

# Board approves stores, hi-rise apartments, medical centre

A five store development in Acton's business section, a new hi-rise apartment building complex and plans for a new medical centre were approved by Planning Board at their regular meeting Thursday night.

The planners were cool, however, towards a proposal from Lake Manor Holdings to erect a nine store plaza with 16 2-bedroom apartments at the intersection of Guelph and Main Sts. and the CNR tracks.

After considerable discussion with the main objection inadequate parking, the board passed a resolution by a marginal vote that T. H. Berry of Altheo Thrush Construction proceed with the proposed commercial development at the corner of Main and Church Sts. and position the building to provide maximum parking.

Mr. Berry proposed to build five stores with apartments above.

Dr. T. B. Moore appeared for the Acton Medical Group with the plans for the proposed new medical centre to be built on two lots bounded by Mill and Frederick Sts. and Bower Avenue. Planning Board recommended to council that the area be rezoned from C1H to C1 to permit construction of the medical centre.

A submission for approval to erect two seven storey apartment buildings on the old

Beverly House property at the corner of Church and Main Sts. was also approved with a recommendation that the town amend the height for-a-building in an RM zone from 35 feet to 70 ft. to permit buildings seven storeys in height.

Original plans for the complex called for four apartment buildings three storeys in height but the drawings were revised to cut the number of buildings in half and retain the same number of apartments with the added height.

Plans call for 38 two bedroom and 18 one bedroom suites.

The Board recognized the need for further commercial development as the town grows but felt the parcel of land on

Main St. N. bounded by the

CNR tracks was unsuitable for the small plaza envisioned by Lake Manor Holdings. They referred the matter to their consultant for his recommendations.

Chairman Bob Drinkwater and Earl Masales opposed granting approval to the revised plan submitted by T. H. Berry for the stores at the corner of Church and Main Sts. Mr. Drinkwater said the by-law called for 50 parking spaces plus parking spaces for the apartments and the maximum plans submitted would allow only 18 or 19. He felt this would contribute further toward congestion.

Other members of the board thought the development would improve the commercial area

and that it would add more parking spaces to those already in existence. Voting for the resolution were Mel Blow, Sid Saltz and new member Vic Bristol.

The new medical centre proposed by the Acton Medical group would require rezoning from C1H to C1.

The Board unanimously recommended that the lots be rezoned to permit construction of the medical centre which will have examining, waiting and emergency examination rooms.

The apartment complex on the Beverly House property was endorsed. Councillor Masales asked if it wasn't necessary to have an aerial ladder in the fire department for buildings over three storeys, but was reassured

by Mr. Flood of Project Planners that this was a fable.

The big problem, said Mr. Flood, is whether the town can accommodate the population it brings.

There were also enquiries about another seven storey apartment building in Acton but the location was not disclosed.

Lake Manor Holdings were represented by solicitor Mr. Prouse who outlined plans for the proposed plaza and apartments on Main St. N. for the Board.

"There are lots of small stores. Why no large stores?" asked Mr. Masales of the plans. Mr. Prouse said the building was designed to allow flexibility and could be converted into larger stores if necessary. Mr. Masales thought

nine was an unusual number of shops for the area.

Planning consultant Flood was also unresponsive to the plan, citing safety on the bend of the highway and the remoteness of the area from the downtown area as negative factors.

Councillor G. McKenzie was cool to the selection of property. "Why select such a piece of property for a complex? It is on the wrong side of the road and will add to the congestion on the curve."

Mr. Saltz was not impressed by the argument about remoteness from the downtown area, suggesting merchants in town might start thinking about improving the main business section if they had some competition.

"Indications are they don't want to develop," said the chairman, "but others are willing to."

Mr. Prouse maintained the town was going to be harassed by outskirt development until the parking problem was solved. "You won't get movement downtown until you get it in the outskirts," he suggested, naming several communities where the theory was borne out.

He said the developer was in a hurry to get going on the project and was ready to commence immediately.

The parcel would have to be rezoned, however, as it is presently R3.



CONSTRUCTION ON ACTON'S NEW CURLING RINK, located on Churchill Road, north, is progressing very satisfactorily and curlers hope to be able to occupy the building this fall... For a more detailed report see "Curling Cues" inside.—(Staff Photo)

## Len Varey dies in Friday crash

Twenty year-old Leonard Varey was killed and another Acton youth, Daniel Brian Hartley, 19, is in fair condition at Guelph General Hospital with serious injuries following a motorcycle-car collision at the Queen and Young St. corner Friday afternoon.

