



**MORE BALLOON THAN BOY:** Allan Boughner holds up a bunch of balloons that is almost bigger than he is at the M. Z. Bennett Circus last Thursday at the public school. Parents, teachers and fellow students all enjoyed the different acts put on by the classes.

# BACK-TO-ACTON DAYS

## JUNE 30, JULY 1, 2

The plans are made, the places and times are set. Back to Acton Days weekend is ready for the people.

Last year's attendance was terrific, according to organizer Ed Wood, and there are even more things to attract happy crowds this year.

The three-day program ends with the fireworks in the park on Sunday at dusk. Before that there's all manner of things.

On Saturday Mill St. will be closed from 8:30 a.m. from Fellows St. on west, and most of the day's events will be right out on the street. The official opening will be at the Mill and Main corner at 11 a.m.

Preceding this, the people will be gathered in by three weird and wonderful calithumpian parades, circling through three parts of town. Everyone is asked to come out of their houses and join in the parade, with instruments, zany outfits, pets, bikes, cars, or whatever comes to mind.

The calithumpian parade in the Kingham area will be under the direction of Ed Wood, with Mrs. Doris Browne as honorary marshal. The fire

engine will be there, as well as a wagon filled with hay. Clowns are lined up for this section.

The Lakeview parade is under the direction of Alma Swetman, although she will be in disguise. The CBers will provide music and Fred Wright will be the honorary marshal. Also expected are a jester playing a banjo, bears, and Robin Hood.

Terry Grubbe is the leader of the Glenlea-Bovis parade, and Acton Citizens' Band will make the music. Pop Main is slated to be the honorary marshal. As well as people in Victorian costumes, there will be special clowns.

Young Beavers carrying flags will head each of the three parades.

Many more people have promised to join in their own sections, in costumes.

There will be free passes to the fireworks for the person with the best costume and the family with the best costumes. The three honorary marshals will be the judges.

Specific events and times are all in an advertisement in today's Free Press.

More details and special weekend bargains are listed in flyers which went out to local homes this week. The flyers were all put in the mail Friday but were delivered on different days, according to Ed Wood, depending on the mail carrier. He expected they would all be delivered by Wednesday.

Most stores will be closed on Dominion Day, Saturday. Restaurants and small convenience stores will remain open. Mr. Wood said the merchants were unable to obtain a permit which would allow them to stay open while all the crowds are downtown. Their application was rejected, he said, by the Attorney General's office. In fact, many

merchants wished to remain closed for the holiday anyway. The problem had been discussed by the merchants many times as they planned Back to Acton Days.

The bigger food stores felt lack of parking with the closed mall would limit their sales considerably.

The town's three councillors, Les Doby, Pat McKenzie and Peter Marks will be present for the opening ceremonies at 11 a.m. Louis Charlebois will be master of ceremonies.

There will be music, entertainment and bike judging right away. Other events follow throughout the rest of the morning and the afternoon.

There will be games of chance run by the firefighters and Town Hall Restoration committee as well as bingo operated by the Lions.

Both the Dominion and Station Hotels have licenses for outdoor entertainment. Both will have live music and barbecues. The Dominion Hotel will have its outdoor space behind the building,

while the Station Hotel has arranged space beside the building in their parking lot.

A rock band will be playing at the Mill and Main corner Saturday.

There will be two bake sales on Saturday, operated by the Scout and Guide Mothers and the Dublin Women's Institute.

St. John Ambulance Brigade will be represented by George and Marie Hargrave. They will have a table for displays and selling tickets while they are on duty.

Among those having tables in the mall will be the members of the Acton Arts and Crafts group, David Tappin with his stained glass, and Jayne Telford with crafts. Other have also indicated they will be coming.

Anyone who wishes may still get in on the mall space Saturday. Ed Wood says things are loosely organized and any who wish to bring along a card table may set up in business.

There will be displays as well as sales of goods and draw tickets. Chairman Ed Wood

suggests that people with booths consider donating two per cent of sales to the Town Hall Restoration committee, as some merchants are doing. This was done last year as well.

The merchants will be making their donations on the basis of Friday sales.

