



**PROUD CANADIANS!** Acton's Catharine O'Leary and friend Mike Wieler pose with flags after signing giant "My Canada Includes Quebec" petition on streets of Montreal Friday. (Submitted photo)

## Actonite at 'Montreal rally'

BY CATHARINE O'LEARY  
Special to The Acton Tanner

(Editor's note: Some 185,000 Canadians gathered in Montreal Friday to celebrate national unity. Acton's Catharine O'Leary was one participant. Here are her observations of that important day.)

Friday was a good day to be a Canadian.

I went to Montreal because I saw the "Oui" side gaining ground and I couldn't sit on the bench any longer. I'm not prepared to see my country fracture without a fight.

The drive down to Montreal was incredible. The 401 was packed with buses and decorated cars. I was surprised at the number of families and school buses packed with kids.

Nearer the Quebec border, people lined the road and overpasses, all waving flags.

Canadians are often criticized for not being flag-wavers. Well, not this day!

The rally itself was mind-boggling. We tried to hear some of the speeches but the din of the crowd was overpowering.

We signed the giant petition that had travelled across the country; we chanted "Non, non, non," and we sang — our national anthem never sounded better.

Many Quebecers came up to thank us for being there. "You made a difference," they said.

Mr. Bouchard rhetorically asks, "When the chips are down, where will they be?"

Well Mr. Bouchard, the chips are down. I was there, along with 184,999 of my closest friends, and millions more were with us in spirit. I must ask: Where were you, Mr. Bouchard?

In the years to come I'll be proud to tell people I was at the unity rally in Montreal. The naysayers can't say Canadians don't care about their country or are not patriotic.

When the chips are down, O'Canada, we stand on guard for thee.



Len Tuitman & Staff present...

### Green Thumb Gardening

#### Amaryllis bulbs

Amaryllis bulbs are spectacular. The trumpet shaped flowers are available in colours ranging from orange, white, pink, red and stripes.

Bulbs, usually large and complete with all the food needed, can be purchased and potted from early October to late April. Amaryllis are easy to grow and the chances of not getting a flower are slim.

Plant in a large pot with a drainage hole and use light, porous soil mix. The top third of the bulb should be exposed above soil level. Amaryllis like bright, warm locations and light watering. Once leaves or flower buds start growing, water can be slowly increased.

The stalk quickly reaches a height of two to three feet and then two to four large blossoms open. After the flowers fade the stalk can be cut off one or two inches above the soil. The straplike leaves will continue to grow until early autumn. When the leaves have died down, stop watering the bulb until a new bud starts to grow. Then resume watering again.

Each week Len Tuitman and staff at Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace.

Highway 25, one mile south of Acton  
853-2480



## Legion remembers

### LEGION NEWS

BY MIKE MANUEL  
Branch 197 P.R.O.

Now that November is here, I would like to remind everyone that we have a heavy schedule lined up. Come on down to the Branch to participate:

Nov. 3, Poppy Blitz Night; Nov. 4, Elimination Draw and Dance, tickets \$5; Nov. 5, Remembrance Day Parade, dinner (\$5 for tickets) and commemoration at the Brookville

Cenotaph; Nov. 11, Acton Cenotaph commemoration; Nov. 25, beef draw; Nov. 28, Seniors' dinner, tickets \$2.

Of particular interest to Branch 197 members only, the following should be noted:

The Mayor's reception will be held on Nov. 6. Veterans and members can take a bus that will leave the Legion at 5 pm and return at 7:45 pm.

A church service for all members will be held at Churchill Church on Nov. 12.

# A very merry Christmas



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