



LIMEHOUSE PUBLIC SCHOOL students held their public speaking contests last Friday. Stacey Featherstone, front row, centre, won in the grades three and four group. Pat Primerano, back row, centre, won first prize in the grades five and six group. Other winners were front, Jody Gordon and Lori Book; back row, Greg Hiscock and Daryl Johnston.

Council engages Waterloo firm to handle Rockwood's plan

A proposal for the Rockwood Secondary Plan has been accepted by Eramosa township council.

In January, council called tenders on the plan. Three firms bid for the job, and each presented briefs of their proposals to council at their Monday evening meeting.

The bid accepted was from Marshall, Macklin, Monaghan Consulting Engineers, Surveyors, Planners, of Waterloo, for the amount of \$10,400. Although the highest bid, council took note they had the best presentation and

offered more for the money than the other two firms involved.

In the terms of reference for the job, council explained how the official plan of the Guelph and Suburban planning area was approved on December 31, 1973. It is a joint plan which sets policy for the townships of Eramosa, Erin, Guelph, and Puslinch and the village of Erin. A brief section of the official plan deals with Rockwood's development and establishes a population target of 1,700 by 1990. Council asked for a secondary plan of Rockwood to be incorporated into the

Guelph and Suburban official plan as an amendment.

Each firm bidding appeared before council Monday evening and went into great lengths telling how they would go about developing the secondary plan. The Marshall, Macklin, Monaghan proposal stated "The development of a suitable secondary plan for a community the size of Rockwood carries with it the responsibility to see that the plan meets the needs for orderly growth in the village of Rockwood while reflecting the aspirations of the residents of

Rockwood. A small community leads itself to effective public involvement in the plan preparation process and indeed necessitates such an approach. We propose that the concerns of the residents of Rockwood be identified early in the plan's development and that the data collection, the alternative strategy and the preferred alternative phases be prepared with mutual co-operation."

Several stages would be undertaken to come to the end product, which would take from mid-March until mid-

December. The proposal explained that the major elements would be: issue identification; data collection; determination of constraints and opportunities; definition of role of village; preparation of alternative strategies and implications; selection of preferred alternative; preparation of policies/draft amendment; presentation of draft amendment; and revision and preparation of final amendment.

The firm would have close contact with the public and with Eramosa township council. Several meetings would be arranged to provide

output from residents.

Other tenders came from Dryden and Smith Planning Consultants in conjunction with MacNaughton Planning Consultants Ltd., and K. Smart Consulting Engineer and Planner. They bid \$5,250 and \$3,900 respectively. Council discussed the matter extensively with Roger Trummer, secretary-treasurer of the Guelph and Suburban planning board, and John O'Grady, a planner, with the Community Planning Advisory Branch of the Ministry of Housing before making their decision.

Fire course

Halton Hills Finance Administration Committee authorized Deputy Fire Chief Bob Hyde to attend the Fire College at Gravenhurst from May 8 to June 9.

Fire Chief Mick Holmes stated the course concerns fire fighting operations.

Free Press

Rockwood & District

The Acton Free Press, Wednesday, March 1, 1978 13

Limehouse animal speeches

Personal pets were the winning topics at the Limehouse public speaking contest last Friday, February 24. Winning in the grades three and four category was Stacey Featherstone on the topic, My Cat Nicky. Second in this junior division was Jody Gordon who spoke on Charles Schultz and third place went to Lori Book for her speech on Gymnastics. Stacey was awarded the Twins Woodworking trophy for her first place win. Also competing in the grade three and four division were Roger Mullins,

Craig French and Gregory Lane. In the grades five and six competition Pat Primerano took first place with her speech entitled My Dog Sally. Second place was Greg Hiscock for his speech on Wolves and third place to Daryl Johnston who spoke on Atoms and Molecules. Also competing in the grade four and five division were Gordon March, Margaret Olah and Steven Lipsett. Pat was awarded the trophy which was donated by Noble's Garage.

