

Adams Family started naming Acton streets back in 1800s

Have you ever wondered how Acton got many of its street names outside of politicians and people who have left an indelible mark on the community?

Mill, Church and Main Streets – they're all names most villages, towns and cities have and are self-explanatory. But John, Wilbur, Frederick, Agnes, Ransom, Maria and Bower – where did they originate?

Credit the Adams family, saddle bag preachers and paragons of the New England conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who are generally believed to be Acton's founders. There may have been other families here before them but it was their influence which decided the settlement's destiny and they named many streets after their children.

One of the most interesting characters of the Adams family was Ransom, a nephew of original founders Ezra and Zenas Adams, whom the short street which runs off Main St. S. into a dead end at Fairview Cemetery is named after. In 1874 Ransom was the man with money in this hamlet of about 800 souls and it was said his one object in life was making money. Local gossip declared he stayed a bachelor because he couldn't spare the time from his relentless quest for pounds, shilling and pence, to find a bride.

Ransom had immense woodpiles in blocks around the Grand Trunk Railway (GTR) station which he sold by the cord to run those wood-burning locomotives, much like one sees today only in films about the American west. They huffed and they puffed their way through the village, stopping to let



Longtime Acton residents call it Bower Ave. but even the new street signs read Bower St.

passengers off, take them on, drawing water for their boilers from a huge barrel-like tank with a swinging arm alongside the tracks. The train staff also loaded wood from those immense piles of wood.

One of the few arteries which didn't originate from the Adams family is Young and the streets which radiate from it. There's Wellington, Arthur and Peel.

Young St. is named after the Georgetown surveyor who surveyed land east of the GTR lines for the Adams family. He gave the street his own name. Wellington, of course, was named for the Duke of Wellington, the British general who licked Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo. Arthur St. was named after the Duke of Connaught and Peel for the British prime minister of the time.

Bower Avenue, the name old timers ascribed to the tree-lined avenue which leaves Willow and circumscribes Mill until it joins it at the railway tracks, is now a street not an avenue; that came about because an Acton town clerk found an early



map which describes it as Bower St. with no genuflection to the more euphonious name. A bower, according to Gage's dictionary is a shelter of leafy branches, a descriptive name for the street.

Willow St., of course, is named after a large Willow tree which stood at the corner

O'Leary...

Continued from page 7...

"holeing up" in a farmhouse for over 10 hours, he finally surrendered to police.

Whitmore, who has multiple convictions on his record, is now accused of assaulting the two boys he was found with. How many chances are we expected to give these pedophiles? How many shots at our children before our lawmakers say enough is enough? Here's a hint. Don't hold your breath.

In the case of Whitmore, even the police and Crown's office are at odds. When Whitmore surrendered he negotiated a deal with the police that he would not be prosecuted as a dangerous

offender. He did agree to plead guilty to any offences he committed in the previous 24-48 hours. Isn't that generous of him?

Now the Crown, which never agreed to this deal, is planning to proceed with the dangerous offender prosecution. I agree. Why should we agree to a deal made under duress? We can't be held to a deal with the devil.

For all these years I've been looking for the answer to one simple question. How many more? How many more innocents have to die? How many more children have to suffer and be traumatized? When is enough, enough?

The silence has been deafening.

-Hartley Coles

her work at the 2007 International Art Expo at the Metro Convention Centre in Toronto next March. For more information, visit www.candiceraquel.com.

Rockwood artist 'Babe in woods'...

Continued from page 13

only bronze pieces and the only "figurative" ones (realistic, physical bodies). For example, Lee described the sculpture that won the highest award at the show as "made from asphalt recovered from roadwork, strewn on the floor, and spray painted with iron."

Lee was interested in joining the society but changed her mind because she sees the trend as moving completely away from figurative sculpture and towards abstract.

While in Toronto, she and her fellow artists, attended another gallery where "disturbing images" of children's toys and candies were displayed. Some toys were burned, others were spewing blood, and some displayed

candy in perverse ways. Lee said, "It was very dark and nightmarish." She couldn't wait to get back home and "mentally cleanse those images from her mind." She added that the trend in many cosmopolitan galleries seems to be an attempt to shock the viewer, rather than celebrating beauty, mastery and skill.

Overall, Lee enjoyed her first experiences in the metropolitan art scene, but is still looking for one that "celebrates ideas, philosophy, beauty and transcendence, while recognizing skill and mastery." The shows resulted in increased interest in her work, including an interior designer who wants to use it in some upscale designs.

One of her most memorable moments was hearing

Anne Mirvish, wife of Toronto's well-known theatrical producer and entrepreneur, Ed Mirvish, describing her work as beautiful.

Lee was accepted to show

HARDWOOD TRUCK LOAD SALE
BAMBOO & CORK FLOORING
 from \$3.99/sqft
GEORGETOWN FLOORING
 128 Guelph St. Georgetown
 905-702-1217

Why Book Early?
 More Selection!
 HUGE savings!

HOT DEALS

CAYO COCO/CAYO GUILLERMO

Saturday Departures
Tryp Cayo Coco •4★ **\$689**
 All inclusive • Standard room •
 Sept. 2-30 1 week
Plus taxes of \$196, and departure tax of 25 CUC (cash) paid at destination

VARADERO

Saturday Departures
Barcelo Solymar •4★ **\$779**
 All inclusive • Super Saver room •
 Sept. 2-30 1 week
Plus taxes of \$196, and departure tax of 25 CUC (cash) paid at destination

Sandals Royal Hicacos Resort & Spa

ULTRA All inclusive • Garden view suite • **\$949**
 Sept. 2-30 1 week
Plus taxes of \$196, and departure tax of 25 CUC (cash) paid at destination

FALL SALE!

PUNTA CANA

Saturday & Sunday Departures
Occidental Allegro Punta Cana •4★ **\$649**
 All inclusive • Superior room •
 Sept. 2-30 1 week
Plus taxes of \$275, and departure tax of USD \$20 (cash) paid at destination

CAYO COCO/CAYO GUILLERMO

Saturday Departures
NH Krystal Laguna Villa & Resort •4★ **\$729**
 All inclusive • Club Laguna room •
 Sept. 2-30 1 week
Plus taxes of \$196, and departure tax of 25 CUC (cash) paid at destination

CANCUN/MAYN RIVIERA

Saturday & Sunday Departures
Occidental Grand Xcaret •4.5★ **\$999**
 All inclusive • Deluxe room •
 Sept. 2 - Oct. 22 1 week
Plus taxes of \$254

Barcelo Maya Beach •4.5★

All inclusive • Standard room • **\$1229**
 Sept. 2 - Oct. 22 1 week
Plus taxes of \$254

BARBADOS

Saturday & Sunday Departures
Turtle Beach Resort •4★ **\$1749**
 All inclusive • Pool/garden view junior suite
 Sept. 2-30 1 week
Plus taxes of \$176

Almond Beach Club & Spa •4★

All inclusive • Standard Room **\$1799**
 Sept. 2-30 1 week
Plus taxes of \$176

Prices are based on double occupancy, unless otherwise stated from Toronto. New Bookings only. Space is limited. Not applicable to group bookings. Sale prices reflect applicable reductions, are subject to change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offer. Prices include currency surcharge and service charges. For terms and conditions, consult the Air Canada Vacations brochures. Ontario registration #500013537

TED TYLER TRAVEL SERVICE LIMITED
 519-853-1553
 1-888-833-8953
 FAX: 519-853-1559
 379 Queen St.,
 Acton ON L7J 2N2
Best Price, Best Service Since 1972