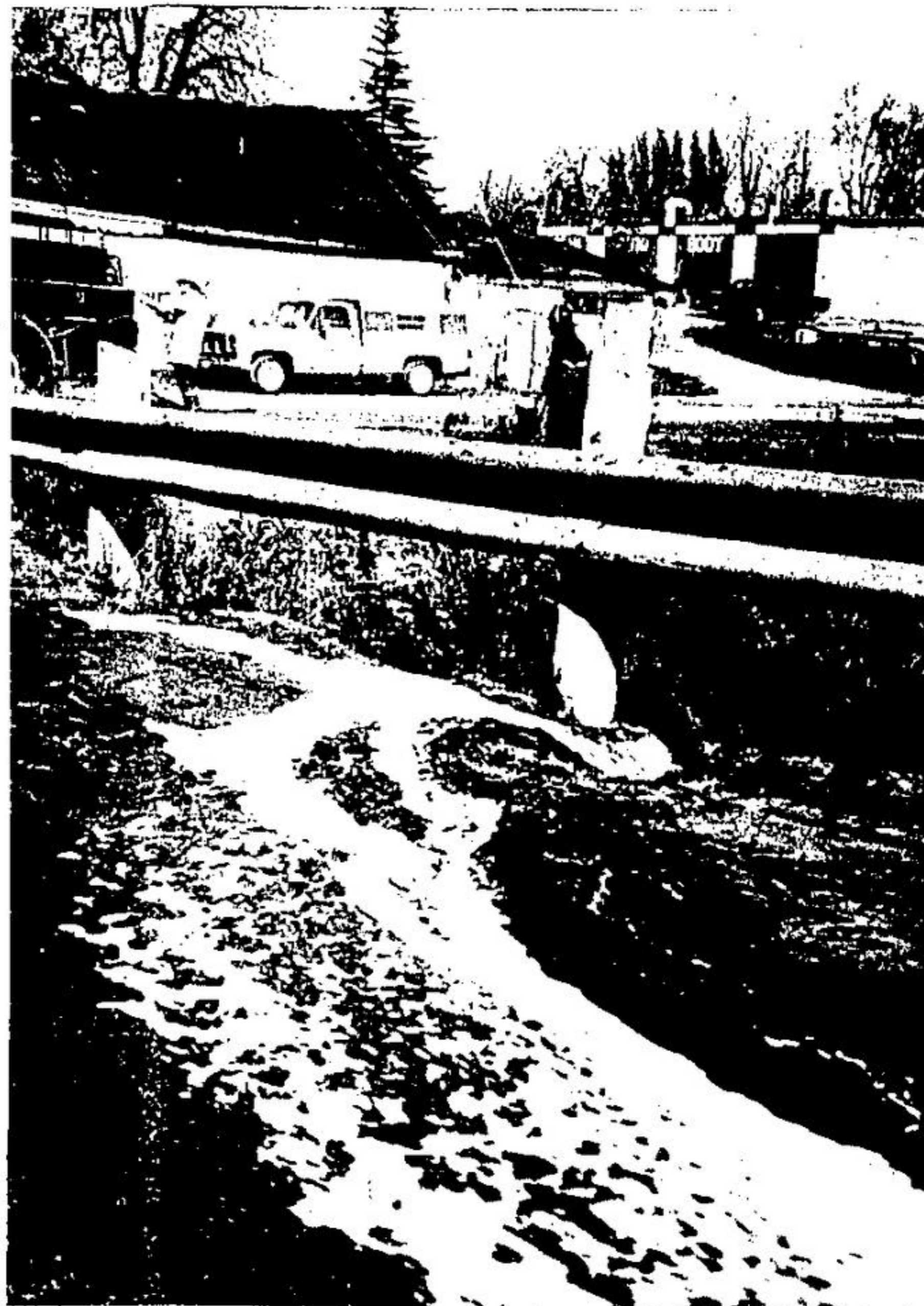


FIREFIGHTERS HOSE DOWN Main St. south Tuesday as an estimated 9,000 gallons of fuel and stove oil pour out of a



tanker trailer, which overturned and fractured. Most of the oil flooded the road and flowed into the Black Creek where Ministry of the Environment officials built straw dams to contain the spill.

## Council debates Wallace future

Halton Hills works committee rejected a proposal for complete reconstruction of Wallace Street next year at its Monday meeting.

