



FLYING UP! These young ladies were honoured in the Robert Little gym last Monday at the annual Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers advancement ceremony. Front row, from left: Andrea Break, Tia Hess, Katie Banks and Ali Rivers, all flying up to Guides. Back row: Kim Lusty (to Rangers), Michelle Galda (to Pathfinders) and Rachelle Taylor (to Rangers). (Doug Harrison photo)

Summer programs for young book-readers

The Public Library has planned a summer of fun for young people!

Once again, two reading clubs will be offered — one for independent readers and another for the younger set, who are not yet reading alone.

Registration for these programs begins June 29 and is ongoing until the end of July.

This year, independent readers are invited to join the "Favourites of Mine" reading club. Participants are encouraged to read 15 books in total over the summer. Incentives will be given after every five books.

Reading club meetings will be held on Thursdays at the Acton library at 2 pm, starting July 13.

The "Read to Me" program involves non-readers and their parents, siblings or other experienced reader/helpers.

Upon registration, a "Readerosaurus" kit will be yours, with lots of exciting reading-related activities of interest to your child. Guidelines are also included to assist you in choosing the 20 items you'll want to read together to finish the program.

Visit the library for a copy of the Summer Program brochure.

Acton's Andersons off to Russia

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

"If we could learn to live simply, others could simply live."

That's a message, courtesy of Col. William Ratcliffe, that Acton Salvation Army Captains Jim and Darlene Anderson will hold close to their heart as they touch down at their new posting in Russia come September.

In 1923, the political scene in Russia caused the Salvation Army to close, but it resurfaced as a distinct command in November 1992. Jim says reinforcements are now needed there.

On March 13, the Andersons were approached by Col. John Carew, who asked if they would be willing to go to Russia some time in the future. Little did they know, two months later they would be learning Russian and signed up

for a language and culture training course in Colorado Springs for the month of August.

Jim, an officer since 1989, said last week that "there will be some challenging times and no doubt some rewarding times, but we go on the strength of God."

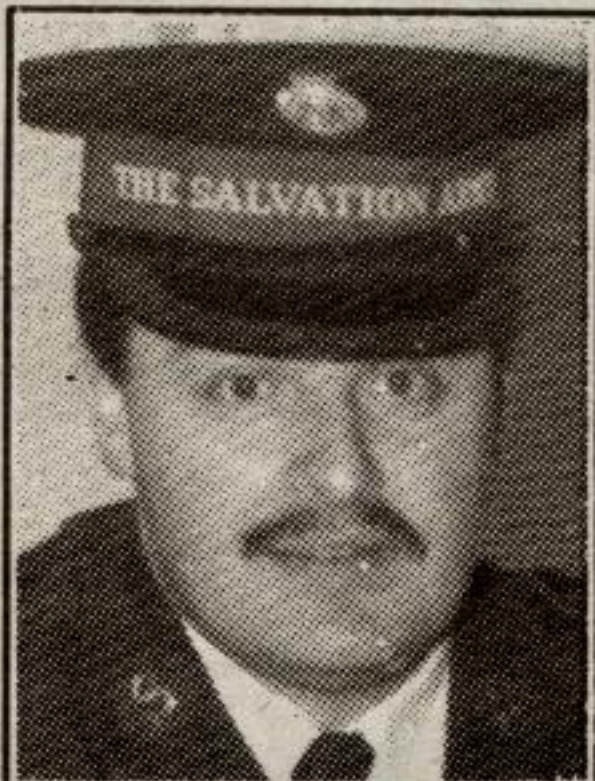
Darlene said the Russian people are overwhelmed by the fact that foreigners are coming to their land to help them and share their love.

What's scary for Jim and Darlene is the fact they aren't sure where in Russia they will be stationed. But the move is verified and they have their farewell orders from Acton to Russia.

The Andersons, who will likely stay in a small flat, are already bracing for the culture change. Jim said Kraft Dinner, according to officers already there, is eaten like it were a feast. And soap, toothpaste and laundry detergent will soon become treasured items.

"In Russia," Jim explains, "people can stand in line for up to two hours for bread. And sometimes they don't leave with it."

But Jim, not wanting to dwell on the negative aspects, said he's seen videotapes of brighter moments, such as kids celebrating at



CAPTAIN JIM ANDERSON

camp, playing soccer and enjoying Sunday School activities.

"We don't know what we're going to experience, but knowing we've been called by God makes all the more difference," stated Jim, 28.

Both originally from Newfoundland, Jim and Darlene also haven't been informed of their job description. Jim figures church planting (to develop and build a ministry already established) is a possibility, "but there will definitely be a social emphasis with spiritual work of the church."

The Andersons leave Acton after only 1½ years with mixed feelings. They insist that the only reason they're leaving town is the nature of the appointment.