Judges for the competition were Mrs. W. Proeyshen, vice-principal at George Kennedy public school, Mrs. N. Silcock, remedial resource teacher at Limehouse and Joseph Gibbons public schools, Miss L. Stevenson from Limehouse and Mrs. M. Martin, a former Limehouse public school staff member. Christian Book, last year's winner, represented the school at the North-Halton Public Speaking finals in Milton on February 21. Christian brought home the second place trophy.

Group meets on twinning

A small informal meeting was held Tuesday to further discuss the future of Speyside school.

Elected to represent the parents at the meeting were Janet Armstrong, Brian Eaton and John Harrington.

A ballot was sent home with students.

They were to meet with principal Norm Howell, teacher representative Ann Armstrong and area superintendent Don Gentleman.

A meeting was held at the school a couple of weeks ago to discuss the possible reduction of enrolment in the school and its possible closure. Twinning was first mentioned for this area then.

This would mean that the two schools would share one principal. The one vice-principal would be at Speyside, the principal at Robert Little. The vice-principal would also be required to teach part time.

The parents named to meet a parents' committee do not approve of the twinning scheme.

Mrs. Armstrong explains she has 16 years teaching experience and her husband about the same. Mr. Eaton's wife is a teacher at the school. Mr. Harrington teaches in Peel.

They have all experienced schools of various sizes and are interested in all facets of education. They strongly favor small schools like Speyside. "A small school should be an extension of the family," Mrs. Armstrong thinks. The principal should know the students, their families and their expectations.

She compares the problems of smaller schools now with problems small areas have with regional government.

The matter of twinning will be presented to the board of education at its meeting March 9.

A meeting to discuss the possible effects of twinning will be held at the Robert Little school tonight, Wednesday, March 1.

CVCA has reduction

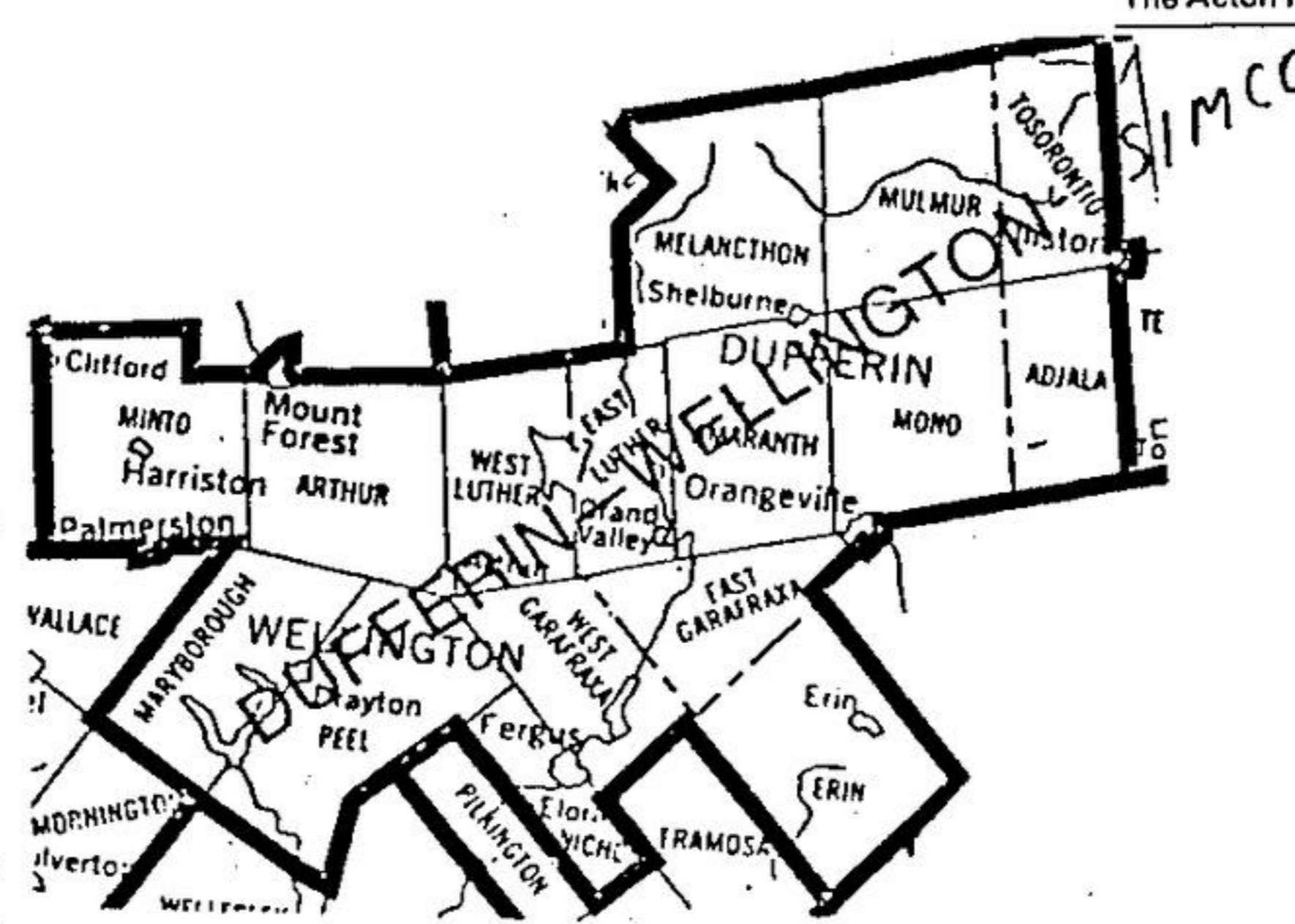
The Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) learned during its executive meeting Friday it has gained a reduction in the architect's fees for the now defunct new headquarters.

