

GRAPE VINE

Lest we forget

Acton will honour its war dead at Remembrance Day ceremonies on both Sunday, Nov. 10 and Monday Nov. 11.

On Sunday, participants will marshal in the parking lot of the Bower Street Post Office at 10:30 am and march along Elgin Street to the Cenotaph before going into Trinity United Church for a service.

On Monday there will be a short service at the cenotaph at 11 am.

Country Christmas

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Country Reflections as owner Judy MacDonald gets into the holiday spirit in a big way.

Judy, who moved her unique gift basket shop one door west to 39 Mill St. E. recently, had planned to operate out of both adjoining stores but determined that the new store was large enough for the regular array of gift baskets and the special holiday treats and treasures.

Anniversary service

Knox Presbyterian Church invites everyone to an anniversary service of praise celebrating 151 years of

witness and service. The service takes place Sunday Nov. 17 at 7:30 pm with refreshments and fellowship to follow.

Scary situations

The Town's Finance and Clerks departments tied for first place in the annual Halloween carnival and counter decorating contest.

The Clerks' department was certainly the scariest with severed body parts and fiendish displays and the Finance department's carnival big tent and caged animals were also a hit. Second place went to the Acton Library which decorated the counter as a ghoulish concession stand.

The United Way was the big winner of the day - over \$150 was raised by Town staff from the carnival, lunch and draws, and was donated to the United Way campaign.

Seniors' dinner

The Acton Legion and Acton Rotary Club seniors' dinner will again be held at the Legion Hall on Tuesday Nov. 26. Dinner will be served at 6 pm.

Tickets are \$2 and will be refundable at the door. Money not refunded will be used for Christmas hampers. For a ride to the dinner, call 853-4299.

B-ball coach needed

Acton High is in need of a boys' basketball coach. If you are interested, or you know someone who may be interested, please call Bruce Andrews at the school at 853-2920.



CONTEST WINNERS! This happy group gathered at Power Entertainment on Halloween night to collect their prizes for the Historic Halloween Hunt contest. In front from left are J.D. Hartnagle, Erin Baumeister and Lynn Watson. In back are George Henderson, Dolores Black, Glenn and Sydney Trendell, Kim McIsaac and Barb Andrews. Missing from the photo are Joe Brunelle and Olive and Allan Ellerby.

Halloween Hunt contest answers

The contest, sponsored by the Acton BIA and *The Acton Tanner*, tested the knowledge of Acton's ghoulish past and present.

Trick-or-treat bags full of donated prizes were donated by Acton IGA, Acton Home Hardware, Acton Pharmacy, Big Scoop Café,

Country Reflections, Acton Foodland, Freezer Frenzy, Godfather Pizza, Acton Musicland, Power Entertainment and Wetherby's.

Here are the contest answers: The two turn-of-the-century photos were of Shoemaker Funeral Home and Blue Springs Flowers.

1. Which historical old building in downtown Acton is home to the scraping and dragging noises of its ghostly former caretaker?

Town Hall
Bonus question... What's the ghost's name? **Jimmy Robertson** (he also haunts the old Free Press building!)

2. In mid 1800, a young suitor was shot dead at the funeral of his beloved, who died in childbirth. To this day, his ghost is said to haunt the old Catholic cemetery on Dublin Line. The murder took place close to one of Acton's oldest specialty shops on Mill Street. What is the name of the shop?

Holland Shop
3. There was an old woman who was evil and cruel, some would say she was a witch because of her hatred of children. On Halloween, she gleefully gave out delicious looking tarts - filled with mustard! If she were alive today, where in Acton could she buy her mustard?

IGA, Foodland, Freezer Frenzy or variety stores
4. Years ago Hendersons Pond gave off an eerie light that caused many to believe there were evil spirits lurking. The pond and the building that was reflected in its waters are long gone. What government building stands there now?

Post Office (Hydro building also acceptable)

5. Not so long ago, a horrific fire raged through one of the town's landmarks and a charred body was found. The owner of the building was charged with arson and the hapless victim was determined to be a boarder. What building was this and what now stands in its place?

The Dominion Hotel, now Acton IGA and plaza

6. Grizzly Victorian murder stories, witchcraft and cemeteries are just some of the topics covered in the books carried by one of Acton's specialty shops, located in a quaint little house. Which shop is this?

