over. I'm getting used to not watching it, but what can you do? It's too bad."

Mike Djurinec, R.R. 4, Acton



"Reading. I've gone through two novels, so I don't miss it a lot, but my husband does. It's definitely a change."

Christine Feenstra, Kingham Road



"Watching horse racing at Mohawk. I'm even up a few bucks for the meet. Not watching the games is like playing baseball without a bat. I miss my fix, but there are different ways to entertain yourself."

Wayne DeForest, Willow Street



"I'm actually having to talk to my husband! Hockey is a great spectator sport, because it's fast-moving. It wouldn't change my life if it didn't come back, but it's missed. I'm also reading more."

Kim Noonan, R.R. 1, Acton