The committee met engineer Robert Austin half way and authorized him to proceed with the hiring of consultants to do the design work and told him he could proceed with property acquisitions which will be needed to bring the road up to highway standards but decided construction of the road could wait.

Councillor Ern Hyde said with gravel and some grading the road could get a lot of use but suggested no major construction be done until the town sees how much truck traffic there will actually be on the road. He suggested complete construction of the road was premature.

Tossed back Austin said work on the Highway 25 and Highway 7 intersection had been tossed back in the town's lap by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications so now even more could be done and

he hoped construction at the intersection will start by April of next year. One improvement the town has made over provincial plans is the addition of a left hand turn lane from Highway 7 onto Highway 25.

He said he had been under the impression Wallace Street was a priority item with council so that was why he wanted consultants to do the design work.

"Other than acquiring land at each end of the road we should just let its use grow before doing anything major and see just what kind of use there will be," Hyde urged.

Smash Bower Councillor Joe Hurst agreed Hyde had a point but warned the road could get a lot of use and if it doesn't trucks using Bower Avenue will smash the street to bits in a very short time.

He suggested that now traffic has been detoured off Mill Street during reconstruction it may never return and if Wallace Street isn't the traffic's new destination then (Continued on Page 2)

# The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Second Year—No. 17

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1976

Thirty Pages—Fifteen Cents

## Creek black with fuel oil

The Black Creek was black with oil Tuesday, when 9,000 gallons of No. 2 fuel and stove oil poured out of an overturned tanker trailer on Main St. S. The side of the truck was fractured in the accident and the biggest bulk of its 10,000 gallon capacity flooded out onto the road and into the nearby creek.

Police, firefighters, ambulance, town workmen and an official of the Department of the Environment were all called within minutes.

The driver of the truck, William Hood of Orangeville, escaped from the passenger side of his huge vehicle and was not seriously injured. The ambulance returned to Guelph without him.

Main job for police was a hasty rerouting of traffic. With the beginning of Mill repaving the day before, traffic was already snaking through town on back streets. The accident made progress even more confused.

Firefighters arrived on the scene promptly after the sirens sounded at 11:30 a.m. and they remained on the scene until 4:30 p.m.

Sand  
The spilled oil made the roadway

dangerously slippery. Water from fire hoses added to the hazard as the oil was driven into the stream. Loads of sand were brought by town men and dumped on the roadway, to soak up the oil and make footing safer.

Fire chief Mick Holmes was at a meeting in Oakville when he heard of the alarm. At first he believed it was gasoline spilled on the highway—a far greater fire hazard. People would have had to be evacuated from their homes for blocks if the truck had been containing gas instead of oil.

No. 2 oil is relatively safe from flash fires. Its smell is bad, and all those involved in working with it bore a distinctive odor Tuesday—“eau de oil.”

Contingency plans As set out in contingency plans, the Department of the Environment must be notified when there is such a spill. John Barr of the department was here from Oakville by 12:30 and worked steadily till about 5 p.m. He shared in the sandwiches and coffee made at the fire hall for the hungry firefighters, who had all missed their lunch hour.

Mr. Barr, with region and Halton Hills men, scouted the course of the Black Creek.

They built three dams of straw to contain the oil. Water is still able to seep through the straw.

At one location on Beardmore property they discovered a natural dam already formed from logs and debris. To this they hastily added more trees as well as the prescribed straw. Here most of the oil was contained.

The farthest downstream dam was at the fourth line. In actual fact very little oil reached that far.

Check again Mr. Barr intended to walk the course of the stream again this morning (Wednesday) to check the flow and lift out any oil-soaked debris such as pieces of wood.

He was well satisfied with the way the oil was caught. Two vacuum trucks owned by private haulers were dispatched to the dam on the Beardmore property where the oil was sucked up from the top of the stream. It will be recycled and used again.

Crews stationed at B.P. refinery are responsible for accidents of this type in this area, and men arrived from there to contain and direct the oil recovery. Different companies have their own territories. If left in the Black Creek, the oil would

gradually disperse the whole stretch of the stream, killing grass along the banks and it could also kill fish.

The accident occurred when the driver of the tanker trailer was proceeding north along highway 25. It is suggested a car in front of him stopped to make a left turn onto Cobblehill Road. In trying to pass, the tanker went up the bank, hit a telephone pole and crashed over on its side.

Hundreds of gallons began to pour out at once.

A couple of people with CB radios heard a call for help, neighbors also phoned.

Sgt. Hilton of the Acton detachment of the O.P.P. was on the scene all afternoon. Const. Ron Donaldson is in charge of the investigation.

