

HALF CENTURY OF FUN: Sokoly Dance Ensemble members from Oshawa in traditional Ukrainian costume participated in Sunday's annual festivities at Veselka, the Ukrainian Youth Association summer camp on the Fourth Line east of Acton. Originally encompassing citizens of Ukrainian heritage across



North America, the Canadian members separated from their American partners 50 years ago to establish their own organization. Veselka was set up a couple of years later to give youngsters a taste of the outdoors, their traditional customs and their language. - Maggie Petrushevsky photo

Shane, Cassandra Adams still champs

Shane Adams, the Acton knight, whose commanding presence on a charger in medieval armour has thrilled a parade here, reaffirmed his title as the World and Canadian Male Jousting Champion at Port Elgin on Saturday.

Adams, a heavy equipment operator, competed against two other Canadians, two from the United States and another pair from Great Britain, took first place in The Quest for a Dragon's Blade, the first international jousting tournament ever to be held in Canada.

Not only Shane competed in the tourney but his wife Cassandra, who won the World Female Jousting Championship in Colorado last month, also competed for the Dragon's Blade against the men. She failed to place but plans to compete against the men in next year's world competition.

Both of them don chain mail for the jousts where points are scored for spear throwing, gathering rings on a lance and jousting, in which two mounted riders, armed with lances and spears, make four passes at full gallop as they try to hit

their opponent's shield and knock them to the ground. A solid hit with the 24 foot lance is awarded one point. Knocking a knight to the ground is worth eight points.

Shane Adams looks the part - he's 6'4" with a wild mane of curly blond hair and dressed in his authentic chain mail protection and armed with a lance he's an imposing figure on his horse. Jousting isn't for sissies and there's a very real danger of injury when man and beast gallop at each other, armed with lances or swords.

"Jousting began in the 9th century as soldiers worked on their battle skills, but the tournaments didn't start until the 11th century and they were the demolition derbies of medieval times," Adams explained in an earlier interview.

"A lot of people think of Camelot when they think of knights - the chivalry, honour and valour, but really, many knights were just hired mercenaries. The churches clamped down on jousting in the 11th century because it was so dangerous. They refused to bury anyone killed while jousting.

Adams got hooked on

knight and jousting when he was five or six years old after watching movies featuring Robin Hood and Ivanhoe.

"The horses and the steel got to me. There's an amazing combat fight on horseback over a damsel in distress in one of the movies. My parents always had horses so it didn't take long for me to make a tinfoil costume and mount up. A family friend made me a wooden sword and I cherished it as long as it lasted.

"When I joust I feel like I'm really there. It's not the macho things that attracts me - it's the purity of horse and man living by their skills and wits."

After seeing a Medieval Times show in Florida as a teen Adams knew that's what

he wanted to do. He parlayed his riding skills into a tryout for the Toronto Medieval Times in 1993 and was hired on the spot.

Adams stayed with the show, performing nights, until an injury sidelined him. He had also decided that the show was "too Hollywood."

Cassandra Adams, a horse trainer, portrayed a Joan of Arc character in the scripted show, wants to compete at the same level as men challenging them on their own turf.

"She has been training with the guys. She can do it," Adams proudly says of his spouse.

SENIORS' REC. CTR.

By Dot Redekop
Congratulations to Bill Rowley on winning the prize last Friday. A nice welcome back gift.

We had some critters running around at the Centre last Thursday. In the morning we had skunks, people playing crib. Bill and Frank can attest to that. In the afternoon Theresa was a Mooner, playing bid euchre.

The Centre is closed on Monday, Aug. 2. This week is Mystery Lunch.

We still have a few places on the coach for the cruise on Stony Lake, near Peterborough on Thursday, Aug. 12. I haven't been given any further details yet. More later.

Our outdoor Games Afternoon is Aug. 9 at 2 p.m. The cost is \$1 and includes refreshments. Come and play horseshoes, bocce, lawn darts, golf putting, bean bag baseball or just sit and chat.

Hope it is cooler. About 35 folks came out for the Breakfast and Travlogue last Monday.



