

Letters support 'Miss Acton' as Fall Fair pageant name

Fair board calls foul

To the Editor,

I'm a big supporter of *The Acton Tanner*, but was discouraged by Karen Wetmore's editorial last week about the Miss Acton fall fair pageant.

Do you forget how powerful your words are? This was not an "editorial" – it was an out-and-out slam by someone who did not ask me or my people why we changed the name of the pageant. It is disappointing in that Ms. Wetmore has never been to the Acton Fall Fair and has only been here for seven months. At best her piece would be an "opinion."

The decision to change to the "Ambassador" title was not done for "political correctness" – who ever said *this* was proper? It was one of knuckling in to outside pressure – once we got our heads

on straight we found that no one really wanted the title changed and were puzzled as to why it was done.

The Fair's pageant allows young ladies a chance to excel – I wish there was a way to allow more people this opportunity.

As the Fair board is made of volunteers – people who get nothing but the chance to return something to their community – it is hard to understand why someone would snip at one of the best things that happens in Acton all year, at least without talking to anyone or getting all the facts.

In closing, I have to say that Linda Robson is a champion for women's rights. She made the decision to reinstate the "Miss Acton" name, and I backed her.

*Jim Warrington,
President
Acton Agricultural
Society*

Pageant night unforgettable

To the Editor,

I must commend Karen Wetmore for taking an interest in the Miss Acton Pageant, but unfortunately feel that she has not taken the time to do a little research for the editorial.

I personally want to take this opportunity to thank Linda Robson and all the volunteers for the many, many hours that it takes to put on the Miss Acton Pageant; spending hours in meetings, canvassing for donations, to the night that they meet the girls who want to participate, to the evening of the crowning.

More than that though, I want to thank and encourage the young ladies who have the courage and strength to enter the pageant. It is not a light decision and takes a lot of backbone to do this, especially in your own home town, in

front of your many friends. Let me assure you that the opportunity that the pageant gives is one that you will never regret taking advantage of.

I also know some former Miss Actons and have not met any contestants who found that the pageant has not added to their lives. I was fortunate enough to sit front row centre 12 years ago, when a very special young lady was crowned, and have not missed a year since then. The work and care that the contestants put into this is very impressive.

I encourage all contestants who are the right age to get their friends and go Thursday evening, even if just to see what is involved. You many not be one of the crowned winners, but I can guarantee you that there are no losers Friday evening.

It is an experience that you can't afford to pass up.

*Marjorie Thomson
R.R. 4 Acton*

Former Miss Acton responds

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only lived in Acton seven months and has never seen or been a part of the Acton Fall Fair, the Acton Agricultural Society or the pageant itself, makes me wonder how she can make such broad assumptions about my home town and its events. I am offended at her accusation that people from a small town resist the "evolution of change."

I realize that in this modern world of political cor-

rectness, everything that we say and do can be seen as potentially dangerous to the status of women everywhere; but I would suggest that people need to lighten up a little and concentrate on more important matters, such as violence against women and children, the pronounced poverty that affects single mothers, etc. When these things are conquered, *then* take an informed and unbiased look at things like pageants.

Linda Robson, Chair, Miss Acton Fall Fair Committee

New Editor Appointed

Karen Wetmore has been appointed Editor of *The Tanner*, Acton's award-winning hometown newspaper.

Karen, who lives on Peel Street with her husband Steve, is a graduate of the University of Guelph with a B.A. in English. She also has a Print Journalism diploma from Centennial College in Toronto. Before joining our team as a reporter-photographer, Karen held positions at the Guelph Mercury and the Rideau Valley Mirror.

Publisher Paul Nolan: "Karen's appointment is a big step in the evolution of *The Tanner*. She cares about this town and she understands the elements of a great community paper. I urge our readers to let Karen know what they expect from their hometown paper in the coming weeks and months."



Karen Wetmore

Got a news tip to share?

Call The Tanner at 853-5100

Baptists add extra church service

"I think God's doing some exciting things at Acton Baptist Church," says Rev. Tom Cullen, on the church expanding to add a second Sunday service.

Beginning this Sunday, parishioners can attend either the 8:30 am service or the 11 am identical service. Sunday school, known as King's Garden, runs from 9:45 to 10:45 am.

The present congregation of between 60-70 is outgrowing the small building the Baptists have held for about 100 years, said Cullen.

"The dream now is to fill both services and move from there into a building program," he said, adding they are also talking to an architect about expanding the building in the future.

Cullen is hoping the extra service will also attract new members to Acton Baptist Church.

"A lot of people are looking for God, and I think some of them are going about it the wrong way," he said. "All the churches in town have something to offer here and that's a living relationship with God."

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