



ADELE HURLEY (H. Coles Photo)

Not here to help hippies and junkies

A coffee house? Banish thoughts of hippies and drugs. Think instead of a place where anyone is welcome to come and entertain, be entertained, drink coffee, cider and eat doughnuts. It will be open from 8 p.m. till 12.30 p.m. nightly until September.

Adults as well as teenagers are welcome. "We are not here to help hippies and junkies. That's not it at all," says attractive Adele Hurley, who has obtained a grant to operate a coffee house in Acton this summer. "The philosophy of the Addiction Research Foundation is more preventive. We try to create a climate where drugs are not needed."

Then again, the auburn-haired York University student insists, the foundation is not like an agency pushing themselves on the kids without their assent. ("Sometimes I think they are knocking their heads against a wall.")

"We are not looking for drug users, but in the event they turn up we are trained to meet the situation," Miss Hurley told the Free Press in an interview.

The function of a coffee house is often misunderstood, sometimes confused with a drop-in centre. A coffee house is less expensive to furnish and equip, caters to an older age group because of its hours, confines itself to a smaller area and is geared towards a few activities of a similar nature rather than several activities of a diverse nature.

One, two or three persons can usually manage a coffee house, Miss Hurley explains, noting she has been talking to kids who are really convinced they need one in Acton. There are similar projects planned for Georgetown, Milton and Oakville in Halton.

Entertainment costs are minimal. Talent from the town and district will be given every opportunity to perform. She hopes to show movies and use the library resources to obtain old Charlie Chaplin films and other of their ilk, for instance.

Miss Hurley would like to have facilities to teach crocheting and knitting, crafts she sees rapidly disappearing.

A typical night at a coffee house? It would open around 8 o'clock. One section, preferably a separate room would be used for games such as chess, rumol, checkers or cards.

The big room would be used for music, tables for the kids to sit and get coffee, cider and doughnuts. Crafts would be taught.

On the program there might be a folk singer, contemporary poetry reader ("Don't laugh. There's a whole new world in poetry") or perhaps it would be a night where records from the '50's might be playing with dancing to music of the era. Jitter-bugging, for instance, would be encouraged and maybe someone could demonstrate how it is done. Perhaps it would be an adult.

An adult? "I'll really be trying to get adults to come after it is opened," says Miss Hurley. "The crux of the program is to get all age groups working together."

Last year at the coffee house she ran in Oakville adults often dropped in for coffee and doughnuts.

Didn't this turn the kids off? Nope. They were accepted with no problems.

Did she anticipate problems in Acton? "I find Acton a friendly town," she said candidly. "I've been told it is a tough area. If it is here, it sure is well hidden." You don't find Acton any different from other towns you have worked in?

No. Maybe it is friendlier. Is there a drug problem in Acton? Is that why the addiction Research foundation wants a coffee house here? There are some drug users in Acton but the big problem in Acton is alcohol, not drugs.

"I intend to live here in Acton, close to the coffee house," she says. Location was not known at press time. Are your parents worried about you running a coffee house in a strange town?

My parents are very understanding and this helps the situation. She admits her mother does worry, though, about how she gets home at night. But it is seldom a problem.

So far there has been an enthusiastic response from the kids she has talked to about the coffee house. She has also been encouraged by Councillor Peter Marks and high school teacher Brian Skerritt.

The Foundation had complimentary letters from kids in Acton when they ran the mini-school here at the high school and she anticipates the coffee house program will be well received, too.

The function of the coffee house is to give the kids 10 and over a place to go at night where they can ward off other influences. Miss Hurley admits, however, that the Foundation sometimes get a bad press.

She is out to change all that.

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Town-owned land sold

Acton Council has officially accepted the offer to purchase made by Alteo Construction Ltd. on 48 acres of town-owned land south of Cobblehill Road at a price of \$105,000 in spite of opposition to the move generated by Councillor Peter Marks and supported by Councillor Norm Elliott.

Before the resolution to accept the offer was passed, Marks presented four amendments to it, all of which were defeated.

First amendment, which received support from Councillor Earl Masales, as well as Marks and Elliott suggested that acreage described in the offer be designated as the portion of land zoned residential only. Following a rezoning application by Alteo last year, conservation authorities ruled that approximately 17 of the 48 acres must remain as conservation land.

