

# GRAPE VINE

**Peddle shines at pageant**  
Acton's Shana Peddle wasn't one of the 10 finalists at the Miss Teen Toronto Pageant on Sunday, but "she should have been," says Acton Ambassador Pageant organizer Linda Robson.  
Linda said that the 16-year-old Acton High student "moved well" in the leisure and formal wear portions of the pageant, held at a packed Ryerson Theatre.  
As well, Linda added, Shana spoke articulately and eloquently during a one-minute speech.  
Shana did receive the Community Support award for the most donations collected among entrants in the pageant.

**Phenix on Canada AM**  
Acton's Jo Phenix, an education writer and former teacher with the Peel Board, made a six-minute appearance on TV's Canada AM last Wednesday.

She spoke of the difference in teaching between a phonics and whole language approach. Phenix also defined the two methods and discussed the reading materials and weaknesses that went with them.  
"It may have only been six minutes, but it went national. I talked fast," she mused last week.

**Busy at Blue Springs**  
Cooperative weather and a rejuvenated golf industry will likely see 30,000-plus rounds played on

the 18-hole Turtle Lake course at Acton's Blue Springs Golf Club this season.  
That was the prediction from president Rick Glugosh on Monday. "We're definitely having a good year. Golf is still a popular sport and a lot of people are still entering the game."  
Rick said business is up 10 per cent over last summer.

**New captains in town**  
Captain Larry Jennings wants to see spiritual growth "in the congregation and myself" as he begins work along with his wife, Roxanne, as the new captains at Acton's Salvation Army.

"I want to let people know that the Lord is the answer to people's problems, and I want to assist the community as a whole," Larry, 39, said on Monday.

Roxanne and Larry, who originally is from Newfoundland, were stationed along with their 4-year-old son Gregory the last two years in Bermuda.

"Acton seems to be a very quiet town with very friendly people," said Larry, who plans on spending three to five years here.

**Terry Fox Run nears**  
Come Sept. 17, organizer Jon Hurst will be elated if Acton was to maintain the success of the past 14 Terry Fox Runs.

Participants of all ages walked, ran and cycled the 10-km route at Acton High last year in helping raise \$23,400 for innovative cancer research projects.

This year's event will run from 8 am to 3 pm and a food booth will be set up for participants to enjoy after circling the school's track 25 times.



**BAGS PACKED?** Former NHL referee Bruce Hood recently purchased Acton Travel from Rob and Sophie Warrington. Bruce, a Milton native who played minor hockey here, posed last week with staff, from left, Sophie Warrington, Paula Bertrand and Kelly Scott. The grand opening of "Bruce Hood Acton Travel" will be announced soon, with lots of prize give-aways planned. (Paul Nolan photo)

## Some things funny, some not

I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw the front page of the Georgetown paper last week. "Former MPP Duignan planning to remain in politics," the headline read. I checked the date again - I figured it had to be the April 1 edition.

The 'ol one, who I personally have missed, may run for Council or even mayor. Being the mischievous type, I called Mayor Serjeantson for her reaction. Quite frankly, I was hoping she would snicker. It would have given a good slant to the story.

The mayor, though, handled the inquiry in a serious, professional manner. "We are working on the problems of today," she said. "There are many serious financial concerns facing municipal governments in the months to come. I will consider questions regarding the election when that time comes."

Just my luck. I'm looking to have some fun and I get a politician who wants to calmly discuss issues. I can't get a break.

Maybe, I thought, I could catch MPP Chudleigh by surprise. His office number isn't in the new phone book. I've thrown out all my election notes. If anyone has the number, please let me know.

By now I was frustrated and ready to let the story go. Then I read the rest of what Noel said.

He said he's proud of his and the NDP's record, but that some employers are reluctant to hire former MPs and MPPs. Perhaps after running up a \$10 billion deficit, employers are afraid they couldn't afford ex-NDP types.

The story explained that the 'ol one used to develop non-profit housing. That career is going to be a non-starter these days.

In an exposé, the left-leaning *Toronto Star* said there was waste, mis-management and suspected fraud in some non-profit housing projects. Harris has pretty well killed future projects.

I did agree with two of Noel's observations. He said that American-style government "in the end, won't work." He points to American cities as proof these policies don't work. He fails to mention

### The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



that it was years of left-wing government enacting onerous social programs, which don't work and are not affordable, which caused the decay of U.S. cities. We saw it start here (remember the Yonge Street riots) but we stopped it, I hope, in time.

He also observes that \$2 billion in government cuts will have an impact on the economy. "You can't take that kind of money out of the economy without it having some sort of impact."

How well we know the impact, Noel. We lived through it, as the government you are so proud of sucked billions out of the economy with massive tax grabs.

The great thing about democracy is that almost anyone can pursue public office. The thought of 'ol Noel being mayor struck me funny at first. If you think about it though, it's not that funny at all.

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Vandalism in our town seems to be on the increase. If you want some help organize an anti-vandalism program in your neighbourhood, call Village Constables Riddle or Goddard at 853-2050.

The proper way to handle this situation is to work with the police. They need you to be their eyes and ears. Be advised though - the police are spread pretty thin. Getting more officers is a political decision which will or will not be made by the Region. If you want

more cops, speak to Regional Councillor Bonnette or the mayor. Don't yell at the police; they have no control over their budget.

