

Cut Bower Ave. off proposed 1969 town roads program

Cuts in Department of Highways approval of the 1969 Roads Supplemental By-Law have forced Acton council to postpone plans for roadwork on Bower Avenue this year although it is likely work will be completed at the corner of Mill St. and Park Ave. and paving done in Lakewood subdivision.

Necessary approvals have been received for the work and tenders are to be called.

Councillor Bill Coats, chairman of Committee of the Whole, asked what cutting \$7,000 off the Park-Mill corner

would do with the project. Councillor Earl Masales answered that the committee was trying to do the best they could with the money available.

But freshman councillor Peter Marks was unconvinced that the Park-Mill corner should receive priority over Bower Avenue which in his opinion was a busier street. "Why recommend this corner instead of the other?" he asked.

"Priority was decided partly on commitment and partly on objection from the Department," answered Councillor Masales.

"The Department decided Bower Ave. is a costly operation and they'd rather see it done properly when funds are available." The committee also felt there was a safety factor involved in the Park-Mill corner which should be cleaned up.

"We can't patch up the Mill-Park corner," echoed Deputy Reeve Tyler. "It must be done properly."

Bower can be patched. It is not a safety item. The corner is a safety item.

"Twenty thousand dollars will go a long way in fixing up Bower

Avenue," persisted Mr. Marks. "We're not talking \$20,000 on Bower," replied Mr. Tyler. "It's two or two-and-a-half times that amount."

Clerk Joe Hurst said the Bower Avenue price of \$26,000 was considered low and the engineer felt the job could not be split.

The mayor told council the cluttered situation in front of the federal building on Bower Avenue could be cleared up with installation of underground wiring. Deferring the project for a year could allow this and save

redigging Bower for work after it has been paved.

"The very hectic parks program compounds the volume of people using the street," he added.

Councillor Marks nodded but admitted he still had reservations about the program's priorities. "But I guess I'm out in left field on this," he said. He suggested that \$10,000 spent in Lakewood was not enough to do the job properly. He felt permanent paving on Elizabeth Drive would be better than the cold surface

treatment.

"We spend \$10,000 now and then may have to do it again in three years."

"Maybe the tender price will change our plans," said Mr. Masales but reminded Mr. Marks that the work was being done in accordance with recommendations of the Department of Highways.

"There's no guarantee it won't break up in four or five years," said Reeve F. Oakes, "but we had a big paving job done a few years ago and still had problems."



SIXTEEN YEAR OLD KAREN O'ROURKE was crowned Fiddle Queen at the Canadian National Open Old Time Fiddlers Contest in Shelburne, Saturday night by TV personality Gordie Tapp. Karen was also presented with the Shelburne Kinmen trophy. (Staff Photo)

Karen O'Rourke chosen Shelburne Fiddle Queen

Sixteen-year-old Karen O'Rourke of R.R. 1, Acton was chosen Fiddle Queen at the Canadian National Open Old Time Fiddler's Contest at Shelburne last weekend. Karen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James O'Rourke.

To become eligible for the Fiddle Queen contest, Karen sent in an information form in which she answered questions about her previous musical accomplishments and then competed in the ladies' fiddling contest Friday night.

Karen returned home after competing Friday night and was very surprised to receive a phone call from contest officials Saturday afternoon to say that she had been selected Fiddle Queen.

Accompanied by her parents, her brother, and her grandmother Mrs. Frank, Karen returned to Shelburne where she was crowned Fiddle Queen, at the men's finals, by CBC entertainer Gordie Tapp. Karen was also presented with the Shelburne Kinmen trophy and received a replica for herself.

After the contest finals, Karen and her family were guests at a dance.

Karen is Grade 12 student at Acton District High School and has been playing the violin since she was eight years old. This was the first year she had entered the Canadian National Contest at Shelburne. She has won many other awards in violin competitions in the past.

Take away life savers

Parks superintendent Harold Townsley told the Free Press this week that he reluctantly took down two of the life savers the Board of Parks Management had installed around Fairy Lake.

Reason? Vandalism which made the floating life rings useless if an emergency did occur.

