

The Acton Free Press

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County may stop most donations

Halt County Council will be asked to discontinue the policy of contributing to charitable and other organizations. The decision would affect at least 12 organizations and involve approximately \$19,000.

During discussion the finance committee of county council agreed the granting of tax dollars to organizations shouldn't be done at the county level. The intent of the move is to eliminate duplication of grants.

Acton shivers

But when you are warmly dressed as Bonnie Jones of John St., skidding mercury doesn't mean very much. Reports from different parts of town recorded the temperature as low as 14 degrees below zero during the week. Others reported they couldn't register more than four below. The disparity is explained by the fact readings were taken by different people on different thermometers. In any case people in this district knew it was mighty cold. A moderating trend started Wednesday.—(Staff Photo)

Earlier in the meeting the members had agreed on quite a different solution. At one point they had authorized the secretary to notify all town and township councils asking them not to authorize grants because it could all be done on the county level. After Georgetown Reeve Rick Morrow suggested there was some doubt about the wisdom of a county council granting any moneys to charitable

organizations Oakville Reeve Allan Maason suggested the county could find themselves contributing money from all over the county to projects that certain councils didn't approve of.

Up to councils Burlington Deputy Reeve David Coons said the motion did not suggest the grants be eliminated but rather that they be channelled through individual councils.

Several councillors agreed that organizations were receiving grants from both the county and the towns as well as door to door canvassing. The motion came up after discussing requests of a grant of \$4,500 to Victoria Order of Nurses and an unspecified grant to Red Cross as well as several smaller grants. Both Red Cross and VON are supported by individual municipalities in the county.

VON asked for the \$4,500 to wipe out a deficit. Jim Grey, Director of Social and Family suggested both Red Cross and VON as well as similar organizations should take a second look at their bud accounts before tapping tax resources.

He said there is a tendency to take the easy way out and ask for a grant but he added many of the persons who have money owing to these groups could well afford to pay.

One of the organizations that will feel the pinch the most will be the Royal Botanical Gardens. Last year the county contributed \$10,000 and this was phased down from \$25,000 in other years.

Among others receiving grants last year were Mutual Aid \$1,200; Lorne Scots Band \$1,500; Muscular Dystrophy \$100; Canadian Mental Health \$100; John Howard Society; Navy League \$100; St. John's Ambulance \$200; CNIB \$1,000 and Salvation Army \$1,650.



HOCKEY used to be a boys' game but five year old Kerrie Kirton doesn't see any reason why girls can't become NHL stars as well. Kerrie is one of five girls registered in this year's Acton Recreation Committee hockey school. The school has a record 103 youngsters enrolled this season—For story and more pictures see the Free Press sports pages.—(Staff Photo)

Refutes buying charge

Superintendent of Program for Halton County Board of Education Kenneth Self, last week replied to charges of "prestige buying" by the board. The charges were issued in recent press reports and according to Mr. Self, singled out the purchase of IBM electric typewriters and Singer sewing machines as examples.

In his reply Mr. Self noted the manual typewriters retailing for \$320 were purchased by the Board at \$134.50 and electric typewriters retailing for \$550 are sold to the Board for \$450.

He noted the electric models were traded in at \$230 after six years of heavy classroom use.

False report
Self said the report claimed the Board was paying \$485 for their sewing machines and the machines cost \$50 to repair each time something went wrong. He said the machines cost the board \$175.50 and service calls once a year cost \$7 a unit. Any repairs other than this were done at no charge to the board, with the exception of materials.

He also refuted allegations about prestige equipment being purchased for the home economics classes. Mr. Self said refrigerators and electric ranges are supplied free of charge to the Board by the Public Utilities Commissions, who change them annually.

15 Sideroad Warden fears angry exchange

Both those people for and against improvements on 15 Sideroad in Nassagaweya and Esqueuing will definitely get their day in court or at least a hearing before Halton County Roads committee.

The road has been a controversial subject since persons living on or near the road learned of proposed work to be done on it. The road is recommended for widening and straightening.

There have been delegations both for and against the improvements. Those for it argue the road is not safe and should be fixed and those against fear loss of scenic beauty.

Warden Dr. F. G. Oakes, the only member of the road committee returning from last year fears the meeting will turn into an angry exchange. "We go over backwards to do our best for these people in cases like this. I don't like to think they could dictate policy," he said adding he hoped the meeting would stay friendly.

Esqueuing Reeve Tom Hill felt certain the opposition to the project is more a break down in communication. "Once they find out exactly what is proposed I'm sure they'll support it," he said.

March 4 was the tentative date arrived at but the date will be settled for certain later.