The two youths were riding on a borrowed motorcycle when they were in collision with a car

driven by Reginald Ford Andrews, 34, of 169 Churchill Road as they were westbound on Queen and making the turn onto Young St. The car was proceeding south on Young and left onto Queen.

It is believed the motorcycle slid out of control and the two riders were thrown from the bike, hitting the car.

Dr. D. A. Garrett was called and treated Danny Hartley at the scene. The Royal City Ambulance took him to the hospital where his injuries were listed as a fractured pelvis, fractured left wrist, fractured ribs on the right side and head and internal injuries.

Mr. Andrews was not hurt. Damage to both vehicles was only minor with the bike receiving an estimated \$300. Police have not divulged who the driver of the motorcycle was. The bike was borrowed from another Acton youth who lost his licence the same week.

Constables Nick Farion and Bruce McArthur of the Acton O.P.P. and Corp. E. Jacobs of the Milton detachment investigated the 5:55 p.m. collision.

A large crowd gathered at the scene and were shocked at the death of Leonard Varey, son of Mr. George Lazanby and the late Elsie (Coon) Varey. He was almost instantly killed. The funeral took place from the Rumley-Shoemaker funeral home on Monday afternoon.



## Allan Ackman becomes Nassagaweya member

Allan Ackman, president of Animation Productions Ltd. and a resident of Nassagaweya township for the past five years was named this week to fill the vacant post of councillor for the Township of Nassagaweya.

He was sworn into office Monday night at a special council meeting by clerk-administrator Cal McIntyre.

In accepting his new office, Mr. Ackman said he thought it was a "solemn obligation," and he agreed "this is a crucial period we are going through, referring to the problem of

regional government taking over in the area.

The new councillor has been active in municipal politics for many years both in Toronto and in Nassagaweya. He had contested the reevehip in the December election of 1965.

He and his wife live at R. R. 1, Moffat where he produces animated films for television and educational purposes.

After taking his seat on council, he proceeded to get right down to business, intensely questioning deputations along with other members of council.

## Township's refusal close road could stall Acton development

A long-forgotten road allowance between lots 27 and 28 which branches off Cobblehill Road and runs on a tangent into Fairy Lake may stall an Acton residential development.

Esqueuing Council which has been plagued by road closing requests recently turned down another on Monday night on the Cecil Nelles farm on Mill St., adjoining Acton's southern boundaries.

Solicitor Aldo Braida appeared before council to apply for a by-law conveying the land on the road allowance to Mr. Nelles. He explained his client had sold the 42 acre parcel of land to a developer and the road messes up development of the land.

"The road has always been used by the owner and he assumed he owned it," Mr. Braida told council. "The subdivider said he would have to

plan around the road instead of including it in his planning," if it stayed. He assumed the town of Acton would soon be applying for annexation for the area since they would be supplying services.

Reeve George Currie bridled at this information. "They want to annex the Brown and Sprowl farms, too," he informed council. "What is council's wish on this road closing?"

Deputy Reeve Hill and Councillors Leslie and Miller opposed closing the road but Councillor Ken Marshall had a different opinion. "Let him close it," he said. "It is up to him to make the best use of the

investigate theft. Police are still investigating theft of a sum of money from the Hydro Commission offices on Alice St.

lake." The last remark in reference to fears expressed that the public then would have no access to Fairy Lake from that direction.

"Eventually someone will have to correct the by-law, anyway," remonstrated Mr. Braida "and the conservation authorities will make sure there is access to the lake."

Council voted against the proposal, however, with only Councillor Marshall supporting the closing.

Mr. Braida told the Free Press he would still pursue the matter by the same route others had taken—a hearing in front of a judge.

Main objection voiced by councillors outside of annoyance at the trouble was that only the seller was going to benefit. Mr. Braida replied that the township should also remember the seller also paid taxes.

## LIONS WALK

Details of the planned construction of a walkway from Lakeview subdivision across to Prospect Park on land west of the Brankiewicz property were revealed at Thursday night's meeting of Acton Board of Parks Management.

The walkway is to be constructed as a project of the Acton Lions Club who had previously requested that they be given the opportunity to help construct the walkway.

The Board authorized the Lions Club to commence construction of the project subject to the following conditions:

(a) A complete walkway be constructed on land west of Brankiewicz property on land owned by Beardmore and Co. and/or Acton Parks Board. Said boundaries will be designated by a Parks Board representative.

(b) All financial expenditures for which parks board will be responsible must be approved by the board.

(c) All engineering decisions must be approved by board or board-appointed representatives.

(d) The walkway and all reclaimed beach area will remain under the supervision of Acton Parks Board.

