

GRAPEVINE



Not quite, Julian

Thanks to the sharp eyes that caught Halton MP and Norval politico Julian Reed with his Acton facts all mixed up in his recent Celebrating Halton 2000 calendar, delivered to all riding homes late last week. The June calendar page shows a great overhead shot of downtown Acton, thronging with people at what the caption says is the Acton Farmer's Market - except it's the Leathertown Festival. A side comment says the Acton Farmer's Market exemplifies the small town community spirit that remains an important part of Acton's charm. What??

The calendar is also slightly behind the times, telling people they can receive 90th birthday and 50th anniversary wishes from Governor General Romeo LeBlanc and not his recent successor, Adrienne Clarkson.

A spokesperson at Reed's Milton office thanked The New Tanner for its interest and said the photo captions were supplied by the photographer and the calendar was produced in Ottawa.

Spirit donation

While needy Acton families were the big winners in the St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus annual Christmas draw, some out-of-towners were winners too. Not one of the five "glass turnkey" draw winners were from Acton. The draw - a long-standing Knights tradition - raised approximately \$1,000 this year. Some of the money was used to make Christmas a little happier for women and children at Halton Women's Place and some was given to the Acton Salvation Army to help fill Christmas hampers.

Kinette dance

The Acton Youth Centre will benefit from tomorrow's (Friday) teen dance at the Acton Legion, sponsored by the Kinette Club of Acton. The fully chaperoned dance will feature Steve Dunn's Music Machine, back by popular demand, door prizes and snacks. Staff from the soon-to-open Youth Centre will also be on hand with information about future events and programs. Doors open at 7:30 and the dance runs until 11 p.m. and since it's a millennium dance, expect to see some party duds.

Horticultural award

Kudos to Acton's Jean Somerville

They chose Canada...



The Coleman family

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was about six inches, and that would only last a few days.

By the end of the week, we were sick and tired of living out of suitcases - we'd been doing so since December 18 when we moved out of our old house. The trouble was, our container was tied up at customs due to a lack of information from the shipping company. With or without our furniture we decided to move into the house the next Sunday. I had spent a week shopping for a new bed, and kitchen utensils. The kids had their sleeping bags, so it wouldn't be too bad.

Little did we know it would be another ten days before the furniture finally arrived - not for the first time, I hasten to add. It did turn up on Friday 22, at around 4pm, three hours late. If you remember, that was the

and her green thumb and unflagging enthusiasm to make Acton a prettier place to live. Jean recently received the President's Award from the Acton Horticultural Society, an award sanctioned by the Ontario Horticultural Association.

"In the last three or four years Jean chaired many of our busy committees including the Memorial Garden and millennium committees She's chaired garden tours and come up with many creative ideas and has really been a whirlwind of our Society," said president Max MacSween, adding hard working, long-term members deserve to be honoured.

Trees chipped

Christmas is really over when the tree gets put at the curb, stray bits of tangled tinsel in the branches which just days before was the centre piece of holiday festivities for a lot of people.

Those dry trees that are already out will be at the curb for almost another week in Acton because the Christmas tree pickup day is next Wednesday, January 12.

Potential politician

Steve Grasby was first off the mark, filing papers to run for the Acton Ward 1 local seat on Town council in the November municipal election. Grasby filed his papers on Tuesday, one day after the Town was able to accept nomination papers and a cheque for \$100.

"I stated to everybody that I was going to run and there's no sense in waiting to declare," Grasby said on Tuesday.

Grasby said "it's possible" that he'll start monitoring Town council meetings to learn the issues, depending on how much time he has.

Bayfield houses

That huge trailer moved onto the former Canadiana Restaurant site at Queen Street and Acton Boulevard on Tuesday is going to be the off site sales pavilion for Bayfield Homes, which is building 60 single family houses as an extension of Lasby Lane.

Construction on the subdivision, which includes the extension of Acton Boulevard and Division Street into the area, is well underway and crews said the sales office would be open as soon as possible.



SANTA VISITS: The Acton Aqua Ducks had a visit from the jolly elf recently. Front row from the left are Ashton Roza, Erica Bowes, T.J. Waldie, Santa, Alanna Bowes, Katlyn Alcorn and Nicole Pitre. Centre row: Melanie Hayes, Krystle Bowskill, Sara Kiley, Victoria Fritz, Kaitlin Carr and Kim Galvin. Rear row: Adrianna Burton, Megs Bowes, EmmaJo Goddard, Sarah Keith, Meghamn Colvin, Alicia Roza, Rachel denEngelsman and John Eddolls.

Wondering about resolutions?

Huh? Huh? Did I tell you or did I tell you? The whole Y2K thing proved to be a giant boondoggle. The big profit makers were computer programmers the media and bottled water companies. Some fool in the States bought \$29,000 worth of groceries. Oh well, at least he won't have to shop for the next three years or so.

It's not that I wasn't interested or even just a bit apprehensive. But by 10 a.m. New Year's Eve day it was apparent that Armageddon was a non-event. Over the next few weeks there will be a few well-publicized glitches as the "experts" try to save face. At our house "The Bride" was a bit concerned about the water supply. On New Year's Eve everyone bathed or showered before going out. "The Bride" asked if we should fill the tub in case the water went out. "I don't think so," said I. Did the people who suggested this ever think about it. Thankfully, the silly season is over. be grateful you'll never have to worry about Y3K. Trust me!