Y future cloudy

The future of Acton's Y.M.C.A. created a cloudy vision when the annual meeting of the Y board was held in the Y Wednesday of last week.

Present board members and about 10 Y's Men talked over suggestions without reaching any conclusions.

A nominating committee will prepare a slate of officers for the Y board.

Board members are to meet with the Y's Men tomorrow night (Thursday) to hear the club's suggestions.

Assault charge heard in court

An Acton youth, charged with common assault, received 60 days' probation, a fine of \$25 and will be required to make restitution.

He appeared in court in Milton Monday.

He was charged last week following an incident on Knox Ave. when another Acton youth was accosted and punched.

Assured mail delivery eventually in Acton

The post office announced a new concept in mail distribution—the assured mail delivery program. It will be introduced in Toronto February 1 and will gradually be implemented across the country.

Acton postmaster Gordon McKeown said the system would eventually start in Acton but there has been no definite notice of when it can be introduced.

"Assured Mail" is a system whereby the post office offers an assured delivery schedule for first class mail, provided the customer deposits it within specified times. It will be limited to Canada.

One day delivery is assured for all letters posted in any mail box in Toronto City before 11 a.m. to all major centres in central, southern and eastern Ontario, as well as major centres across the country from B.C. to Newfoundland.

Letters posted before 3 p.m. in special letter boxes will have assured delivery the next day initially to all major centres in Central, Southern and Eastern Ontario as well as North Bay, Sudbury and Montreal.

By encouraging earlier mailings the post office hopes it will be able to shift peak loads ahead during the day.

Holding by-law hearing slated for February 11

All eyes will be on the Esqueuing township council chambers Monday February 11, the date announced last week by Ontario Municipal Board to hear objections to or support for the township's controversial agricultural holding by-law 29-69.

Council passed the by-law, which prevents the use of land for any other purpose than the one existing, November 24, 1969. Since then it has been amended by two by-laws, 11-70, passed February 16, 1970 and 12-70, passed March 12, 1970. Original purpose of passing the by-law was to prevent uncontrolled development in the township so far as it could relate to the official plan, which is now being prepared.

Question legality
Legality of the by-law has been questioned by some, including solicitors for Carl Bristow,

proprietor of the Golden Horseshoe Dragway near Acton. Residents in the area of the dragway first discovered a dragway was to be built, shortly after passing of the by-law in 1969.

Snow show in February

Snowmobile racing on Fairy Lake will be arranged again this year by the Y's Men's club. Last year's competitions were popular and the club expects even more interest this year.

The events will be run on Valentine's Day, February 14. There will be cash prizes and trophies.

An innovation will be snowmobile rides for spectators.

The by-law has also come in for criticism from some township farmers, prevented from selling their land to developers because of its restrictions.

Receive objections
Council received objections either in the form of letters from individual ratepayers or petitions, that represented over 100 names last August. Twenty letters supporting the by-law were also received.

Among ratepayers supporting the by-law is Peter Bowman, whose property borders on the dragway property. During early discussions about legality of establishment of the dragway, Mr. Bowman's solicitor claimed construction would contravene the by-law.

A detailed notice of the February 11 hearing appears under the LEGAL heading in the classified section



A MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE aboard the oceanliner "Euzonia" a ship very similar to the "Adriatica" shown in the above picture awaits Acton District High School students and their chaperones Marion Patterson and geography teacher Keith Black. Admiring the liner are front row 1 to r.

Nancy Lee, John Last, Lynn Simioni and Steve Garrett. Back row 1 to r are Bonnie McKenzie, Randy Coker, Mrs. Patterson, Mr. Black, Sherry Johnston, George McPhail and Diane Fisher. Students leave March 11. For more about the trip see the Free Press Youth Page.—(Staff Photo)

Two cars, school bus collide

Freezing rain and icy roads were blamed for an accident last Thursday morning at 7.40 a.m. involving a school bus and two cars.

No one was injured and Con. Bruce Kressler, who investigated, laid no charges.

The Tyler school bus was driven by Roland Height and had about nine pupils on it at the time.

Theodore Hamilton, R.R. 5, Rockwood, stopped to make a left turn off Main St. S. onto Agnes. The third car involved was driven by Frank Bertagnoli, R.R. 1, Rockwood. The car and bus slipped on the ice causing \$300 damage to the bus, \$500 to the Hamilton car and \$300 to the Bertagnoli car.

"Adverse weather conditions" got the blame.

Impaired driver

An Acton area man was charged with impaired driving after 2 a.m. on January 19. He was driving on Queen St. when stopped by the O.P.P.