There will be a special farewell Sunday service for the couple on June 25.

The Andersons, who are locked into a three-year contract, want to bring hope to kids who haven't experience a vibrant lifestyle like so many in North America.

"It's going to be a tremendous experience, a wide eye-opener," explains Jim, who will spend July in Newfoundland with Darlene and their families.

Reminder!

Don't forget: The local United Way will be holding its Annual General Meeting and Appreciation Night next Wednesday night at 7 pm in the library at McKenzie-Smith middle school.

The public is invited; call 877-3066 for details.

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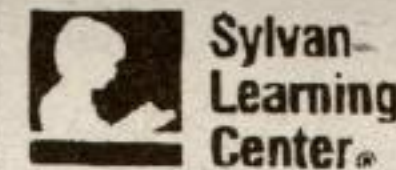
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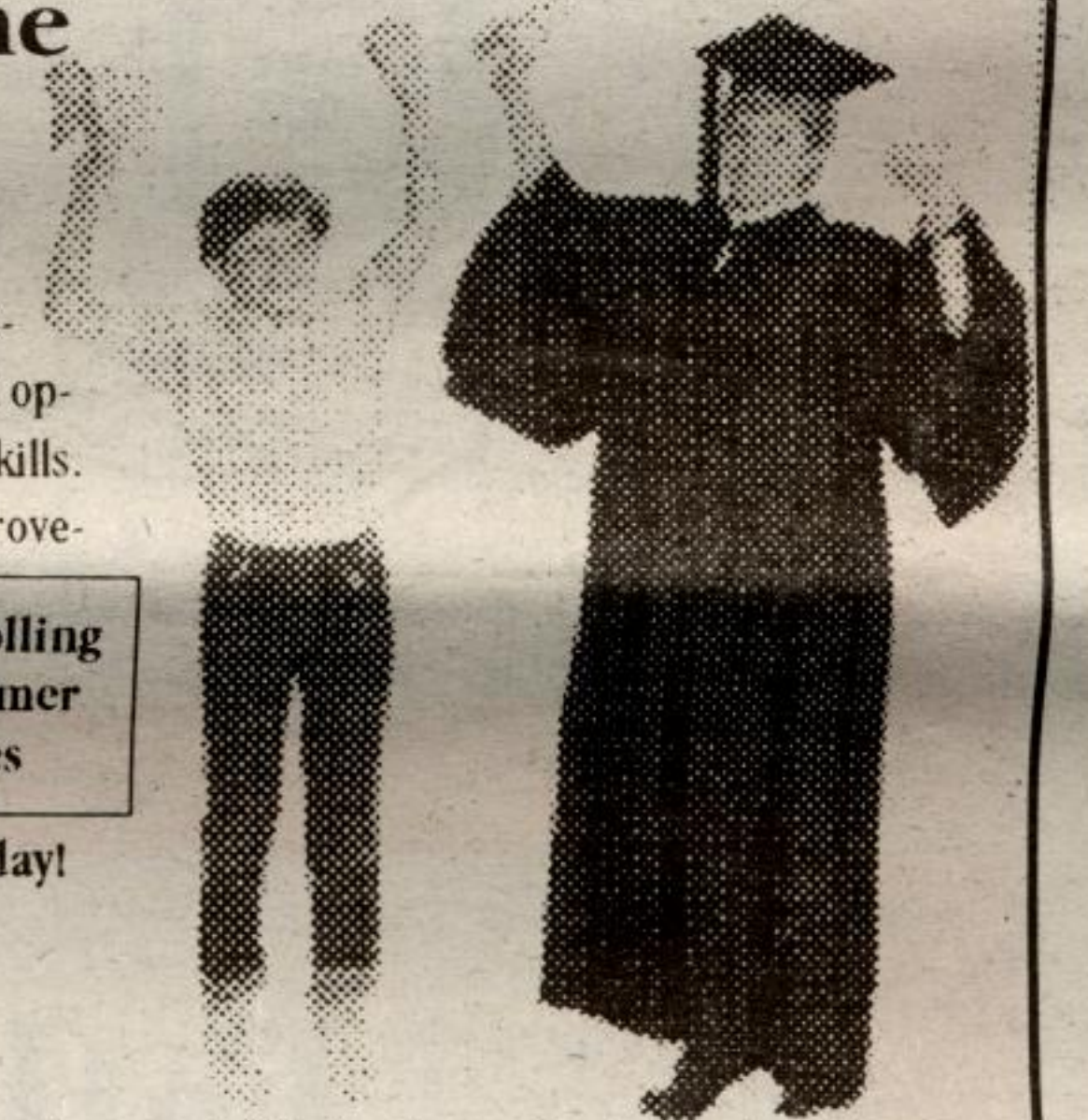
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