

Something for everyone at Back to Acton Days

Everything but the red carpet is being rolled out for this weekend's Back to Acton Canada Day celebrations. The calendar of events begins tomorrow (Thursday) at noon with the opening of the booths. Various organizations in Acton and district will be having booths put up in the mall area from the railroad tracks to Main on Mill Street, and between Mill and Bower Ave., on Willow St.

Among the booths set up will be a Chamber of Commerce information centre in the Dawe Real Estate building, the corner of Mill and Bower Ave., and a Save the Town Hall Committee information booth at the Senior Citizens' room in the old town hall, Willow St. Here, information on the history and proposed future plans can be obtained. A proclamation of the Town

of Acton will be made and a presentation of past mayors at the old town hall will take place at 7 p.m. A blue grass festival will also be taking place at this time, and the Acton Citizens' Band will have a roving concert until 9 p.m. Booths open Friday, the actual anniversary of Confederation, at noon, and close at 9 p.m. Starting at 1 p.m., there will be a blue grass festi-

val at the old town hall. The Walt Disney production, The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes will be shown in the Y, at \$1.50 per person, regardless of age. This will begin at 1 p.m. both Friday and Saturday. The movie Woodstock will be shown at the same place at 7.30 p.m. both nights, for \$2.50 per person. At approximately 2 p.m. members of the Acton Track Club and various other resi-

dents of town will be arriving at the old town hall after running from the Glen Williams town hall, delivering messages and flags from residents in that community. Glen Williams runners will, in turn, be running from Acton to the Glen also delivering messages and flags. It is hoped Miss Acton Fall Fair, Charmaine Bigelow, Louis Charlebois, president of the Acton Chamber of Comm-

ence, Doug Freed, vice chairman of the Save the Acton Town Hall Committee and various town officials will be on hand to greet the runners. A pit barbecue and beer garden will be held at Mill St. between Fellow and Wilbur Streets from 5 p.m. to midnight. A street dance at the same location will take place from 8 p.m. to midnight. Saturday, the action slows down a bit with the booths

opening at 10 a.m. closing at 6 p.m. The pit barbecue and beer garden open at 2 p.m. Sunday sees Prospect Park being utilized with a fish derby during the day and fireworks during the evening. Two draws will be held, one 50-50 draw supporting the town hall, and the other for an afghan, made and donated by Linda Nellis, owner of the Acton Yarn Barn also for the town hall fund. Both draws

will be made at 5 p.m. Saturday. Babysitting will also be available at the Y throughout the weekend, compliments of the Acton business Association. The blue grass concert will be featuring such groups as Halton Hills Dare Devils, Kent Tocher, The Country D's, Earl Burt, and other surprise guests. Most town merchants are

getting into the swing of things, many of them in fact, heading various committees for the weekend. However, some have pledged to contribute a certain percentage of their day's receipts towards the town hall fund. With the threat of town hall demolition, a drive to opt from Halton Hills, the celebrations may help restore some of Acton's identity.

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RETIRED EMPLOYEES of Beardmore got together on Thursday for the annual Beardmore Retirement Party. Old friends were reunited, and stories caught up on. Sitting at the front of

the picnic table are Charlie Landsborough, Stanley Cripps, and Albert Ware. Back row, Arlie White, Percy Evans, Theo Papillon and Robert Turner (standing).

Mill "mess" repairs soon

Mill Street's crumbling curbs and sidewalks shouldn't be around much longer. Councillor Mike Armstrong told Halton Hills council Monday night of last week.

Councillor Peter Marks asked Armstrong, as chairman of works committee, what was going to be done about the problem.

Armstrong said the completion date on Mill Street work is June 29 and noted the concrete for the curbs and sidewalks was supplied by a local firm.

He explained the firm says the deterioration isn't its fault while the town says it isn't the municipality's fault either. He said results of tests on the concrete are due soon. There

is some suggestion the concrete is deteriorating because the work was done in cold weather at the town's insistence to facilitate the Santa Claus parade and Christmas shopping.

Armstrong said the solicitor has been in touch with the general contractor indicating the work must be repaired and added the consulting engineer has also talked to the builder of the sidewalks.

He said he expects a resolution of the problem by this Friday.

Marks asked if this meant the town would either fix the sidewalks soon or the firm responsible for the mess would. Armstrong said yes.



TOWN RESIDENTS ARE getting into the mood for this week's first ever Back to Acton Days. Activities get underway at noon Thursday and carry over to the annual Firefighters' fireworks display Sunday evening. Gord Dawe, above, and Cathy Frizzell set the trend with near period costumes for Friday's street dance and Bar-B-Q.

Storm brewing over Region bldg.

It appeared last week that Halton Regional Council had jumped the last in a series of hurdles on route to getting the new regional headquarters building project off the ground. But now a week later the project is far from being free of problems.

Peter G. Lush, the region's current landlord and the president of a large development firm based in Burlington announced this week that he has a motion before the Supreme Court of Ontario asking that the by-law passed by the region awarding the contract be quashed. The motion will be heard July 4.

In a telephone interview Lush told this newspaper that there had been a lot of confusion concerning whether or not a third reading had ever been given to the by-law, confusion about a parkway belt exemption and confusion about the report coming out of the building committee.

Mr. Lush said the cost of the building worked out to about \$40 per square foot and he claimed that is about \$10 a

foot over first class Triple A office space. The plan for the building doesn't lend itself to expansion. He equated the plans for the building to a man with a pregnant wife building a one bedroom house.

"We don't know the forum regional government will take. George Kerr said earlier government will evolve and the leader of the official opposition Stuart Smith says if he becomes premier he'll disband or curtail the powers of the region. So it doesn't matter if it is a Conservative or Liberal government the region is going to change."