The New Year's celebrations around the world were astounding. While Sydney Australia's were breathtaking I think the French put on the best show. Paris certainly lived up to its image as the city of lights. I chuckled as the poor queen couldn't light the fuse to set off the Millennium Beacon. Also, the Brit's much ballyhood ferris wheel didn't get safety approvals. Funny, isn't it. That the most publicized Y2K glitches involved mechanical problems, no computer ones. Revenge of the Luddites, I guess. Toronto's party was a huge success except I could have done with a lot less Mel. His act is getting real old - real fast. The national celebration in Ottawa was bush-league in my opinion. I was angry before it started when I learned that they spent \$80,000 to cover the stage so the P.M. wouldn't get wet if it rained. Unbelievable, isn't it, how these guys just throw our

The Way I See It

with Mike O'Leary



money around like confetti?

Here in Halton Hills the new millennium was brought in with a little ding-a-ling. The mayor rang in the New Year at City hall. The fireworks will come later when the province forces Halton Region to amalgamate.

New Year's is the traditional time for folks to make resolutions aimed at improving their lot or health. I normally don't make resolutions. I hate disappointing myself. In honour of the millennium, however, I broke with tradition and made a few resolutions which I am happy to share with you.

I resolve to lose less hair in the new millennium than I did in the last.

I resolve to be less critical of politicians in the future than I have been in the past. (Damn, I think I broke that one already!)

I resolve not to put on as much weight or smoke as much in the new millennium as I did in the past one. Sad, but true I fear.

I resolve to spend much more time snuggling and cuddling with "The Bride" in the new century than I did in the past. This is actually more of a prayer than a resolution. I know this because when I mentioned this resolution to "The Bride" she told me I didn't have a prayer. So I figured I'd better get one. Fast!

While thinking about millennium resolutions I wondered what others were doing in this area. For instance:

Do you think coach and G.M. Pat Quinn of the Maple Leafs has resolved that the Leafs will win the Stanley Cup in the next 1000 years? God, I hope so.

Prime Minister Chretien will prob-

ably resolve to find a way to tax air. This particular tax will have to be lower in the summer than in the winter. After all, if they tax hot air the Liberals would be bankrupt in 24 hours.

Premier Harris will probably resolve to lay off the hospitals and teachers. People are starting to notice the cuts are to the quick. The government needs a new target to focus media attention on. If I was Sid Ryan I'd be nervous. Actually, I'd be more nervous if I were Joe Clark.

Preston Manning is probably resolving to make the new United Alternative party a victorious national political force which will win the next election. How do they spell "fat chance" in Alberta?

Speaking of political types, I figure Mayor Serjeantson will resolve to get her picture in the local papers a bit more next year. My, what a busy lady. She attends everything but a letter opening. This is an election year, after all.

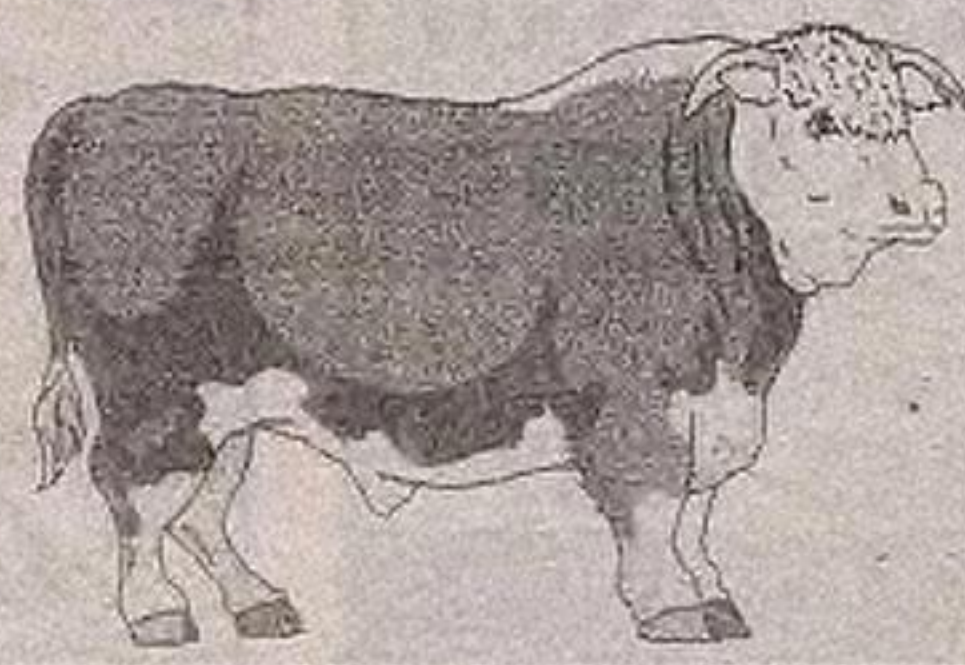
Computer king Bill Gates is probably resolving to make some real money on Y3K. In 2999 all the computers will blow up. Start saving your money now.

The queen is resolving to live forever. This is a good think The world may be ready to accept Charles as king but if he tried to make Camilla 2 names our queen, he's toast. God save the Queen.

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman will resolve to say something really outlandish in the new year. Perhaps he'll propose to take Toronto out of our solar system and establish a new galaxy. He'll probably call it the Melky Way. Groan!

So I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's. I hope the new year will be healthy and prosperous for us all. I hope our little town will rally behind the Agricultural Society and get a new building for the park in time for the fair. More on that later.

Have a great new year.



WHAT'S YOUR BEEF?

Put it in a letter to the Editor!

Deadline is Tuesday at noon.

Continued next week...