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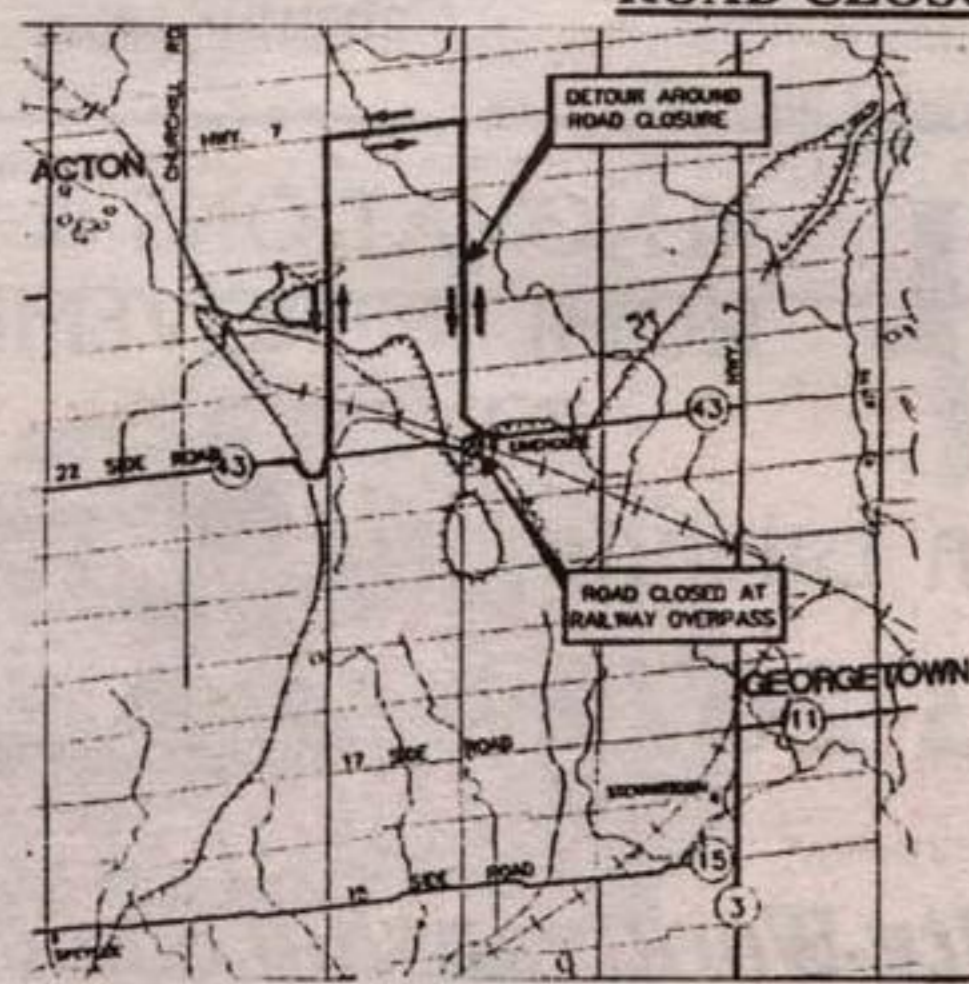
Please be advised that 22 SIDE ROAD (REGIONAL ROAD 43) WILL BE CLOSED to all traffic from JULY 26th TO SEPTEMBER 20th, 1999. The closure is required to allow Canadian National (C.N.) to complete repairs to the Limehouse Bridge.

The scope of the rehabilitation includes a new steel span and beams at the east end, three (3) new beams at the west end, a new timber deck, new hand rails and new braces between various columns. C.N. has advised staff the work to be carried out will not in any way alter the location, width or appearance of the bridge. A temporary protected pedestrian walkway will also be constructed while the bridge/road is closed.

A road closure is necessary and the detour route will be 5th Line North, Highway 7 and 4th Line (see map). Advance Notice signs will be posted on July 12th on 22 Side Road at both sides of the bridge. Letters will be delivered to area residents, emergency services and school boards in early July.

If there are any design questions related to the project, please call Dave Bradshaw, P. Eng., Planning & Inspection Engineer, C.N. (416) 217-6397. For information on the road closure and detour or if unable to reach C.N. staff, please contact Matt Krusto, Region of Halton, 878-8113, at ext. 7644.

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