Frank Leavers, of Mississauga, told the committee the architect was most realistic. The architect will delete 12 per cent interest from his charges to the authority. The savings amount to \$975.

Do not forget the architect agreed to build a suitable structure committee chairman Grant Clarkson said. "However we let them off the hook because we voted for no building period", he said.

Later he said, referring to the CVCA staff: "We've no room to put the bloody people."

This whole question has got to be looked at, he continued.



MAP SHOWS the boundaries of the new federal riding of Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe. A population of 60,000 is included in the new riding.

New riding confuses candidacies wide open

It has become evident to many of those individuals who are working to organize the large new Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe federal election that there is a general lack of understanding as to the extent of the new riding and of the status of the current elected representatives.

From Wellington County, the following are included: the Towns of Fergus, Elora, Drayton, Harriston, Palmerston, Clifford, Erin, Arthur, Mount Forest, and Townships of Erin, West Garafraxa, Nichol, Peel, Maryborough, Minto, Arthur, and West Lutherville.

The organizational problems of such a large riding are many. The estimated population of 60,000 people is extremely spread out, without any one major focus point in the riding.

There won't be a Member of Parliament who represents the whole of the new riding of Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe until after the next election. In the meantime the elected representatives of the old ridings will continue to represent those areas until the next federal election.

Because of the changed riding boundaries, MP Ross Milne will be contesting the new riding of Peel-Halton,

and thus will not be working directly for those areas of his old riding which included South Simcoe and Dufferin Counties.

The result is that the candidacies for the various parties in the new riding are wide open, and there is vigorous competition for these positions.

The Liberal riding association has two strong nominees in the persons of Harry Greene of Orangeville, a local businessman and chairman of the Orangeville Chamber of Commerce, and Elbert van Donkersgoed of Drayton, a long time organizer and policy maker for agricultural organizations.

Trustees want new sidewalks for village

by Barb Wynneke

The Rockwood Village Trustees held their February meeting recently and dealt with the current issues affecting the village.

