



RECREATION ADVISORY committee for 1975 held their first meeting last Thursday. Present were, back row, Brendan Aherne, Pete Papillon, Gil Malcolm and Ed Wood. Front row, Diane Spielvogel, John Cooper and Pam Shildon.

## More money needed if battle to continue

Speyside Area Ratepayers Association needs more cash if they are to continue their battle with Consolidated Sand and Gravel Company.

That was the word from Association president Jim Sheldon at the general meeting of the group last Friday evening at Speyside school.

Consolidated owns a large piece of land in the Speyside area and is trying to get the area rezoned in order to build a quarry. It is, at present, designated as rural property.

The matter appeared before Ontario Municipal Board in early November but was adjourned until Consolidated had talked to the Niagara Escarpment Commission, and got a definite answer, whether for or against the quarry.

New date

A new hearing date had been set for March 10, 1975, when the Commission decided not to agree with the quarrying of this property, at the present time.

The Town of Halton Hills got into the act and backed the Association in their fight against the quarry. These two groups then requested an adjournment of the hearing until the master plan of the Niagara Escarpment Commission was completed.

Council petitioned the Lieutenant-Governor in Council for an adjournment. This in turn triggered the postponement of the March 10 hearing pending a decision by the cabinet as to whether the OMB is in order to proceed now with the hearing on Consolidated's objection to the zoning designation placed on its property.

"We won"

Ric Symmes of the Sierra Club was present at the Friday meeting. He told the

concerned group of his battle with the same company in Terra Cotta.

"Consolidated had their petition and proper land zoning, so we had a tougher battle than you. And we won. It was a hard battle."

A view of the Speyside area from a plan, if the proposed quarry does get underway, would seem like "a gopher village! If we let them go ahead, we will have a series of gopher holes separated by a pile of rubble," Mr. Symmes explained.

"We are one of the most highly quarried areas in Ontario," president of SARA Jim Sheldon told the 64 people present. He was referring to the Duff quarry, Sheridan College quarry, Indusmin, Dufferin quarry, Barnes Ltd. Indusmin in Milton and the Milton quarry, already in operation.

The Speyside Area Ratepayers Association has almost 250 members, with at least 50 more expected to join. These people have contributed \$2,100. However, by the time the whole matter is settled, the lawyer's fee will total \$7,000.

Someone in the audience remarked, "The money is not going to come out of our pockets all at once."

"Consolidated has enough money, they can afford an expensive lawyer. They have that great disadvantage over us," Pam Sheldon commented.

Greg Cooper, the lawyer hired by the Association, was also present at the meeting. "This matter is now in the political arena and the ball is in your court," he pointed out. He added that everyone should approach MPP Jim Snow and other members of the government.

It was suggested by Mr.

Cooper, people write to MPPs and Wm. Davis to help obtain the government's support. Ian Jennings, vice president of Consolidated and Mac Duff of J. M. Duff Ltd. attended the meeting and faced the irate homeowners in separate, personal conversations.



JOHN WHITE converses with Sierra Club chairman Ric Symmes, right, about the proposed quarry, following Friday evening's meeting with the Speyside Area Ratepayers Association. Mr. White lives on Hwy. 25 just south of the site.



WICKED WILLIE, alias William Johnson, gives his views to Speyside Area Ratepayers Association lawyer, Greg Cooper. The two met at the general meeting of Speyside Area Ratepayers Association, Friday evening.

## Two-tier board for education?

A two-tiered structure should be established for the Halton Board of Education—a local board of trustees in each of the four Halton communities and a regional board to deal with matters affecting the whole region.

That's one recommendation from Halton Renaissance Committee in a supplementary brief it is preparing for presentation to the Halton Board of Education. Ken Campbell, of Milton revealed in a letter this week. Such a structure might help correct the unresponsiveness of the system," he said.

Campbell notes the two-tier system would be similar to the Halton Regional Council and local area council set-up. Local problems could be solved without necessarily bringing the whole regional board together, he said.

Alternate schools

Another recommendation in the Renaissance brief will be a trial of some "alternate schools—with at least the 'traditional' approach available as an option to the

MORNING AFTER

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"open concept" approach—in each community.

"Perhaps the Norval School might be re-opened as a 'traditional' school for people in the North who would prefer such an optional educational program for their children?" he wondered.

"Such basic reforms could quickly make the need for Renaissance and other such groups of concerned parents disappear," added the HRC chairman.

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## Harassed by male swan flies, crashes

By Peter McCusker

A mule swan took off from Fairy Lake Wednesday, crashed into a TV antenna on the roof above Denny's Insurance, and into Acton Medical Centre building. It is now dead. Red Price took the injured bird to Kortwright for assistance.

Resident biologist of the Ontario Waterfowl Research Foundation at Kortwright Waterfowl Park in Guelph, Robert Wenting, said the femur bone was broken in seven places, completely shattered. The bone in the left wing above the meta-carpal was also shattered and the bone was protruding through the skin.

