

80 estate homes planned

Goldfan Holdings, owner of land on the eastern edge of Acton, hopes to build 80 homes on 60 acres of their property, the former Sprowl farm on Churchill Rd. S., Arnold Wise of Goldfan Holdings told Halton Hills planning board Tuesday night.

The homes on large lots between one-third and one-half acre would be serviced by septic tanks. Mr. Wise explained the Ministry of the Environment's position that

they wait until Acton's sewage plant has been in operation for some time before deciding if the town can grow beyond 10,000 had forced the company to come up with the plan for a small portion of their Acton holdings.

He explained the estate homes ranging up to \$150,000 were planned for the most southerly part of their land overlooking the escarpment. Mr. Wise asked planning

board to tell him if they favored such a development on large lots with septic tanks before any more work was done and money spent on plans and engineering. He said the Company had engaged R. V. Anderson for the engineering.

Councillor Pat McKenzie said this concept is receiving favorable comment at the region.

Mr. Wise explained the regional

engineers said there could be municipal water service.

Councillor George Malby pointed out the homes would be close to the quarry and suggested a rider in the agreement covering noise and cracked walls.

The proposal was referred to the planner for a report.

The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Third Year.—No. 45.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1978.

Fifty-Six Pages.—Fifteen Cents.

'Scarp landowners warm up for Bill 129 scrap with Davis

Farmers and landowners from the length of the Niagara Escarpment, Niagara to Tobermory, warmed up for their battle with the Davis Government over the proposals of the escarpment planning and development act in an old-fashioned country rally, last Wednesday night.

More than 2000 of them representing three groups, the Niagara Escarpment Central Ratepayers' Association (NECRA), the Niagara Escarpment Northern Ratepayers' Association (NENRA) and PORA, a Niagara Peninsula ratepayers' group, filled the grandstand and spilled over to a lower level at Orangeville Raceway.

In his bill, McKessock has called for cutting down of the planning area to include only the 'Scarp and the 'Scarp Protection area, permission for all existing lots as of February 14, 1978, to be granted development permits within one year of application or purchased by the government within one year of application and appeals on development control decisions to be heard by the OMB rather than the Ministry.

Entertainer Vince Mountford, star of many a Fall Fair and Garden Party and a long-time ally of Ontario farmers, rallied the troops, who responded to his call to rise and sing old time favorites like "Hail, hail the gang's all here," "Home On The Range" and "When It's Springtime In The Rockies".

NECRA President George Shepherd of Shelburne urged landowners to tell their MPPs to abolish the Act and never pass another one like it.

"Bill 129 is the culprit," said Shepherd. "The men and women living on this escarpment for the last 150 years have been preserving it and there hasn't been unrestricted development."

"We accept our local by-laws and trust our councillors, but we don't trust the

bureaucrats. The fight is just beginning," said Shepherd. Shepherd said the people in the Parry Sound, Muskoka and Haliburton regions could wake up some day and find out the Government has done the same thing, if it's not stopped.

"The NEC has been imposed upon us. It is not an elected body and we will not accept it," said Shepherd. "Shouldn't land use control be done by elected officials at the municipal level?"

Fred Davenport, president

of NENRA, reported his group now has 1,028 members and its membership will settle for nothing less than abolition of Bill 129.

Jim Vidal, president of PORA, said he's sure ratepayers along the escarpment are going to abolish the NEC itself. "We're getting assistance from NEC in their over-powerful staff and members. They're certainly contributing to their own demise," he said.

Vidal warned that violence may result because it's going

to become harder for Bruce Trail hikers to get on to private property.

"The relationship between farmers and hikers five years ago was reasonable. Now they have to walk down dusty roads because there are so many detours," said Vidal. "For the NEC to state that they expect the trail to exist by good will is 'pie in the sky' because good will is out the window now."

Vidal pointed out property ownership is one of the fundamental rights in Canada. He

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THREE-YEAR-OLD Jody Coleman seems to reflect everybody's feelings about the week's rainy weather. We all know the rain is a necessary part of Spring, but couldn't it wait until night time before it came down?

Police, firefighters parking spots set

Halton Regional Police will have two reserved parking spaces on Mill Street in front of their office in the Y building.

Monday Halton Hills works committee decided the police can have two spots on Mill Street and one on John Street.

Councillors recently met with firefighters, police and merchants to discuss parking regulation changes in downtown Acton.

Councillor George Malby suggested the police have just one spot on Mill Street but committee decided on two.

Chairman Pat McKenzie noted police said they couldn't accept just one spot but could live with two even though they would prefer three.

Councillor Peter Pomeroy noted police are concerned about having cruisers vandalized if they aren't parked on Mill Street.

Mayor Tom Hill said the police deserve some consideration in light of all the problems and complaints they have had to endure in Acton. He said two parking spaces for police won't hurt the commercial area.

Councillor Les Duby said he felt police need two spots but not three on Mill Street. As for vandalism they have to

take the same risks as everyone else.

Hill noted when a police car is vandalized all taxpayers pick up the cost.

Duby said police shouldn't be allowed to park their cars

on Mill Street while they are working noting they aren't receiving tickets when their cars are there longer than two hours either.

Hill said police should park in municipal lots while at work like everyone else and if they don't they should get tickets.

Malby said police have commandeered the parking lot behind the Y building and left notes on cars saying the lot is for police parking. He said the police should be reminded the lot wasn't included in their lease and should be using church parking lots like other people do.

He pointed out merchants have been telling their employees not to park on the street but in church lots and the police aren't any different.

Hill said he would bring these matters to the attention of the police.

