

AI's still in limbo

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

It will be mid-December, at the earliest, before Town Council will have enough information to vote on plans for a butcher shop, proposed for the west side of Main Street North in Acton.

Town planning staff are still researching a suggestion of extending the core commercial or commercial-residential zoning on Main street, from Knox Street to Elizabeth Drive, currently designated as a low density residential area.

Such an extension would make it easier for AI and Janet Cunneyworth, owners of AI and AI's Meats, to get approval for a butcher shop and apartment at their home at 70 Main St. N.

Town senior planner Alan Binks said a zoning extension would not guarantee approval for the plan.

"We still have concerns in terms of the policy matters of that use in that location," Binks said in an interview on Monday.

An earlier staff report rejected the proposal, questioning the proposed land use compatibility, over-development of the site and lack of adequate parking and landscaping.

Binks noted that a recent major land use study recommended that the area remain residential.

A report on the zoning issues and the Cunneyworth application is expected on the Dec. 12 agenda.

'Inspiring' display could spawn Acton rope-jumping team

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

After performances by the Lincoln Leapers and Double Dutch Forces on Friday, could Acton's own Leathertown Leapers be far behind?

It's a real possibility, says Jack Carpenter.

The longtime Acton resident, who is the brainchild of *Lighten Up Canada Day* and Action for Acton's Trunk Sale, was playing with the idea after an energetic display of rope jumping by the World Champion Double Dutch Forces from Columbia, South Carolina, and Ontario's own Lincoln Leapers at McKenzie-Smith School on Friday afternoon.

"I think these teams are a role model for us to have a skipping

team in Acton," Carpenter offered. "They're the most athletic, exciting kids you could be around."

The jumpers range in age from 3 to 17 and most began the sport as soon as they learned to walk.

Such dedication allowed the two teams to put back a few donuts during a lunch visit to Tim Hortons - courtesy of the Acton Rotary Club - before the matinee show.

Also during their stay, the Double Dutch Forces, also known as The Force, were treated to a free Thanksgiving meal at Jack Tanner's, their second in as many nights.

"A lot of people talk about southern hospitality, but Canadians have been just wonderful to us," said Force manager Donna McGreevy, who enjoyed trips to

Toronto and Niagara Falls with the team. "We've had a wonderful time. We've even enjoyed the cold and snow."

After Friday night's public performance, The Force - holders of 63 state records and 23 world titles - endured an all-night bus ride in order to make a halftime basketball performance at Georgia Tech University the next evening.

Meanwhile, Lincoln Leapers president Rob Mens was amazed at the attention his girls were given when they came to town.

"The one-day support from Acton was overwhelming compared to what we've seen anywhere else," he said, adding Carpenter's interest in getting the Leapers here was "absolutely outstanding."

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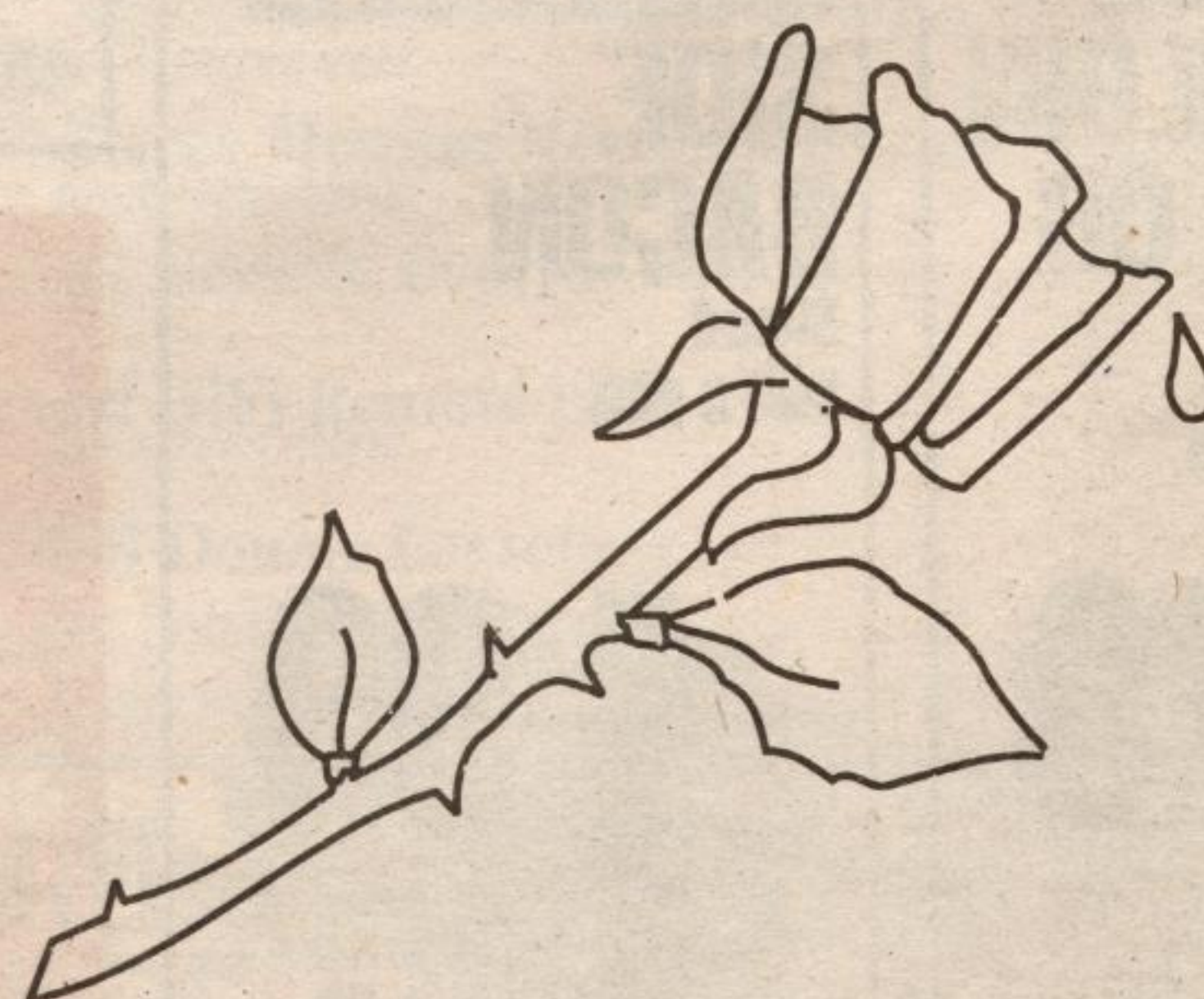
CHRISTMAS GIFT? Joan McAfee, left, and daughter Shannon took time on Saturday to check out Doe's Ceramics and Crafts annual Christmas Sale on Peel Street. (Lori Frechette photo)

Maud Haviernick Barbara-Maria Klueznick Maryse Laganière

On December 6, 1989 one man murdered 14 women in Montreal. This was not an isolated act.

We must never forget the women murdered in Montreal and all women who suffer from male violence.

Violence is a chosen response. Every community and every institution must work to build a culture of safety, equality and justice for women. The Rural Women's Shelter Program reminds you that violence happens here too.



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