Mr. Townsley said it was "tough enough to keep tabs on the children who fooled around with the life preservers but worse when parents abused them, too."

He said he had to intervene several times when adults took the life savers from the poles they hang on and used them for water toys.

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REGIONAL LIBRARY system sent its touring double feature puppet show to Acton library last Friday. Clustering around the stage with Hamilton puppeteers Kathy Briabin, Mrs. Judy McAnanama, Janice Surette, Carol Paradis, Teresa Souter and Leon Bell are some of the audience, Ken Kamminga, John Nessett, Jeff Gordon, Nico Vanderkooy and Tineke Vanderkooy. (Staff Photo)

Date changed to break jinx playground parade tonight

Any dark clouds on the horizon yet?

The playground leader's play of changing the night of the annual parade to break the rain jinx seems to be working well.

The parade starts at 6.30 p.m. tonight.

In the past six years the closing parade and program has been on a Thursday night. And it ALWAYS rains, sometimes during the program, one year just before the parade, ruining the floats. By changing the night, they hope to break the spell.

With the Citizens' Band in the lead, the parade will move down Mill St. from the park to the high school, where a two hour program will be held in the auditorium.

Playground director Don Price points out all friends and parents are welcome. This is the second year the show has been in the gym.

If all the playground children come, there will be 160 taking part in the colorful parade. Its theme is Fairy Tales.

Six floats are all ready to go (keep your fingers crossed when you look for clouds in the sky)—Cinderella, Sir Thinksalot, Rumpelstiltskin, Jack and the Beanstalk, Snow White and Laff and a Half.

The youngsters will be in appropriate costume, with some music on the floats as well.

Pluto and Donald Duck will be there in person.

In a junior version of the fall fair parade, the playground will present "Mr. and Miss Playground"—one for each public school. Riding in convertibles will be the youngsters who won these titles, Cindy McGilloway and Bruce McPhail for the Robert Little school, Denise Patton and Mike Dawson for the M.Z. Bennett school.

Mrs. Peter Marks and Mayor Duby will judge the best float and present the trophy donated by Ben Rachlin for the second year.

During the program skits will be presented by the six groups. Brendan Aherne will speak for the recreation and parks committee.

There will be refreshments for the boys and girls.

The playground program isn't completely over after tonight. There's a splash party Thursday morning, a full length movie tomorrow afternoon, with the final "Good-byes" on Friday morning.

Then, it's two weeks holidays for the leaders before they go back to school.

"It's been the best playground yet," Don Price asserts.

Mrs. Anne MacArthur Nassagaweya reeve

At a meeting held Monday night, Nassagaweya council paid tribute to the late reeve of the township William Hoey and went on to elect Deputy Reeve Anne MacArthur reeve for the remaining term.

Councillor Gordon Agnew was elected to serve as deputy reeve. In accepting the position, Mrs. MacArthur said, "This is one of the greatest honors I could have." She went on to say, "It is not the desired way to come into this office, though."

The new reeve will continue in her post at county council.

\$9,200 sidewalks plan

Acton council authorized No. 2 committee to proceed with a \$9,200 sidewalk program at their Tuesday night meeting. Councillor Peter Marks objected to the priorities on the program which will build sidewalks in five areas of town.

Largest item on the program is \$4,000 expenditure for a sidewalk on Acton Blvd. from Queen St. to the M. Z. Bennett public school. Second on the list is a sidewalk from Mill St. E. to Acton Blvd. at a cost of \$1,550. Third on the program is the Brock St. bridge at a cost of \$600. Fourth is on Wallace St. leading to McDonald Blvd. at a cost of \$2,200.

Final work on the program will be either Elizabeth Dr. from Main St. or the Cameron St.

approach at a cost of \$1,000. The walks will be asphalt with a concrete curb face.

Councillor Peter Marks asked why Elizabeth Dr. and Cameron were last on the list, and the mayor answered that they were taking care of the school traffic problem first.

Mr. Marks said he agreed with the sidewalks in all the areas specified but he was not satisfied with the priorities.

He questioned why \$4,000 should be spent on Acton Blvd. rather than more on Elizabeth Dr. or Cameron St. Councillor Earl Masales said that no requests for sidewalks had come from Elizabeth Dr. until the past year and others have been screaming for years. Previous councillors had committed the committee to this work.

