

# New Year's Greetings



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## THE NEW TANNER

Your Hometown Newspaper

Volume 1 No. 49

Tuesday, December 29, 1998

**ACHILLES**  
**mazda**  
in Acton

PAUL SIMMONS,  
SERVICE MANAGER

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**READY TO ROLL:** Volunteers give a Christmas farewell to the last of the heaping hampers going out to Acton and area families. Volunteers from left to right: Bill Sanford, Salvation Army Captain Larry Jennings, Susan Kuechler, Pat Graham, Marg Aitken, Pat Acri, his son William, daughter Andrea Acri, Kathy Sanford and Roseanna Acri. - Ted Tyler photo

### 25 volunteers pack and deliver

## Hampers to needy families ensure a Merry Christmas

The Salvation Army, Rotary Club, St. Vincent de Paul and IODE prepared over 70 Christmas hampers for Acton and area families.

Twenty-five volunteers

collected, packed and delivered the hampers.

Smaller families received hampers containing Christmas hams while larger families received turkeys. Families of six plus weren't unusual.

The hampers helped ensure more than 100 children had a merry Christmas. They were all picked up or delivered on Wednesday, December 25.

## Quiet white Christmas here

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## What a year it was!

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

Arenas - new and old - grabbed front-page headlines in Acton as 1998 began and as it ended.

The year kicked off with stories of excitement and pride about the new \$5.3 million Acton Arena and Community Centre. By the end of the year the stories recounted the unsuccessful attempts to save the Prospect Park arena.

While virtually everyone was overjoyed to have a brand new rink and leisure pad, many Acton residents were angered and saddened that the ageing Prospect Park arena couldn't be saved, despite best efforts by a determined band of Acton citizens, some affiliated with Heritage Acton.

The New Tanner was able to chronicle these events having been resurrected late last January from the remnants of the Acton Tanner - giving the appreciative Acton community a voice and a source of local news.

Looking over the past year's issues it's heartening to see how many stories there are about Acton kids who are working and playing hard



FRANCES NIBLOCK and are a credit to their family and school.

On the sports scene Acton athletes continued to win national, regional and local championships, underlining what a strong role sports plays in the lives of a lot of Acton kids and their parents.

The raging fire that levelled some of the former Beardmore tannery drew television and radio crews from the Greater Toronto Area as part of Acton's proud leather heritage went up in smoke. Later in the year crews would begin to dismantle and demolish more buildings on the

site, raising still unanswered questions about future plans for the land.

Here's a capsule look at some of the other stories and people who grabbed headlines this past year:

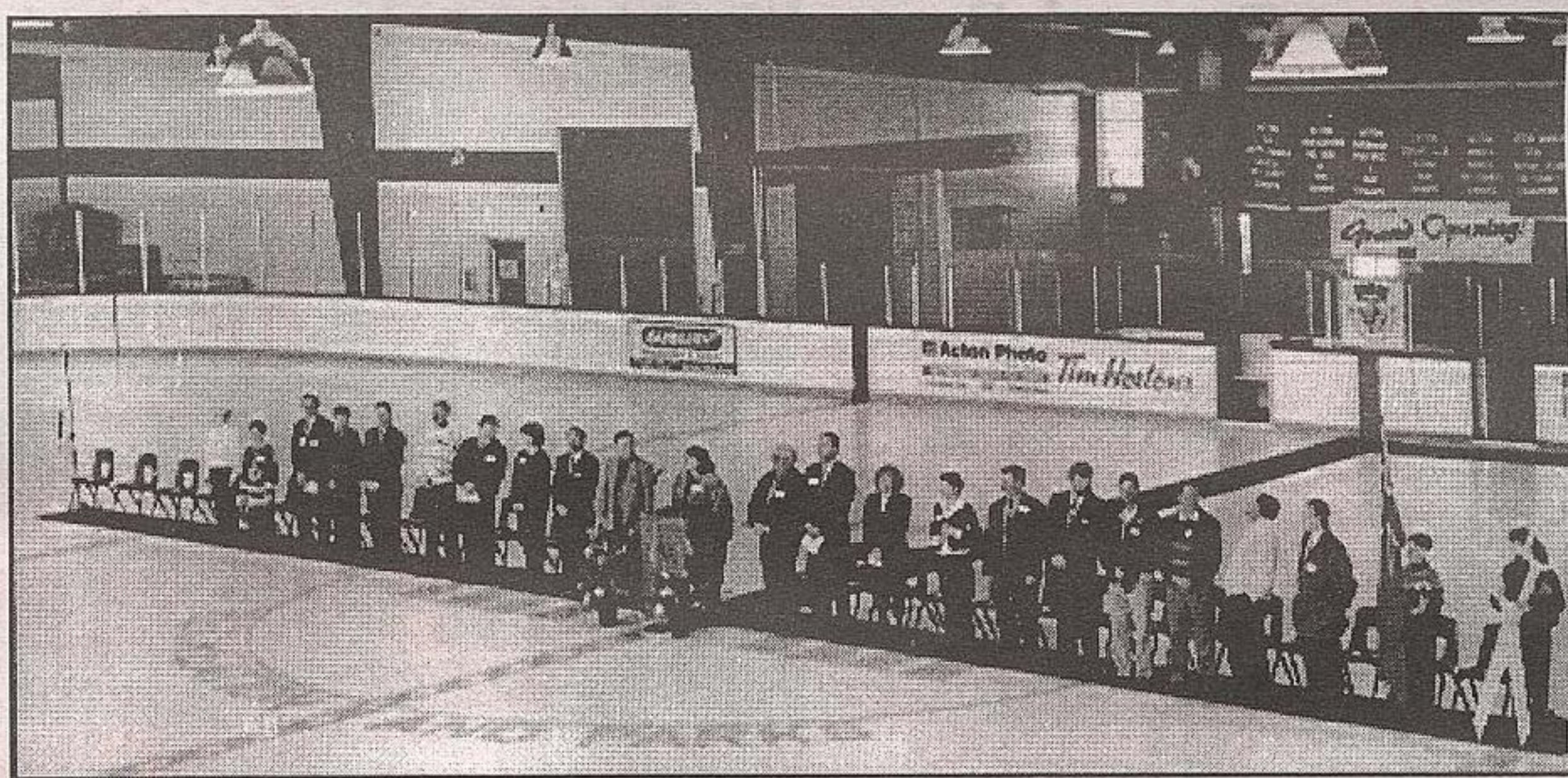
### JANUARY

§ Acton's first New Year's baby, Jessamyn Andi Chan, was born was born at 11:45 p.m., New Year's Day in Guelph General Hospital. Proud parents Maioping and Ginsing Chan own the Double Happiness restaurant in Acton. Jessamyn weighed 6 lb. 7 ounces.

§ Crews work to finish the \$5.1 million Acton Arena and Community Centre for the grand opening ceremonies on February 1. Acton seniors finalize their move to the new facility from the Prospect Park arena and plan a week of open house events.

§ The Acton Agricultural Society and Town began talks about the future of the Prospect Park arena now that the new arena is almost open. Spokesperson Janis Fread said they'd like to keep

*Continued on Page 3*



**OFFICIAL OPENING:** Acton's new arena officially opened on Sunday, February 1, 1998, with a line-up of dignitaries along centre ice.

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