Wetherby's

Stompers, streakers and boneheads!

A few final thoughts on the days of marching and stomping. Get a new song! The old "Hey hey, ho ho, so and so has got to go" has out-lived itself. I hope some of these folks saw themselves on TV and realized how juvenile they appeared.

Did'ya hear that Sid Ryan is talking about starting up a Labour Party to contest the next provincial election? Oh, I hope so! With the left vote split between the Liberals, NDP and "The Sect of Sid," the Tories will stay in power. (Note to Ted Chudleigh: Contact Sid and give him encouragement and money! Shhh - don't tell anyone.) Sid Ryan couldn't successfully run for a bus let alone premier. And why not? 'Cause, silly, buses don't run when Ryan's on the prowl.

What a brouhaha over the size of the Saturday crowd. The cops first said 40,000, then upped it to 75,000 after union pressure. Days of ranting organizers, using some flake from England who once saw a rock concert as an expert, put the crowd at 300,000. I've told my union friends a hundred million times not to exaggerate.

The Toronto Star, who never saw a union they couldn't support, pegged the crowd at 52,800. Immediately after that, the honchos of "The Days" quieted down. With all the teachers down there, you'd think someone would be able to count. Or maybe not.

Two weeks ago I called for rain, cold and slush for "The Days." It

turned out to be sunny, warm and dry. I apologize for trying to put a hex on the weather. I should have known better.

Everyone knows that God's a fan of horse racing. It was a case of close but no cigar. (Sorry.)

Did you notice the story about the pervert in Halifax who went through a Tim Horton's drive-through sans pants? Now, I'm not condoning this type of activity, especially in winter, but it has raised some fascinating concerns.

Radical feminists have pounced on this story. This, they claim, is just another example of the nonchalant attitude big business displays towards women. They admit most cars have lots of coffee holders. But most auto designers are men, they claim, so it's just assumed that everyone has a place to keep their donuts. Feminists everywhere are demanding donut holders be installed in all new models, (cars, that is.) What are we supposed to use, they ask rhetorically, the turn signal lever?

It's tough being male these days. Incidents like this only aggravate the misunderstanding between the sexes. I'm relieved my favourite coffee shop waitress in on maternity leave. If some poor guy went up to her and ordered a dozen donuts,

The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



she'd probably question if he was hungry or just bragging. Life is never easy.

I wondered why, during the days of

pretensions, the provincial government didn't react to the comments coming from Toronto Council. This week we learned that the Tories plan to do away with the six Metro city councils. I'm sure the timing is just coincidental.

Amazingly, the six Metro mayors came up with a plan to save their jobs while reducing the number of elected politicians. I'm sure the timing was just coincidental.

It makes one wonder, though, how long it will be before everyone from the lake to Limehouse will be living in the Town of Halton.

Our Town government gives us the biggest bang for our tax dollar. If we're swallowed into the bigger whole, I don't know how we could get equal consideration for our concerns. I trust all the politicians in Halton are watching the developments in Toronto. I realize they have reduced the number of councillors going to the Region. You have to wonder though, is it enough?

Parents in the Glen and Limehouse were relieved to hear their schools would not be closed, although Limehouse is still in some jeopardy. I couldn't believe that

these schools would be closed to satisfy some bureaucratic target regarding capacity. It was ludicrous to include the Speyside and Wigglesworth schools in the overall space availability. Both buildings are leased out to other users. Neither is available for regular school use.

Equally frustrating was the trial balloon floated to sell off some of the McKenzie-Smith Bennett school yard. When the schools were two separate entities, they didn't have too much property. They were joined last year, at a cost of some \$700,000, to reduce administrative costs and improve efficiency. Now as one school, someone decided the property was too large. Fortunately, saner heads prevailed and this proposal was deep-sixed. Like Acton has too much parkland now? Right!

There are rumours flying that the Tories are going to do away with many of the province's school boards. When the educators try to understand why a majority of people either support, or are indifferent to this move, they might consider the bonehead decisions made during the consideration of these two cases in Halton Hills.

If the thought processes involved here show higher education problem-solving, I think we should make it mandatory that the Minister be a drop-out who made a success of himself. And I'll bet he can count to boot!