Marks said it had been suggested the buyer is not particularly interested in conservation and claimed the land could be used by the town as a potential water source or perhaps a rough bird sanctuary. Elliott charged the buyer's insistence on having the land rezoned residential should indicate he is not interested in conservation land.

Mayor Les Duby reminded the two that in plans first presented by the buyer, the land zoned conservation did lend itself to the total development of the area. He agreed with a suggestion by Councillor Jack Greer that retention of the conservation land by the town would also bring added responsibility in the way of hazards to children playing there. The area includes a swamp in its surroundings.

Councillor Bill Coats went half way on the Marks' amendment suggesting the land would be better left in the hands of the buyer, but that the town could arrange an agreement with him as to what condition the land should be left in.

Second amendment asked that the rate of interest on the mortgage be increased from 8 per cent to 9 per cent. Marks claimed, in spite of a suggestion by Reeve Frank Oakes that he was talking an exorbitant interest rate, that figures he had access to showed that an average rate on similar deals was 9 3/4 per cent.

Oakes maintained that the land should be sold as an undisturbed parcel of 48 acres. He also warned if council decided to seek a new vendor it could still be liable to pay the \$10,000 commission to the present agent.

Marks' third amendment that the down payment be raised from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and the fourth that mortgage payments be made quarterly were both defeated with only Elliott and himself voting in the affirmative.

Final resolution to accept the present offer to purchase passed by a 6-2 vote with only Marks and Elliott opposed.

Refuting a Marks argument, Mayor Duby said that there is no way the land could be put back on the market and added he is pleased to see the deal coming to a conclusion.

Marks replied that the mayor's opinion conflicts with a legal opinion council obtained as to which party was in default on

the original agreement. He added that in spite of a second legal opinion which stated council was definitely bound to the \$10,000 commission fee, he himself had solicited a third legal opinion that questioned the second.

If nothing else, Marks suggested the town look somewhere else for a broker in future land transactions. He said most other towns pay only 5 per cent commission on open land sales. Under the accepted offer the present agent gets 10 per cent — \$10,000.

"Two years ago I was led to believe 10 per cent was a minimum figure," he said. "I've since learned that it is not."

In conclusion he said he privately received two unsolicited offers to purchase the land both in excess of the \$105,000 figure.

Strike

Conciliation meeting produces no results

A four and a half hour meeting between union and management negotiators and a conciliation officer in Toronto yesterday (Tuesday) produced no settlement. Reuben Skeete, president of Local 23650 of the Saw Workers Union, told the Free Press this morning (Wednesday).

Approximately 100 Disston (Canada) Ltd. employees represented by the union have been on strike against the company since May 29. The union is seeking increased pension benefits, dental care coverage and a cost of living bonus in their new contract which has been under negotiation since last December.

"The company refused to budge yesterday," Skeete said. "This could be a lengthy one." He said there are no immediate plans for further meetings with the company.

He said a union general membership meeting scheduled for the Legion auditorium tomorrow (Thursday) morning will go ahead as planned so that negotiators may bring members up to date on the situation.

A 1968 strike by the union against H. K. Porter the former owners lasted 27 days. Negotiating for the union along with Mr. Skeete are Steve Woloshyn, John Musselle, Eileen Smitz, Theresa Matheson and Andy Welch.

Sign agreement on subdivision

Construction of five model homes on the former Seynuck

Borrowed canoe sinks in lake

A Georgetown man, who lent his canoe to Georgetown scouts and cubs for practice, ruefully reported to Acton police Saturday that it had sunk in Fairy Lake. The boys were practicing tipping the canoe and climbing back in again, when it took its final tip and sank.

The 15-foot fibreglass canoe is owned by W.S. Davis of Georgetown. He intends trying to reclaim it from the bottom of the lake.

property, Wallace St. is expected to begin almost immediately.

At a special meeting last week, Acton Council passed a by-law authorizing the mayor and clerk to sign a subdivision agreement with McNamara Corporation Ltd. who have purchased the land from the most recent owners Hulad Development Ltd.

Signing of the subdivision agreement marks the end of a series of changes in ownership the property has undergone over the past four years.

Bovis Housing division of the McNamara Corporation will proceed with the construction of 250 homes in separate phases. First phase calls for the erection of 50 homes.



SUSANNE FLINDERS

York grad

Susanne Emily Flinders received her Bachelor of Arts degree from York University at Convocation, Friday, June 2. Susanne majored in psychology during her course. She will attend Lakeshore Teachers' College beginning in September to prepare for a teaching career.