Lush was critical of the region for authorizing the \$500,000 overage in the building. He said the overage should have been subject to OMB approval and he said sticking \$500,000 on the mill rate next year is just playing with money.

He said the region appeared to be in such a rush to get the building up it paid no attention to detail. He said the region still hasn't got an

exemption from the Parkway Belt and it will need a rezoning for the city. "That could take two years. The whole exercise appears to have been a wasteful one."

According to Lush the region should have told the architect to stay within budget. "When I set a budget for a building the architect stays within it. I have no

more money and council should do the same.

"If the \$2,200,000 wasn't enough money to provide adequate space the objection might be unreasonable. But that is 25 per cent more than what business people are paying for triple A office space.

"Institutional buildings have been grandiose in the

past but I don't think we can afford that kind of construction and waste," he said.

Lush said that some people will say his interest in the matter is purely a self interest because he is the president of a company currently leasing space to the region.

But he said he hoped reconsideration of the building could be arranged. "My motion before the court is for the good and welfare of all the citizens of Burlington and Halton."

Commenting on discussions with some councillors and press reports Lush said it appeared not all of the information that is prepared and the matter reconsidered," he said.

Burlington Mayor Mary Munro opposed the awarding of a contract at the last meeting and attempted to have a special meeting called to reconsider the matter because she felt a lot of members had not understood what had been presented.

She attempted to have 13 councillors sign a petition calling for special meeting to be called. She had 10 of the necessary 13 signatures before she learned that Regional Chairman Ric Morrow had signed the contract two days before the deadline without advising her.

The Burlington Mayor was furious and told reporters that Morrow's action was both irresponsible and lacked common courtesy.

Unless the region gets an exemption from the Parkway Belt the building could be delayed with or without the motion before the court.

Main Street sewer work starts Monday

Main Street's intersection with Mill Street may be the target of reconstruction work on the north-south road next Monday, according to town engineer Bob Austin.

Work on sanitary sewers will head north.

King Paving has got the contract, which is valued at just under \$800,000, Mr. Austin said.

Detouring of traffic will probably be handled block by block, Mr. Austin said. A solution to the route of traffic has still to be determined, he said, when work gets in the neighborhood of School Lane, River Street off Main Street.

Three calls on weekend

Three fires on the weekend saw very little damage reports fire chief Mick Holmes.

A call on Friday to Disston saw no damage as an overheated dip tank gave off fumes. There was no sign of fire, the chief says, and firefighters stayed at the plant until the tank cooled down.

Ontario Hydro was called in to make repairs to a hydro pole which caught fire on Saturday. The pole, located on 25 Sideroad between the townline and the Sixth line, was damaged after a short in the lead-in wire caused sparks and set the pole on fire. Firefighters pulled the transformer switch, disrupting power to area homes, and waited until Ontario Hydro came onto the scene.

Firefighters rushed to the corner of Mill and Main Sunday when a car driven by Wilfred Love of Guelph had smoke coming from under the hood. Mr. Holmes says there was no fire, just smoke and fumes when the car overheated.



DAY CAMP LEADERS left Friday for a one week training session in Bolton. There, they will learn everything from crafts to child psychology. Front, Colleen DeBruyn, and Lynda Shadbolt. Back row, Karen Glenn and playground supervisor, Rick Rocher.

Two depts. want same Acton office

The joint use of the YMCA building in Acton by the town and Acton Community Services Centre ran into a bit of difficulty Monday night at Halton Hills finance-administration committee.

The problem hinged on accommodation for Fire Chief Mick Holmes and the recreation department, who in the words of Councillor Peter Marks want the same office at the front of the building. The Fire Chief has been using the office for the past three years.

Recreation Director Glen Gray said the storage area proposed for an office for Anne Pickering, recreation co-ordinator, was unsuitable for full time occupancy.

Councillor Roy Booth asked if the fire chief could move to the fire hall.

Chief Holmes said the same problem would arise as sparked his move in the first place: there would be no secretary or telephone answering service.

"Why is the Fire Chief being kicked out anyway?" demanded Mayor Tom Hill. "Acton Community Services are not trying to kick anyone out, they were merely trying to share the rent with the town to reduce cost," said Councillor Peter Marks.

He said the idea had been that Acton Community Services have one side of the building and the town have the other side.

Chief Holmes pointed out the recreation department is being looked after now without being in the front of the building. "The people in Acton deserve a fire office accessible to them."

The mayor asked why Acton Community Services Centre can't find other accommodation. "You get a grant from the region," Marks said the town's rent would be \$360 instead of \$250 if the area is not shared. The mayor contended they should negotiate with the "Y" and not "upset the apple cart with the town staff."

"In other words you're telling the Acton Community Services to fly a kite," retorted Booth.

Councillor Peter Morris claimed the town would then have 1,500 square feet they don't need if the Community Services were not there.

The BIA to meet with special consulting firm

The preliminary proposals for the improvements and beautification of the Acton business centre will be discussed next Wednesday (July 6) at a public meeting in the YMCA.

The new Business Improvement Association is holding the meeting at which the consulting firm will be on hand to

give the proposals. Bob Austin, the town engineer and Mario Vendetti, town planner, and local councillors will also be present.

The BIA is encouraging all merchants, representatives of service clubs and anyone else interested in the well-being of the community to attend.

"Surely we can rearrange the office." The committee agreed to try to work something out and held over the matter.

Bliehn agreed, saying it would be dynamite to subsidize one area and not another. A motion by Marks to have the town pay half the cost of the land purchase easements, and demolition from the sale of Acton town-owned land, and the other half financed from the business merchants was defeated.