Two tow trucks from Toronto manoeuvred the truck upright and hauled it away. The roadway was not fully cleared until 4:30 p.m.

Production at Beardmore was not affected. Their water, needed for tanning, arrives along the same creek bed by pipeline from the lake.

Telephone service was not interrupted although cables were very low when the broken pole was removed.



TWO TOW trucks strained to lift the overturned tanker truck on Highway 25 about 4 p.m. Tuesday afternoon. Traffic was finally back to

normal about five hours after the accident, at 4:30 p.m. Most of the truck's cargo of oil was left behind.

## Ed Wood seeks area council seat

Ed Wood, owner of Acton Family Cleaners and Sports Wear, tossed his hat into the election ring for Ward 1 area councillor Monday.

Mr. Wood, 37, chaired the Ward 1 and 2 Recreation Advisory Committee for six months after he sat as a member for two and a half years. He also attended several General Administration Committee meetings to see how it handled the advisory committee's recommendations.

Mr. Wood, his wife Pat and their sons Chris, 12, and Danny, 9, live at 208 Elmore Drive.

Mr. Wood continued to work for Kodak Canada after the family moved here from Rexdale four years ago last March. He left the film company, where he worked as a quality control inspector in plastics, after 15 years of service.

The Woods started the clothes cleaning business at 20 Mill Street East in March of 1975. This March the business moved to 13 Mill Street.

(Continued on Page 2)



Ed Wood

## Hydro hearing starts Nov. 22

Expropriation hearings for Halton Hills residents who are going to lose some of their land for the Bradley to Georgetown 500kV power corridor will begin on November 22.

Georgetown lawyer Dick Howitt, who has tangled with Ontario Hydro at expropriation hearings over hydro

lines previously, said in an interview this week the hearings will be held at the legion hall in Acton.

Howitt will be representing a large number of the Halton Hills members of the Interested Citizens' Group. A number of other local lawyers are also representing area farmers who don't want

hydro lines crossing their land.

The inquiry officer at the "hearings of necessity" for Halton Hills residents will be D. T. Meyrick and not Frederick Mill who handled the Durham area Bradley to Georgetown 500kV power line hearings last summer.

Howitt said he has indicated to the Ontario Attorney General's office that his clients and he will be available for the entire week of November 22 should the hearings last that long. The Durham hearings lasted eight days, Howitt noted.

Tom Marshall will once again represent Ontario Hydro at the hearing.

## Trick 'n' treat on Saturday

Halton Hills council has decreed the traditional date of celebrating Halloween change this year to Saturday, October 30. They are urging everyone to co-operate in celebrating Saturday instead of Sunday, so residents can enjoy a traditional Sabbath.

Halloween is traditionally on October 31, the eve of All Saints Day when it once was believed the souls of the dead roamed the world. Hence the costumes and weird get-ups.

The safety councils are urging parents to see their children who trick 'n' treat can see adequately and be seen, advising the use of reflective tape on costumes to increase driver awareness.

## Sabres upset Cougars

Junior B Sabres ended the victory drought when they upset the second place Burlington Cougars 8-6 at Burlington Monday.

Sabres pull within four points of Brampton and Oakville as a result.

The local club, the smallest in the OHA central league, went to Burlington with fewer players than normal, but still managed a rally in the third period for the win.

Pace Bill McGalloway paced Acton with a hattrick, while team captain Dave Chapman and Jeff Townsley fired two goals each. Import Chris Costello inked his first goal as a Sabre.

The win follows two straight defeats at the hands of Milton's Flyers over the weekend. And just one week ago, Burlington blanked Sabres 8-0.

For full details, see sports page.

## Check traffic

All parking could be prohibited on St. Alban's Drive if there are any traffic congestion problems while the detour goes down that street during Mill Street reconstruction.

Both engineer Robert Austin and Councillor Joe Hurst warned there could be real problems on the street while it is used as a detour.

Halton Hills works committee agreed to adopt a wait and see policy with the street until it is determined if there will be problems.

At the same time the committee received a complaint from a resident who believes the town made a mistake in prohibiting traffic on just one side of the street but the committee decided to continue studying the parking situation.

The committee prohibited traffic on one side of the street last year and decided to review the situation after a year or two.



BEAVER Eddie Robinson helped raise \$360 on Apple Day Saturday. Scouts, Cubs and Beavers found a good response to their request for donations. Apples are their way of saying "Thanks."