Among guests at Convocation were Susanne's parents Mr. and Mrs. George Flinders and sisters Teri and Jenny, R.R. 3 Acton. Susanne is a graduate of Downsview Collegiate Toronto.

Charges park being neglected

Prompted by continuing criticism from residents in the east end of town, Councillor Norm Elliott charged last night (Tuesday) that Sir Donald Mann Park in Glenlea is being neglected as a recreation area. Elliott said he was amused to listen to earlier conversation around the council table about the proposed use of parkland in subdivisions that aren't even underway yet, when there is already a bad waste of land in one of the established parks.

"There isn't a single piece of equipment there, except for the backstop and that was installed by a service club," he pointed out. He said the only users of the park he can see are tobogganers in the winter time.

Fought for budget
In defence of the charge, parks board representative Councillor Peter Marks said he has personally fought annually for a park development fund of \$5,000, but the figure has been cut either at a parks board budget meeting, or eventually at the council level.

"Parks board are keen on this," he said in reference to development. "But the onus is on this body right here."

Deputy-reeve Pat McKenzie said he recalled council cutting the parks board budget, but pointed out there was nothing to say the remaining money could not be spent in Glenlea.

No development
Elliott agreed with the deputy-reeve, claiming that Prospect Park seems to be getting all the development and that there is nothing in Sir Donald Mann Park to attract people.

Later in the meeting Mayor Duby questioned the opposition of some to accepting cash in lieu of parkland from subdividers in areas where parks are not necessarily essential.

"We don't have a crying need for parks, but we have one for park development," he said.

Marks said cash in lieu cannot be used for development, but only for purchases.



DOUGLAS LATIMER

Douglas V. Latimer of Georgetown was sworn in as Halton's new provincial court judge in a ceremony at the Halton Court House in Milton Thursday afternoon.

Halton growth second to Peel

Halton is the second fastest growing county in Ontario, according to Statistics Canada. Only Peel exceeds this county in population growth by percentage in the period between 1966 and 1971, skyrocketing from a population of 172,321 in 1966 to 259,402 last year. Peel recorded a net gain of 50.5 per cent and is the fastest growing area in Canada for that period of time.

In the Toronto-Hamilton-Niagara area, four counties exceeded the province's average growth rate of 10.7 per cent. Halton (25.4 per cent), Dufferin (23.9) and York (21.8 per cent) were second, third and fourth in Ontario and the metropolitan municipality of Toronto gained

10.9 per cent to take 15th place. Niagara region and Norfolk counties showed gains of over six per cent while Haldimand was up eight per cent.

Farmers' mart opens Saturday

First chance to shop at the farmers' market operated by Acton students under an Opportunities for Youth grant will be this Saturday morning. The market will open at 8.30 a.m. on Willow St. S. next to Moss Hardware and likely continue until 1.30 p.m.

Salt may be killing cedar trees

Queries of concern have been made to the Free Press recently regarding cedar trees in the area which are turning brown and appear to be dying.

Peter Scorrar, a graduate student of the Department of Environment and Biology of the University of Guelph, says his department has been conducting extensive research on the salt factor and its effect on trees located along highways.

"Briefly," said Mr. Scorrar, "we have found that the salt is

airborn and contained in water droplets spewed onto the trees as the cars move along on wet roadways. The trees which are most affected are the evergreen plants including cedar, pine and junipers in general, but also some of the hardwood trees such as maples and elms."

Mr. Scorrar said, however, that, unless a specimen of a specific tree can be examined it cannot be definitely determined as to what the problem really is. He indicated that last year in

Eastern Ontario and certain parts of Quebec there was evidence of a cedar leaf miner, the larvae of which, feeds between the surfaces of the cedar needles thus harming the tree. If sufficient damage is done, it eventually dies.