The trustees applied to the Ministry of Transportation and Communication for a new sidewalk along the eastern section of Main St., from Harris St. to the Eramosa River bridge. School authorities and the Ontario Provincial Police have

agreed that this area is hazardous to children. The cost is \$6,900, which is beyond the village budget.

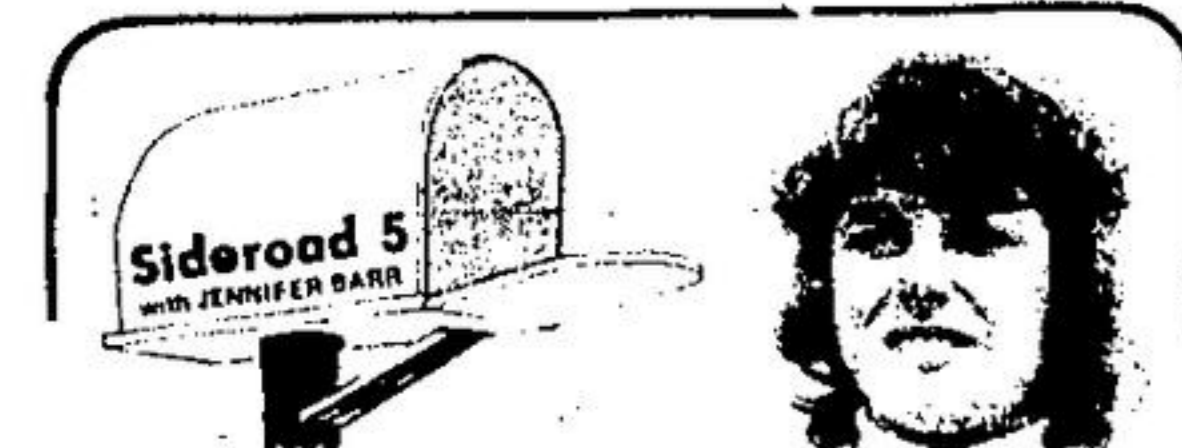
The trustees have now asked the township council to consider any alternate source of funding for this proposed sidewalk.

Bob Slater, the Rockwood Dog Control Officer, has resigned and the trustees are looking for a replacement. Any one interested in this position may contact village

secretary Len Hockey at 856-9562.

Hydro manager, Len Hockey, is going on a Florida vacation for a month, beginning March 24. The village office will be managed by Betty Eastwood during his absence.

An extra hydro transformer will be installed on Weatherald St. to handle the increased hydro load in the southern area of the village.



At the moment of writing this, I am covered with small bruises and my hands have numerous scratches on them. An interesting encounter in the woods, perhaps? Unfortunately, no. I was worming the sheep.

Sheep are adorable creatures—fluffy lumps of affection with tiny delicate mouths and sweet little feet. Sheep are totally incapable of aggression—until you try to pop worm pills down their throats.

We've wormed them lots of times but they get larger and wiser every time. Mack went to agricultural college so he knows how to handle sheep, he says. With great authority, he grabs one by the scruff and flips it into a sitting position against his legs. The sheep's mouth is then within operating range and the undignified pose keeps the sheep immobile (hee, hee, hee).

With his legs braced and sheep in hand, Mack orders me to open its mouth and pop in the pill (called an "oblet" on the label.)

Razor-like teeth
Opening the sheep's mouth is the first problem. A horse has a mouth like a whale and a tongue the size of a razor strop. It's quite simple to ease your hand into the obliging spaces between its flat teeth and get a good handhold on his tongue. Open flies the mouth and in goes whatever has to go.

Sheep have a mouth like an anteater. Once you do have a reasonable working space there's the matter of a myriad of tiny needlelike teeth to surpass. The pill is shoved to the back of its throat and the sheep insists on calmly rolling the medication to the front, crunching it in half and spitting out the bits to have a look-see. When you've got five of these "oblets" to get into two sweet little lady sheep, you can appreciate that Mack and I were struggling in the barn for some time. Mack grumbling all the while about having to go to work "stinking like a sheep." MY sheep don't stink!