I have often said that the vast majority of kids in this town are decent citizens. There is a core of 100 or so who are prepared to cause mayhem. There are 6,500 or so of us living here. Maybe it's time we set some standards as to what we are prepared to accept.

I say that mindless vandalism of our properties is unacceptable. There is no excuse for it. Let's work with the police to reverse this trend.

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Last Friday, at the social event of the summer season, we celebrated the marriage of Lee Ann Munday and Jason Vidler.

You know the years are piling up when the children start getting married. You know you're out of step with the times when you can't decide if the ushers or the bridesmaids have the nicest earrings. But that's another story.

The bride was radiant, the groom resplendent in tux and tails. It is nice to see childhood sweethearts (since high school) make it through the challenging teen years and start their new lives together. Everyone loves a love story.

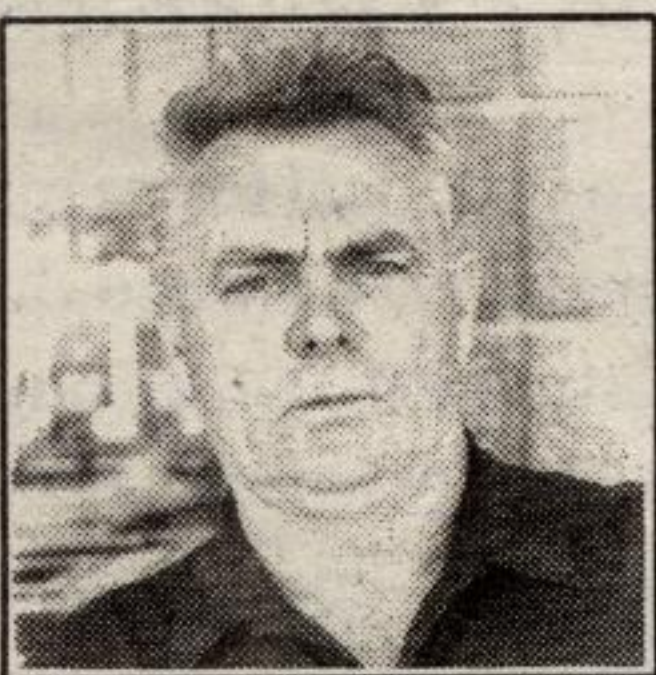
The newlyweds have purchased a home here in town. Good! We need fine young people like this settling down in Acton.

The Mundays and the Vidlers put on a momentous celebration of the wedding. It was, my ladies agree, five of the 10 best parties we have been to.

Congratulations Jason and Lee Ann. All of your family and friends wish you a long and happy life together.

# HEY!

Your solution to the high rate of vandalism this summer?

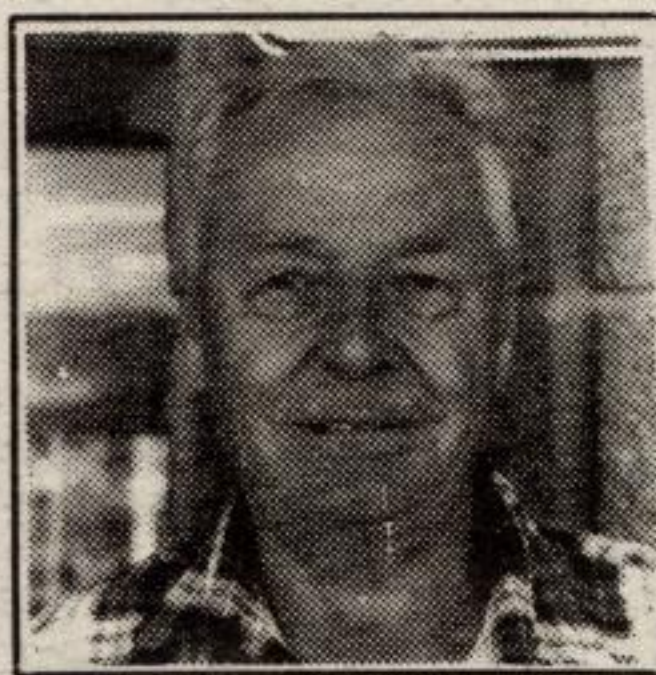


"I don't think there's a problem. I just spent two weeks in England and it's the same there. I don't think you will keep people off the streets. Some parents work shifts or are single, so knowing the whereabouts of their kids is not easy."

Henry Logan, Main Street

"I think there has to be more discipline in the home. That's where problems start. But if kids had more to do in town we wouldn't have this problem. I hope things change, because I'm scared for my grandchildren (ages 5 and 2)."

Freda Buckman, Mill Street



"I think the criminal laws should be modified, so those involved in vandalism are punished severely. And the Young Offenders Act should be modified to the point that parents are 100 per cent responsible for their kids' wrongdoing."

Max Muselius, R.R. 2, Acton

"More police patrol. Maybe a curfew and if you break it, you are fined by the police. Nowadays, kids run their parents. Parents have no handle on what their kids do and kids aren't scared of the consequences."

Jane Butson, Kingham Road



## Same time last year ...

Supplies at Acton FoodShare hit an all-time low, with bare shelves prompting coordinator Joan Waldie to admit, "We're really desperate ... Bowler Shirley McKeown travelled to Sudbury to compete in the Ontario Senior Games ... Over 1,500 bargain-hunters showed up at the busiest-ever Trunk Sale."