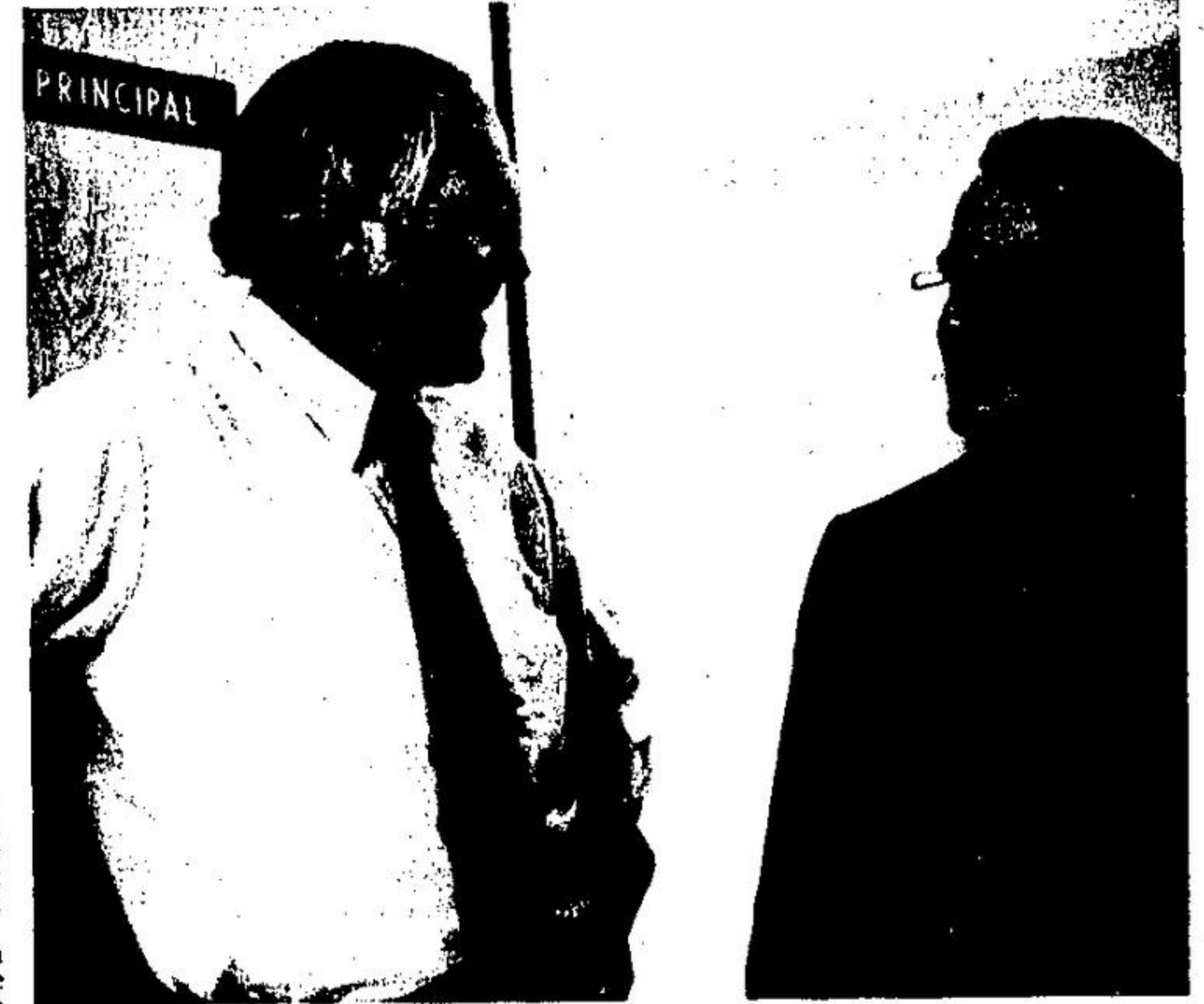
Time spray
Regarding spraying, Peter said that this will help only if timed properly such as in early spring directing the spraying at the adult moths. "Actually," he continued;

"Nature provides its own control of these pests but, with unusual frosts, sometime the parasites living off these creatures are out numbered by the host until the next year or two when, in the balance of nature, they catch up, and surviving trees are protected once more."

According to Mr. Scorrar, there are several ways of recognizing the effects of highway salt on the trees, including browning on the roadway side particularly, and where tree needles are green in

the lower branches with brown for an expanse above, indicating that, where the branches were protected by snow, they were not sprayed by the salt and so not affected.

As the alternative, and in an effort to alleviate aesthetic damage caused by tree loss, the Department of Ministry of Environment in conjunction with the Department of Highway is presently conducting research to determine which varieties of trees are resistant to salt.



GENERAL BROCK HIGH SCHOOL in Burlington? One hundred and fourteen students from North Halton attend this new experience in education overseen by Principal W. G. Cass, left, shown here with school board

member Tom Watson. Important — so Free Press editor Hartley Coles visited the school recently to gain his impressions. Turn inside to page B1.

(H. Coles Photo)