Little freeloader
Sheep have a lot of problems actually. They are ideal hosts for innumerable parasites, both inside and out. When you've ridden them to their guests, there's any number of nasty diseases waiting round the corner. If you get them through the sicknesses, making sure they all have the required shots, they try to kill themselves giving birth to twin lambs at the same time—or pushing the little beggars out sideways.

Friend Joy and I spend long hours on the phone discussing our latest knowledge of sheep raising or chicken care. We've both been horse farmers for years so that novelty has worn off. Now we're into all sorts of fascinating sidelines. "Did you know my peacocks got blackhead and my ewe came down with pulpy kidney?" says I. "No, but my sheep had ticks," quoth Joy. Our party lines are most disappointed with our gossip.

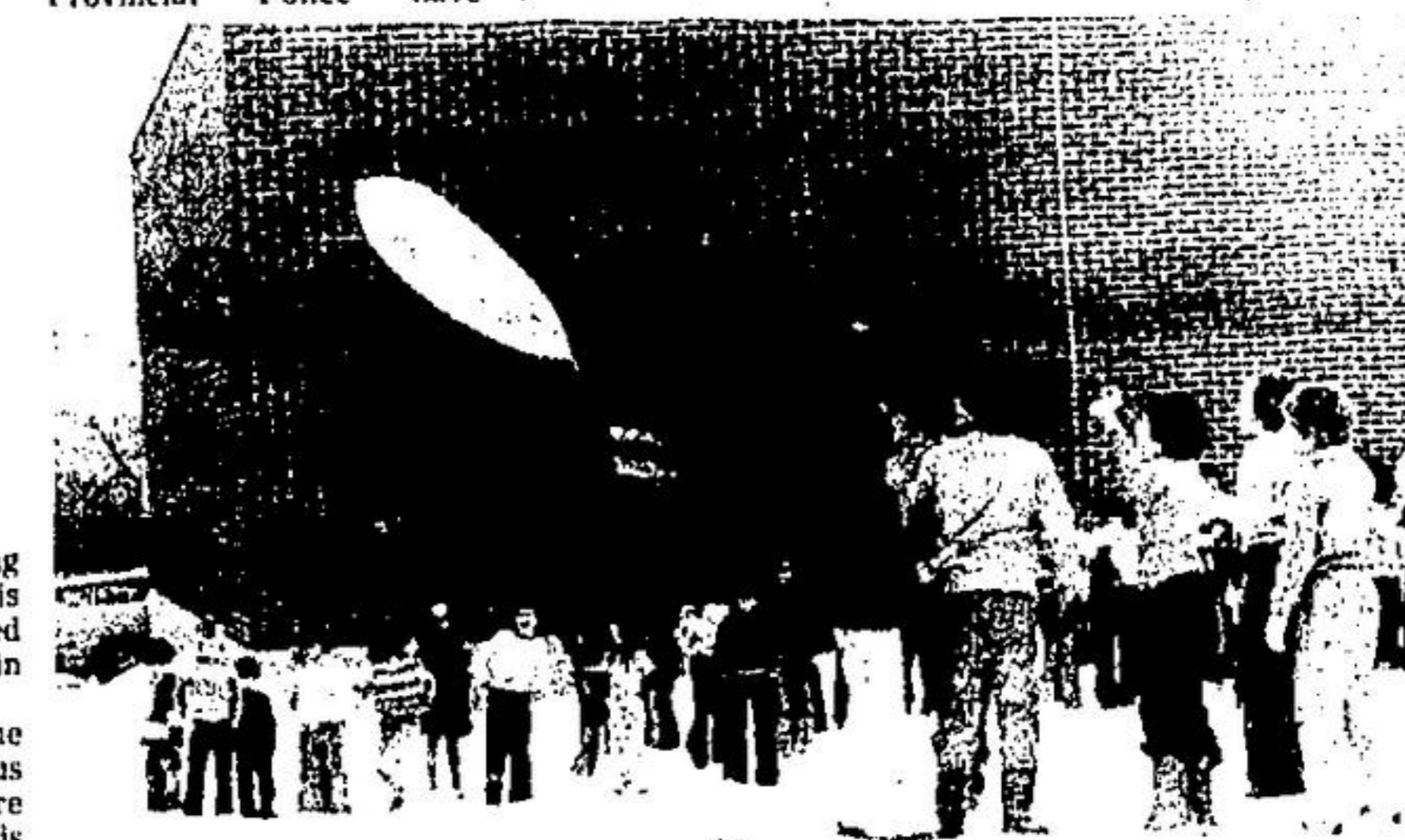
Rent-A-Ram
It was through Joy's Rent-A-Ram service we were able to provide Lucy and Penny with a husband. He came without a name so the kids called him "Thomas" because Thomas promises.