"All we could really do was to set them in a plastic mould," Wenting said, "because we couldn't pin the leg."

Year

Healing time was estimated at three months for the bone at which time the

bird would have to stay out of water and off its feet, able to rest only on its breast feathers. After three months the breast feathers would have been worn away and the bird would have to remain out of the water until they replenish themselves. Time needed for complete healing would be near one year. So the bird was destroyed.

It is illegal in Ontario for a mute swan to be granted the freedom of flight, he said. A mute swan is a North American swan and the one which took out of Fairy Lake Wednesday was of full wing, meaning that it could fly.

Four left

There are just four swans left at the lake out of nine. Main problem is the dominant male, unfortunately called Snarky Sammy, who has been driving off all other swans but his mate. According to Dale Gartley of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Snarky

Sammy would kill another swan.

No matter they're related. The dead bird was one of his own cygnets.

There were nine swans at the height of the summer season. Swans went missing last winter, too.

Like 74

The arena staff couldn't believe the dead swan had taken off and flown. Swans need a lot of water for a take-off and are about as graceful as a 747 jumbo jet. They seldom fly in winter.

They're difficult to catch for wing clipping. However some wings had been clipped last year.

Snarky Sammy, the belligerent male, is "like a maniac" sometimes chasing other swans, observers say.

Mr. Gartley compared the behavior to that of deer and moose in the wild, fighting at mating time. Not all swans are as nasty as Sammy, but Mr. Gartley thinks many of them are.

## Authority asks for appointee resignation

"You have no idea what you are getting into," retiring chairman Roy K. McMillan told incoming chairman A. Grant Clarkson at the inaugural meeting of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority.

Mr. McMillan retired after 17 years on the Authority, 13 of which were spent as chairman. In 1957, when Toronto township first appointed him, the total budget of the Authority was \$2,000. The proposed budget for 1975 totals over 4 1/2 million dollars.

"Roy spent many years of plodding, grinding, un spectacular work to bring the Authority to where it is now," Robert Harrison said as he presented a painting to Mr.

McMillan on behalf of the Authority.

Executive Committee

The new Authority vice-chairman is Howard Stewart of Huttonville, representing Brampton. The Authority chairman and vice-chairman plus the chairmen of the five advisory boards make up the executive committee.

New members

Hubert Wolf, Mississauga is the only new member serving for the first time on the Authority.

Chairman Clarkson served for several years as a representative from Mississauga and for the past year as a lay member on the Water Management Advisory Board.

Mayor Tom Hill of Halton Hills served as the representative of the former township of Esquering and returns in the same capacity (as chairman of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board) which he held during 1973.

Annual Report

The 1974 Credit Valley Conservation Authority annual report was distributed to the members at the inaugural meeting. A limited number of copies are available for public distribution.

There are 19 members on the Authority and most of them were present for the inaugural meeting, as well as some of the past members.

Ask resignation

A motion was passed asking for the resignation of Bruce Cargill of Acton, who was appointed to the board by the provincial government on recommendation of M.P.P. George Kerr. He has attended just one meeting in two years. (Councillors are paid \$20 for meetings attended plus mileage.)

Members felt all those on the Authority should be active members, to fill out the committees.

Mr. Cargill was placed on Mr. Hill's committee, parks and recreation.

The motion will be sent to the provincial government which appointed Mr. Cargill. Other provincial appointees are chairman R. K. McMillan and R. K. Harrison.

## Controversial issues discussed tonight

There will be an open meeting today (Wednesday) of parents, students and interested citizens from the community to discuss sex education in the school. Brian Skerrett, chairman of Student Services, will chair the meeting in the Acton high school resource centre. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will adjourn at 9:30. Refreshments will be provided.

David Marsh, vice-principal of Pauline Johnston C.V.S. in Brantford, will be guest speaker for the meeting. Mr. Marsh has been involved in a Parent Education project in Brant County.

Mr. Skerrett would like Acton parents to learn about how this topic is handled in other areas and to make recommendations on the program they might like the schools to offer. He said that "while this area is extremely controversial, it would be foolish of us to ignore serious social issues such as birth control, abortion, venereal

disease, and the emotional aspects of sexuality, simply because they involve moral issues; in fact, perhaps that is one of the main reasons that these concerns should be discussed."

Mr. Skerrett would like to see the present program offered in both elementary and secondary schools expanded and improved, but he feels that the parents should be asked whether or not they wish their children to participate.

If you have some opinions on this topic, please phone or better yet, write to Brian Skerrett at Acton H.S. and come to the Family Life Education meeting tonight, Wed., March 6, in the high school resource centre.

Grant requests from at least 37 groups and organizations will be considered by Halton Regional Councillors at a meeting tentatively scheduled for March 14 at 9 a.m.

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