



ANNE PERRY (left) sold Vera Story, of Georgetown, a white suit and blouse during the Y's Men's annual auction sale at the arena last Friday. Many people bought used and useful items from the sale or gave their bids to auctioneer Max Storey for the things they wanted.

Big crowd

Bids total \$1,000 at Y's Men's auction

Money for the Y rolled in with the bids at the annual Y's Men's auction sale last Friday evening in the arena. Max Storey was again the volunteer auctioneer and he heard bids during the evening that added up to almost \$1000. After expenses the club expects to have about \$450 for Y work.

The Y's Menettes also raised between \$200 and \$300 in the rummage sale. The clothing that did not sell is given to the Unitarian Services committee representative Mrs. Jensen or the Salvation Army.

The Y's Menettes sold refreshment and raised about \$100 there. Car, too. There was an excellent crowd, and almost all the rummage was sold and taken away. Even items termed "junk" found buyers - if the price was low enough.

Region to define goals objectives

Halton Region Planning Committee approved a three phase program last Wednesday night while meeting in Halton Hills which will lead to the establishment of goals and objectives for the region, an important part of the development of an official plan. In the first phase, which should be completed in July, planning staff will review existing reports, talk to area municipality planners, other regional departments and special interest groups in the region so issues and problems can be identified. Planning boards, conservation authorities and ratepayer groups will all be consulted. Even concerns expressed in regional newspapers will be examined.

During the second phase the data gathered in phase one will be digested and the planners will determine goals and objectives for Halton. Phase three will bring intensive public involvement and consultation lasting for four weeks and beginning sometime after Labor Day. All committee members expressed concern about being kept abreast of what the planners find out during their study and the public concern and feelings be reflected in the goals and objectives.

Halton Hills councillor Les Doby noted the regional plan is a concern of everyone and urged the region look at existing reports which may have been sitting on shelves for the last five, six or seven years during its review of reports.

"This kind of material should be utilized and beneficial. Much of this material and information reflects grass roots thinking in Halton so don't by-pass this work because it meant a great expense to the taxpayers," Doby said.

Halton Hills councillor Harry Levy echoed Doby's concern noting, "There is a great deal of material sitting on shelves available to you."

"Area councils and plan-

ners should have input into this and they should have it early," he added. Halton Hills planner Mario Venditti said the goals and objectives identification procedure was similar to the establishment of the region's interim planning policies and thought the region should come to the area councils after it had some concrete ideas down on paper.

"Until phase one is completed and issues and problems have been identified, it is premature to come to area councils. Until that is done area planners can liaison with councils and the region. I am happy with this plan, Venditti said.

award given

There was an error in last week's list of safe driving awards to drivers for Denny bus lines. Margaret Parkinson received a two year safe driving pin, not a one year pin. Sorry.

One day at a time — Al-Anon

Home in garage

The vow of anonymity is understood by all who attend the Monday meetings of the Acton Al-Anon group, a Community Services Centre program held at the Y.

Al-Anon is for friends and relatives of alcoholics or even the drinkers who have kicked the habit. The purpose of the program, according to organizers, is to help attendees share their experiences, strength and hopes with others in similar circumstances. Improving emotional health and spiritual growth, and providing a more wholesome environment for the whole family, including the alcoholic, drunk or sober, are other major purposes.

Improve yourself "The idea of the program is strictly self-improving", explained Shirley W., one of the organizers of the Acton group. For some time she and others from Acton had travelled to Georgetown for Al-Anon meetings, before organizing one here. "You can only improve yourself. You cannot change other people."

Mrs. W. emphasized that the meetings are not for people to attend to feel sorry for themselves and to complain about their spouse, but to find oneself, realize that the non-alcoholic is not perfect, and to seek out the weak points in oneself. In this, a person can better cope with an alcoholic or non-practicing alcoholic (a drunk who has kicked the habit).

At the Acton meeting, no one knows anyone's last names. Organizers have first names and last initial and telephone number. Mrs. W. said sometimes good friends are made at the meetings and they eventually learn their full names, but only if they wish.

The vow of anonymity is entrusted to all meeting goers. None want their own identity revealed, so they trust others not to say anything. They in turn, out of respect for the other people, keep the vow.

In many instances, Mrs. W. says, the spouse of the still practising alcoholic has found

that she or he has become the sole-supporter of the family, because of the other's drinking. Resentments build up, nagging and complaining result. With the nagging and complaining, the alcoholic drinks more and more.

Disease When the spouse attends Al-Anon, he or she learns that alcoholism is a disease, Mrs. W. says, and that disease is an obsession to drink. At the meetings he or she sees what is being done wrong (i.e., nagging) and learns to live a new way of life. By doing this he or she can cope with the situation at home one day at a time.

Many times, Mrs. W. explained, after a male alcoholic has resumed a normal, non-drinking life, he resumes his role as head of the house. The woman, who for some time has been in charge, has "her nose put out of joint," and the nagging continues. Al-Anon helps her in this way too.

Al-Anon is a self-supporting group. When the Acton group

started, they had support from the Georgetown and Guelph groups in the way of small cash donations and literature. There are no membership dues, and people are free to come to a meeting when ever they please.

Mrs. W. explained that the serenity a person receives at Al-Anon cannot be maintained unless "you give it to someone else. You pass on your hope and understanding to a new member, who in turn

passes it on to someone else." "Acton has terrific doctors who will talk honestly about your spouse," she says. She also has high praise for the town's clergy in helping cope with the problem.

Friends and relatives of a non-practising or still-practising alcoholic can find peace of mind at Al-Anon and can take a step further into leading a normal life once again.

Halton Hills engineering department will find a home, in the last two bays of the addition to the works garage. The length of their stay in these quarters will depend on the future of the municipal complex, which has not yet been approved by council.

Councillor Erna Hyde pointed out the engineering department would be homeless when the shift of the ambulance garage, the fire hall and the works garage takes place. He said his committee had investigated renting space and using portable buildings.

He said the cost of portables was \$30,000, while the cost of making space suitable for the engineering department in the two bays was \$20,000.

Only Councillors Levy and Morrow opposed the \$20,000 spending to house the engineering department in the two westerly bays of the works garage.

Reject hike

Lot levies in Halton Hills will stay at the present \$1450 until a study to be presented at the end of the month is completed.

Last week Councillor Ric Morrow proposed a \$600 increase, but council decided to keep the levie at their present level for the time being.

Councillor Harry Levy said a change at this time would only mean another change when the report came in.

Halton Region has turned the collection of their \$600 lot levy for sewers and water back to the town. The town's levy is \$850 making a total of \$1450.

Morrow said he did not agree with high lot levies.

Only Morrow and Hurst opposed the \$600 increase. Council voted to leave them as they are until July 1, when the report is due.

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