At first sight of him, the ewes were horrified, having never seen a man before. Lucy fell over in a heap and Penny hid behind the sun abelter. Thomas was most hurt and spent the rest of his visit eating buns with Erica, who thought he was a sweet sheep.

We've yet to find out whether the lady sheep got over their shyness. When May comes and they produce lambs, I'll figure they did.

With all this trouble sheep can cause, friends wonder why we bother putting up with them. Well, this morning I opened the door, turfed the pair of them out for a play and stood chuckling at their antics. Like springboks they pranced, all four feet together on Collis. Twisting and leaping they bounded up over the manure pile, snalling merrily over the wheelbarrows. Lucy tumbled into a snowbank and Penny did a fancy slide into her, ending up sitting on Lucy's head.

I laughed at them and the sun came out. That's why we keep sheep.



Up, up and away . . .

LIMEHOUSE STUDENTS WERE everjoyed as helium filled balloon took wing. Students had enclosed a message with the address of the school so that whoever found the balloon could write and tell them how far it had travelled, but it turned out they could see for themselves. The balloon lifted, bounced off one tree and impaled itself on a second one, to the disappointment of all involved with the project. Students may try again in June. The original idea was conceived as part of an enrichment science class for grades four, five and six.

Wrong Whiteside named in 102-year-old killing

The memoirs of a detective who investigated an axe murder at Ballinacree 102 years ago, names the wrong man as victim, according to one of the victim's relatives who lives in Georgetown.

Detective John Wilson Murray names John Whiteside, age 68, as the victim.

The detective of the department of justice of the Province of Ontario is incorrect, says Whiteside relative Donna Robin of Pennington Crescent.

The man who was found lying, his brains beaten out, 100 yards from his Esqueving Township house was named Robert, not John and he was 75 years old, not 68, Mrs. Robin contends.

Mrs. Robin firmly bases her belief on newspaper reports of the inquest at

Silvercreek. Both the Acton Free Press and The Daily Globe, of Toronto, name one Robert Whiteside as the deceased.

How can detective Murray be wrong?

Murray cannot be asked for an explanation. He died in 1906. The Whiteside case was unsolved. However, Murray's memoirs were republished by Collins last year, under the title *Memoirs of a Great Canadian Detective*. Mrs. Robin notes, in the book's preface, that the editor, a man named Victor Speer, worked in his own influence. Perhaps Speer made the mistake.

Murray's memoirs recently gained national attention when the Canadian Magazine published two selections: *The Million-Dollar Counterfeiting*

and the Mary Ward Murder. Mrs. Robin, who was born a Whiteside in Edmonton, first heard of a possible link with Ballinacree a little more than two years ago. A couple of lady customers in Mrs. Robin's store, Georgetown Fabrics, mentioned the family from long ago.

However, mention of anything unusual, least of all a crime, was omitted.