Firefighters will have 19 reserved spots in the vicinity of the firehall. They will take over the two spots on Willow Street police had when they were stationed in the old town hall. A by-law will be prepared to cover the reserved parking spot for fire chief Mick Holmes on John Street.

April permits total \$273,499

Building permits issued in April for Acton totalled a value of \$273,499.

Major projects are the rebuilding and renovating of the old Free Press building and the renovations to the Station Hotel, both on Mill St.

The Community Services Centre alterations in the Y and \$14,500 worth of swimming pools are also listed.

One new single family dwelling, two semi-detached housing units and residential repairs are also listed in the total.

Speakers rapped the Niagara Escarpment Commission for placing too many restrictions on farmers and described the planning and development act, Bill 129, as undemocratic and too arbitrary.

Ratepayers carrying an assortment of signs reading "Break the NEC" and "Scrap the Scarp Commission" were urged to travel to Queen's Park, tomorrow (Thursday), as a sign of support for a private member's bill introduced by Bob McKessock, MPP for Grey.

ABA wants to limit police parking on Mill

The Acton Business Association last week came out against permitting as many

parking spaces downtown as police and firefighters want. The feeling on the group is

we can see where one parking space for the police on Mill Street would be necessary and two more off-street for the other two-cruisers, association president Ed Wood said.

We're also wondering if the firefighters need 17 spaces and also if six of them or so could park between the town hall and Did Price's home on Willow Street, said the president.

Mr. Wood also informed the gathering that Acton regional councillor Pat McKenzie is trying to set up a meeting between interested parties concerning parking questions.

I can't see why the town can't arrange for police cruiser parking at the back of the Y building, Cory Van Merkesteyn said. There is enough room for five cars there, said Mr. Van Merkesteyn.

I feel the police have need of one cruiser space on Mill Street and the rest on John Street, stated Alma Sweetman. The association plans a May 17 special meeting in the library at 7:30 in the evening. The meeting will concentrate on questions of parking, promotion and the plaza.

Region ban on some garbage won't affect town collection

New region restrictions over what goes into the Georgetown dump won't affect the residential garbage collection.

The region recently announced liquids, inert building materials such as asphalt, concrete, bricks, shingles and plaster, and tires won't be accepted at the dump.

In response to these new rules engineer Robert Austin brought some recommendations to Halton Hills works committee Monday night but

they weren't needed since the region has said its new rules don't apply to the municipal run residential pick-up in Acton and Georgetown. The town doesn't pick-up garbage in Esquesing. (Ward 2).

Austin had suggested the town advertise telling residents the town won't accept inert building materials or tires for disposal. He also thought the annual special spring cleanup garbage collection would have to be cancelled.

Councillor Roy Booth said the new rules were discussed at regional council and the region works department indicated the residential pick-up wasn't included.

Austin said he was aware this was said and was awaiting official word from the region. He said his recommendation could be

ignored unless the region changes its decision.

Booth said the regulations will govern commercial and industrial waste dumpers and private citizens going to the dump.

He and Councillor Mike Armstrong both expressed concern that the new rules will result in items which go to the dump ending up in ditches and ravines.

Booth said town garbage packers won't be checked for contents at region-run dumps.

Councillor Peter Pomeroy said the whole subject should be held over for further discussion after the region officially notifies the town of its plans.

Committee agreed the June 7 special garbage collection can go ahead unless the region decided it won't accept

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Two students for clean-up

Two students will be hired to make Acton a more attractive place this summer.

The Business Improvement Area will have the services of the pair to tidy up, pick up garbage, cut grass on boulevards and do any housekeeping jobs needed along the main streets.

BIA chairman Henry Stachyra says "we'll play it by ear but we'll keep them busy."

He just received word last week that the Ministry of Housing, community renewal branch, approved the 90 per cent grant for Acton. It is under an Experience '78 program. The BIA will pay the remaining 10 per cent of the salary, which is the minimum wage plus the required vacation pay percentage.

The jobs will likely go to high school students. Mr. Stachyra said the jobs will be advertised soon.

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Job conflag here

A conference for young people on the issue of youth and employment will be held next Wednesday, May 17, at Acton District High School.

MPP Terry Jones, parliamentary assistant to the secretary for Social Development, will moderate a panel of young people and employers who will discuss youth employment. Small group workshops on topics such as job-search skills, apprenticeships, continuing education, career planning and alternative programs will follow the panel presentation.

The conference, which is hosted by Halton Region Youth Services Network was developed as a result of the current concern about high rates of unemployment among young people. Recent statistics indicate that the youth employment picture will remain grim until 1985, YSN says.

The conference is designed to assist young people in achieving a realistic picture of the employment situation as well as to help them sharpen their job-search skills.

Times for the conference are 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

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Jubilee medal for Ken Allen

A Queen's jubilee medal was presented last week to Warrant Officer Kenneth Allen of the Lorne Scots regiment. The medal marks over 25 years' service in the militia. In fact, he has been with the regiment for 19 years, all of them as a band member. W.O. Allen plays the trombone in the brass band. For many years he also played with the Acton

Citizens' Band.

The presentation of the medal was made by the Right Honourable Roland Michener, former governor-general of Canada. The special presentation ceremony was held Tuesday, May 2, at the officers' mess in Brampton.

W.O. Allen lives on Churchill N. with his wife Dorothy and family.

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A toast to the Queen

WARRANT OFFICER Ken Allen of the Lorne Scots regiment was presented with the Queen's jubilee silver medal last week, commemorating 25 years' service with the militia.



MOTHER'S DAY tea was held Sunday at Eden House and G. Elliott played a few tunes on the new organ. The organ was purchased with New Horizons grants. Miss J. Roberts, E. Taylor and R. Gibson make up his audience.