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ACTON, ONTARIO

Miss Acton Fair ambassador opens up many doors

By Rhonda Peregrine

Miss Acton Fall Fair will soon be handing her tiara and cape in so a new ambassador will be chosen to represent the Acton Agricultural Society.

The crowning of the 40th Miss Acton Fall Fair will take place on Friday, September 13 at the Prospect Park fairgrounds. The pageant runs from 8pm to 10:30pm and is open to contestants 16 years of age and older who live in the Acton, Limehouse, Ballinafad or Rockwood areas, or attend Acton High School.

The event is not a beauty pageant, but rather a viewing of the contestants on their ability to interact with other people and to speak in front of a group. It's also considered a prime opportunity to represent Acton and the Acton Agricultural Society, as well to learn about the town.

Once Miss Acton is chosen she will meet new people and participate in a variety of functions throughout the year including the Agricultural Convention at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto.

Judging consists of four separate components: a private five-minute interview, a walk-across on stage, a brief speech, and an impromptu question (previously heard).

Kelly White (Kelly Bishop, Miss Acton 1988) says being Miss Acton is an experience they won't ever forget. It helps build confidence and self-esteem and memories that will last a lifetime. Committee members are made up of former winners, runners-up and contestants.

"We have a packed audience every year. We've never had an empty seat—we've never had an audience that is not standing room only. It's a very popular part of the fair," she stresses.

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What's Inside

A young Rockwood Miss is the winner of IGA's Kids' Club draw for this month. See Page 13.

Letters

We get letters on a variety of subjects. See Pages 12 and 13.

It's been 30 years since the massacre at the Olympic Games in Munich. Mike O'Leary takes a searching look at the event. See Page 5

Beardmore name still alive, well

BEARDMORE LEATHERS' PRODUCTS: CEO Fred Dawkins, right, and his staff of (left to right) Janis Fread, Jenn Legate, Tanya Doyle, Colleen Williamson and Lynda Martin show off products Beardmore Leathers manufactures for sale in outlets in Cookstown and St. Jacob's. Fred Dawkins and his daughter Jane acquired the Beardmore name and surviving trademarks from Maple Leaf Foods. The head office of the company is in Acton in the former Black Hawk Leather building on McDonald Blvd.

Fred Dawkins, daughter operate new company

Beardmore is a name that was synonymous with Acton for well over a hundred years. The connection speaks to an era when the economic welfare of the community was totally linked to the business trends at the Beardmore Tannery. Acton was a company town and much of its history derives from this association.

It is a proud history. In 1915 Beardmore operated a sprawling complex encompassing over a million square feet of floor space. The company justifiably claimed to be the largest tanning operation in the British Empire.

The name lives on

In 1998 Fred Dawkins and his daughter Jane acquired the rights to the Beardmore name and surviving trademarks from Maple Leaf Foods (formerly Canada Packers) that operated the company from 1944 to 1985.

The appeal was to preserve the heritage. Four generations of the Dawkins family worked at Beardmore, starting in Bracebridge and moving to Acton.

Today, Beardmore Leathers manufactures

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Kinettes want to have fun, do good

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

The new president of the Kinette Club of Acton will place more emphasis on the "have fun" part of the Kinette motto which urges members to grow, learn, make friends and have fun.

"We're looking to have a lot more fun this year," said in-coming president Monica Rudat as the club geared up for the first meeting after the summer, likely the third Thursday of September at the Legion.

"We do work very hard and we need to have a balance and I'm looking to bring that balance to our organization," Rudat said when asked about her plans for the club, entering its eighth-year of service to the community in Acton.

"We're going to continue with our current agenda which is to serve our community's greatest need, which is youth, with the teen dances. The community brunches will continue and we'd like to expand our members and get more publicity for the club."

The Acton club received its charter in 1996 and while, like many

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