Mrs. Robin, her curiosity sparked by her living so near to Ballinacree, wrote to a distant relative, Don Whiteside, at Ottawa. He is researching the family's history. Mrs. Robin says she knows her western relatives generally came from this district.

Don Whiteside's reply letter contained census reports, kinship charts and

the first indication of a real skeleton in the family's closet—newspaper articles of the inquest. Other packets of information to Mrs. Robin soon followed.

One of the customers who failed to mention the murder, later confessed she thought Mrs. Robin may be embarrassed. Mrs. Robin assured her she was not.

Mrs. Robin says she has been interested in her family for some years, but its background has not been looked into prior to the 1960s. "So far everyone with the name is related," Mrs. Robin says.

The main question in Mrs. Robin's mind concerning the Ballinacree Whitesides is not who hacked out the life of Robert, but where are the graves of his wife Catherine and son Harry.

In the nearly three pages of the memoirs, Murray suspects first one and then the other of the crime. Both, however, are released. They die of tuberculosis. No trace of their graves has been found by Mrs. Robin or Don Whiteside.

Seven Whitesides, including Robert, are buried in the Ballinacree cemetery. The latest marker is for George T. Whiteside, who died in 1882 at the age of 16 years, nine months.

Don Whiteside turned up no trace after checking the cemetery at Limehouse and the pioneer cemetery on Highway 7 at the Fifth Line.

Mrs. Robin speculates the stones, with others, may have been discarded from the Ballinacree cemetery when it was tidied up years ago.

Once Mrs. Robin thought a possible grave site existed within the sugar bush on the Whiteside farm. She visited the bush with a friend who pointed out three, not two, grave size mounds. Each was surrounded by stones. However, she has since learned the piles of earth may have figured in an old sugaring-off method.

Catherine and Harry were seen together in Guelph about nine years after the murder, according to a family note discovered by Don Whiteside.

In her search for more information surrounding the murder in particular and her family in general Mrs. Robin has collected some stories

which drop more detail into place. From Luena Campbell, whose grandfather's farm was across the road from the Whitesides, Mrs. Robin learned how police started the investigation.

A detective walked into the school house on the 7th Line the morning after the killing. He carried an axe, and he asked if anyone could identify the owner of the tool. One of the surprised children became Miss Campbell's father. He was eight years old in 1870.

Another story tells how a shack was built near the school on the Whiteside land. Robert Whiteside, so the story goes, did not like children taking their recess on his land. So he built the shack to keep them away.

Mrs. Robin also wrote to two aunts in an effort to fill in more blanks in the family's story. She also hopes to check county records. From her relative in Ottawa she's received a copy of his research which went so far as to check of existing Will and Administrators of Estates in Lancashire, England, from 1557-1748. Other work has been done in Ireland.

All of this information will be given to the Whitesides who are growing up. Mr. and Mrs. Fraser Robin have three children: Blair, 17, Craig 15½ and Bethany 12. The trio, according to Mrs. Robin, are the ninth generation of the family in Canada.

Limehouse—Gibbons twinning not to be decided until April

Halton Board of Education won't be asked by the administration to approve twinning of Limehouse and Joseph Gibbons schools until sometime in April.

Last week parents met at the school to discuss the situation and Thursday asked the board to delay discussing the Limehouse subject on March 9 until at least the end

of the month so they can give the proposal study and prepare a brief outlining their concerns.

There has been a mix-up in communication between Trustee Bert Hinton and the board and parents.

Thursday the board was to review a position paper from the Halton Public School Principals' Association deal-

ing with the mechanics of twinning schools. Because there wasn't enough time to deal with the position paper properly Thursday it won't be dealt with until March 9.

Director of Education Em Lavender emphasised the principals' brief doesn't deal with "twinning school A with school B" but is simply ideas on how twinning can best be

achieved after the decision to twin is made.

The board's senior administration will review the principals' brief and bring back a report including recommendations to the board on March 30. Lavender said trustees comments on March 9 will be taken into account in administration's report.