(e) The board authorized expenditures of \$100 maximum to be used for purchase of supplies needed for construction of said walkway.

An agreement has been reached with Mr. Brankiewicz.

## Disagreement

Two combatants were charged with creating a disturbance following a donnybrook at the parking lot at Acton Pharmacy on Saturday night.

## Rockwood girl killed

A 17-year-old girl from R. R. 5, Rockwood, and a Toronto man were killed in a two car collision at the intersection of county roads 18 and 26 in West Garafraxa Township, Tuesday night.

Judith Ann McDougall, 17, of R. R. 5, Rockwood, a passenger in a car driven by Sandra M. Boyd, 19, of Fergus, died in the collision while Miss Boyd was taken to Groves Memorial

Hospital in Fergus and later transferred to Kitchener-Waterloo hospital with serious injuries.

William G. Harvey, 30, of Toronto also died in the crash. His wife, Gail, 25, son William Harvey Jr., 4, and daughter Robbin, 15 months are hospitalized at Fergus.

Constable Woods of the Guelph detachment of the O.P.P. investigated

## Dynamite?

## Routine search

Acton police scoffed at a news report in a Toronto daily that they had conducted a 12-hour search here for a cache of stolen dynamite.

"It was a routine investigation," said one constable.

Three extra cruisers and six constables from Milton O.P.P. were in Acton in the event a protest by local youths against the loitering-by-law materialized.

An anonymous phone call that the town would be blown up by dynamite stolen in Brampton to start a demonstration touched off a search which didn't reveal any trace of explosives but uncovered evidence of a drinking party near Limehouse.

Tips must have been flying that night because there was no trace of the participants when police arrived.

Threats by local youths to organize a protest against the loitering-by-law never materialized.

Investigation is continuing into the possibility the explosives may be hidden in this area.

## Refuse request for permanent camp

Esqueuing Council turned down a request from Mr. and Mrs. John Wood of R. R. 1, Acton, to allow 10 trailers and their occupants to remain in the Woods tourist camp, known as The Breezes, through the winter months.

Mr. and Mrs. Wood appeared at Monday's meeting of council to ask if council would consider permitting the trailers to remain since the occupants had nowhere else to go. Their homes had been sold in Port Credit and they had been living in the trailers at the Breezes through the summer months.

"They are willing to pay so much a month to stay there," Mrs. Woods told council.

Reeve George Currie, miffed at the request, told Mr. and Mrs.

Wood that the township had a by-law prohibiting trailers, except for tourists in the summer season.

"How do they run a trailer camp in Norval and other places and there are even some trailers on farms?" Mrs. Wood asked.

"The camp in Norval was there before the by-law was passed," explained clerk Del French.

Mr. Wood produced a licence authorizing them to operate the trailer camp but the reeve pointed out this was not permission to maintain a permanent dwelling. "We've had to turn down many requests for trailer parks this year," he argued including 50 trailers in Hornby and a lady in

Stewarttown wanted 150.

"There is only one designated place to park trailers all year in Esqueuing," the reeve argued and that was on 7 Highway, a reference to Willow Park in Norval.

How many youngsters are there in the 10 trailers, the reeve asked.

"Some but they are all small," Mrs. Wood answered.

"But they grow up and who'll pay the taxes for them to go to school?" the reeve wanted to know.

"They pay so much to the township," Mrs. Wood replied. She said her husband had installed septic tanks and weeper beds for the trailers so there would be no problems.

"If we let people stay there then we'll have to let them in at

Hornby, Norval and other places," Councillor Wilfrid Leslie countered.

"The by-law says no and we'll have to go by the by-law," observed Deputy Reeve Tom Hill.

"Let them stay just this winter," implored Mrs. Wood. The reeve shook his head.

"No," he replied firmly. "If you didn't have a place to go you wouldn't like it, would you?" Mrs. Wood addressed the reeve.

"If I had no place to go I'd find a place to go," the reeve replied.

He asked for a round the table poll. Councillors were unanimous in their refusal to allow any deviation in the by-law.

## FIVE DAYS LEFT !!!

IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK, KIDS! With the first day of school only a few days away, M. Z. Bennett school-caretaker Colin MacColl has been busy moving desks and seeing that rooms are in order for Tuesday morning.—(Staff Photo)



## Tractor fire

Acton firefighters were called to the old Bowen farm on the first line, Saturday night to extinguish a tractor fire.

The tractor belonged to Ben Larsen of R. R. 2, Rockwood, and caught fire while working a were baling hay on the farm. Damage to the tractor was approximately \$300.