

Youth Page editorial

Where is sense?

Is suicide the latest fad among Acton's school children? It would seem so judging by the behavior of one group of boys on Mill St. E.

That portion of Mill St. is one way—perhaps to cut down on the volume of traffic because so many school children use it to get to the McKenzie-Smith and M.Z. Bennett schools. The street is wide enough for both pedestrians and drivers.

However, when the pedestrian deliberately aligns himself with an oncoming car, especially on our snowcovered streets, it only results in bad news.

One driver reports driving on the street, travelling about 20 miles an hour, well within the speed limits. Four boys about 12 or 13 were walking on the left hand side of the street, heading towards the school. Without any warning, they all walked directly into the path of the car. The driver managed to manoeuvre around them.

However, when this happened, one young fellow actually threw himself at the car. If the vehicle had not been moving, he would have hit the driver's door. As it was, he only succeeded in falling into the middle of the road. Another car came along, and he did exactly the same thing.

Whose fault would it have been had this youngster been hurt, or even killed? Whether or not the driver was exonerated from all blame, he or she would still have been left with the guilt burden for an entire life.

Why did the boys charge the car? Why did the one deliberately throw himself at it? Was there peer pressure? Was it a dare? Was he trying to act brave in front of the others? In any case, he was lucky he wasn't hit—this time. How many times is he going to play this kind of Russian Roulette before the odds are against him?

Where is his common sense?

New addition to youth page

A new addition to the Youth Page this week is an attempt to reach some of the students who would not necessarily read the Free Press editorials.

just what happens during school hours. The topics will be varied, hopefully interesting, and definitely pertaining to the youth of Acton.

Valentines

Next Tuesday is Valentine's Day.

"Youth Page editorials" will deal with everything from a reprimand when needed, to praise when deserved. It is not geared to any specific age group as one week it may involve teenagers, some weeks preteens.

The editorials will be written by Free Press reporters who deal with the students almost daily, yet can cast an objective view over their behaviour.

As with this week's opening editorial, not all will deal with

Tell the advertiser you saw his ad in... The Acton Free Press



MRS. PEGGY GRAHAM is the grade three and four teacher at St. Joseph's school. Mrs. Graham has always lived in Acton and is enjoying her first year teaching in her hometown.

Peggy Graham is Acton native

Having spent her whole life in Acton, Mrs. Peggy Graham, a teacher at St. Joseph's Separate School, has seen the dream of having a Catholic school in Acton become a reality.

Born and raised in Acton, Mrs. Graham went to M.Z. Bennett and Robert Little Public School and then attended Acton District High School. After high school Mrs. Graham received her B.A. at Wilfred Laurier University.

Mrs. Graham taught at Holy Cross in Georgetown for three years and then Holy Rosary in Milton for five years. She now teaches grades three and four at St. Joseph's.

Mrs. Graham is married and lives in town with her husband and two children.

In her spare time, Mrs. Graham enjoys bowling and reading.

She thinks St. Joseph's is a great school to teach in and is glad that Acton finally has its own Catholic school. She is the former Peggy Holmes.

St. Joseph's

by Latjana Jansen Joanne McArthur and Andrea Brosic

On Wednesday of last week, the grade seven and eight classes went to Hamilton Place. The program also included the theme from Star Wars and Beethoven's fifth. Everybody was impressed at the way the Philharmonic Orchestra was able to change the music styles or moods.

Today, all the grades from three to eight celebrated a mass for Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

Basketball practices were cancelled last week due to the fact that the gymnastics equipment in Robert Little gym was still in use. Practices will resume this week.

Father Syme blessed all the students throats last Friday in honour of St. Blaise the patron saint of throats.

Dublin North 4-H start focussing on living

On Wednesday, February 1 the Dublin North 4-H home-making club started a new project entitled "Focus on Living". This project deals with many things. We learn how to knit, quilt, and crochet. It also deals with certain topics such as, baby-sitting, first aid, our environment, the Canadian Government, leisure activities and other things that will be very useful to us girls now and in the future. We will also be going on a hike somewhere.

The leaders of this club are Mrs. Marion Hunter and Mrs. Pat Kirton.

The meeting started out with everyone introducing themselves. Then Mrs. Hunter explained various things about the project and what it dealt with. We then explained the format to the new members. After we got to know each other we chose officers which are as follows: president, Bev Metherell; vice president, Susie Bahr; treasurer, Kelly Kennedy; phone girl, Cally Wellwood; press reporter, Julie Pierce.

Other members are Tammy Hunter, Cathy Magno, Debbie Magno, Carrie Kirton, Sherry Kirton, and Lynn Whiffin.

The new members seemed to enjoy the first meeting and are looking forward to the next eight meetings of the project.

CREDIT COURSES FOR ADULTS

ACTON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

The adults in the community are invited to take credit courses in regular day classes.

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LOVELL BROS. MODERN MEAT MARKET

Free Press Youth Page

Students go skiing at Blue Mountain

Loaded down with food supplies for three days, skis and warm dry clothing, 23 grade 13 students left last Monday morning for Blue Mountain in Collingwood. The students planned to spend their semester turn-around time skiing at the resort. Heading out of town at about 8:30 the group travelled together arriving in time to get in some morning skiing. After an excellent day of cross-country and down-hill skiing the group settled into their chalet for the night. The chalet was fully equipped with a kitchen, fireplace, two

bathrooms and a sauna. Everyone had bought different dishes for the evening meal where they all filled up on a delicious "pot luck" dinner.

Tuesday morning, bright and early the group hit the slopes for a fun-filled day of skiing from 9 until the slopes closed at 4:30.

After cleaning the chalet on Wednesday morning, most of the group got an early start home with all limbs intact.

The trip was an out of school activity planned completely by the senior students. For those who are finished school it was the last trip they will take as students of the high school. Others will be returning to school for this last semester.

Taking part in the trip were Dave Berry, Ford Alton, Cliff Britton, Jennifer Rowe, Nicki

Field, Kathy Barber, Mike Morris, Noel Blake, Gord Bruce, Don Coats, Paula Kitching, Deb Wellwood, Mark Beaton, Brad Buchanan, John Hogenbirk, Sue Mellor, Nancy Shoemaker, Neil MacMillan, Martin Trueman, Dave Hannah, Matt Spehar, Randy McIntyre and Bruce McPhail.

It was a short vacation, but the break before returning to school or entering into the working world was welcomed and enjoyed by all.

Students brew but abstain

Erin High School chemistry students may brew but not sample alcoholic beverages for a school project, according to Guelph OPP.

Principal Peter Durksen asked the police for guidance after a complaint concerning school experiments. Students cannot transport their product either. The complaint stemmed from the choice of four students to ferment beer and wines at home in the course of chemistry and biology projects.

Some students chose other experiments such as making bread, yogurt or sauerkraut.

Ring found at pool

A diamond engagement ring which was reported stolen from the changeroom of the Acton Lions Club Pool in last week's Free Press, has turned up, according to pool supervisor Liz Binsfeld.

Police put the value of the ring at greater than \$200. It was apparently left in a gym bag.

The ring was found on the floor of the change room by a child Miss Binsfeld said. The ring was then turned over to pool staff, and then to the owner February 1, said the pool supervisor.

For ten cents, Miss Binsfeld said, lockers are available in the change rooms.

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