Police raid outdoor party

Many charges were laid last Friday evening when nine police officers showed up at an outdoor drinking party. About 30 young people, a few of them girls, were at the party in the neighborhood of Smallwood Acres. One of them was discharging a shot gun.

Cons. Wood and Kressler, accompanied by seven men from the North Halton Detachment of the O.P.P., stopped the party by laying charges.

Break-in

This morning (Wednesday) Don Timmings reported to police a break-in during the night at his dairy on Main St. N. Entry had been made by a chute on the south side.

Money had been taken out of truck drivers' pouches and from a can, estimated at about \$30. Investigation is underway.

Catch fugitive outside Acton

Responding to a radio call he received at 7 a.m. Thursday morning, Acton O.P.P. Constable Roy Wood caught up with an escapee from Illieret Training School. He brought him back to Acton where he was turned over to officials of the school.

Several boys from the Guelph school were on a camping trip with officers, near Rockwood, when three of them escaped about 1 a.m. Thursday morning. One of the boys returned to camp shortly afterwards.

The other two set out towards Acton.

Constable Wood was patrolling on highway 7 west of town when he spotted the two youths along the road.

At the sight of the police cruiser, the youths headed for a nearby bush and went their separate ways.

Constable Wood took chase and finally apprehended one of them one mile northwest of Crewson Corners. The boy was barefoot.

Accept V.O.N. service

Acton council decided to accept the service of the Victorian Order of Nurses after negotiating for several months.

No. 1 committee of council recommended that services of the V.O.N. be accepted beginning Sept. 3 this year at a cost of \$154, which represents one-third of the 10 cents per capita for the balance of the year.

The committee met with Miss Jean Klein of the V.O.N. of Canada, Miss Margaret Peattie of the Oakville branch of the V.O.N. and Mrs. Verrall of the Oakville board of directors at a special meeting in July where it was confirmed that the V.O.N. services could be made available to Acton from the Oakville branch. It was deemed advisable to postpone the homemaker service to this area until Jan. 1, 1970 to permit a survey to be made of available qualified personnel.

Council accepted the committee's recommendation and doctors in the community are to be advised.

Councillor Bill Coats said the nurses will make a report after the service has been developed and then decide whether the homemaker service is needed.

Clerk Joe Hurst said that the V.O.N. will collect rates for the services from those who can afford it.

Councillor Coats also told council that there are vacancies on the board of directors of V.O.N. and people from the northern communities have been invited to sit on the board.

Bank gives town clock

They may tear the old post office down and the clock tower might go with it but the town will still have a clock.

The Bank of Montreal has advised the town that due to a change in bank policy the clock is to be removed from the bank building. The bank has donated the clock to the town, the only stipulation being that all bank identification is removed and that it is re-erected at the town's expense.

Council has accepted the gift with thanks and No. 1 committee has been delegated to find a suitable place in front of the town offices to install the clock.

Car, Honda in collision

When a car driven by Wayne Gates, R. R. 3, attempted a left turn Monday, it was in collision with a Honda driven by David Bittorf, 188 Main St. N., Acton. The car had an estimated \$100 damage to the right front door and fender. The Honda had about \$100 damage to the front forks, wheel and fender.

The accident happened about 4.50 p.m.

Man flees Orr home

Police are contacting persons following a 3 a.m. break-in on August 7 at the home of Mrs. A. Orr, Bower Ave. Someone had removed the screen from her side door and had entered her home, but ran off when lights were turned on. Although she called the police, the man was not apprehended at that time but the investigation is continuing.

Nothing was stolen from the home.

Bikes must have lights

Acton Police report that children are still riding their bicycles after dark with no lights on, some with their parents' approval.

"If a harsh crack-down on violators will stop this foolish practice, that will have to happen," they warn.



JEFF DENNY OF R. R. 2 Acton brought honors to the area recently by winning the Southern Ontario Singles Shuffleboard Championship, then placing third in the Canadian Championships at Port Arthur. Here Jeff smokes a victory cigar as he admires the trophies he earned. (Staff Photo)