Acton Citizens Band will be playing downtown Friday night in informal groups, and will be in both Acton and Rockwood parades on Saturday. For the town calithumpian parade they likely won't be in uniform. The Rockwood parade is in the afternoon.

The Acton merchants draw will be made Saturday for a trip to the Jamboree in the Hills in Wheeling, West Virginia, compliments of Tyler Travel service.

A dog and cat show is different this year, as well as several special events.

On Sunday there's the fishing derby, a feature for quite a few years now, plus a horse shoe pitching contest and ball games. Fireworks end the day.

### Fun on Saturday

There will be celebrations all over the district on Saturday, Dominion Day. Canada Day celebrations are being held at Ballinacree on Saturday.

In Rockwood, the event is called Pioneer Days and starts at 1 p.m.

In Limehouse, there will be a picnic and games day at the school on Saturday.

Glen Williams is again planning many special events.

Milton has a full slate of events for Saturday, too.

### J. Smye to leave

Father James R. Smye, pastor at St. Joseph's Catholic church, will be transferring from Acton to Winona.

Father Smye came to Acton in September of 1974 and will officially start at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Winona on Friday, July 7.

The new pastor for St. Joseph's will be Father Leo Speagle. Rev. Speagle was an associate pastor at St. Peter and Paul parish in Hamilton.

A reception will be held for Father Smye Sunday afternoon in the church basement.

### Doby urges

## Let people burn garbage

Halton's garbage crisis could be solved almost overnight if people were allowed to return to the old form of garbage disposal—burning—Acton councillor Les Doby says.

He made his comments Monday to Halton Hills works committee during discussion of a request from close to 100 Glen Williams residents to be given municipal garbage collection. It was noted at the meeting a by-law greatly

limiting the number of garbage bags residents can put out is being prepared.

Doby observed all one hears around Halton is about more and more garbage piling up and more and more disposal costs. He said he has heard nothing about reducing amounts of garbage.

"People could burn 80 per cent of the garbage they put out but we won't let them burn it," Doby declared. He added he thought it was about

time governments started letting people get back to the old ways of garbage disposal.

He said he thought permits could be issued to allow people to burn their garbage in their back-yards predicting a four bag household could be reduced to one bag a week.

"As much as I'd like to burn my garbage I can't. It's ridiculous," Doby stated. He said not much more odor would come from burning garbage like leaves,

twigs, cartons, boxes and packages than comes from people using their fireplaces."

Councillor Peter Pomeroy and Mayor Tom Hill observed provincial legislation prevents people from burning debris and garbage.

Doby said if people tried burning things which wouldn't burn it wouldn't create that much of a smell. He said everyone seems

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# The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Third Year.—No. 52.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1978.

Thirty-Eight Pages.—Fifteen Cents.



**ACTON MINOR HOCKEY** president Frank Allsop, in his last official act in that position, presents 500 Club grand winner Clayton "Dude" Lindsay with a \$3,500 cheque after his number was drawn in the top spot of the annual draw held last Saturday. The draw attracted its usual good crowd.

## Morale is rock bottom: Police

Morale on the Halton Regional Police Force has nowhere to go but up.

That force's Police Association dropped a 61 page survey of regional police into the lap of the Police Commission at its regular meeting at Oakville Thursday.

The wide-ranging report recommends changes in equipment, promotions, buildings, districts and other items, but its core is the morale of the force.

Here are some samples of what the officers state:

...There seems to be an overpowering lack of recognition for a job well done, but there is a huge abundance of criticism for errors.

Almost all of our superior officers treat members of the Force with suspicion and mistrust.

...Our image—when was the last time you slid, "I'm a member of Halton Regional Police Force" without whispering it? ...the so called 'staff development' we hear so much about is nothing more than a cover up. A method of keeping the 'cryers' happy. The administration saves face. It avoids conflicts, "Everyone will get their chance." With the breakdown of this force, the declining rank structure, and the total lack of planning, morale does decline, in fact, it is at rock bottom for this officer and all I have talked to.

Commission chairman William Hourigan, of Burlington, refused comment Monday until other members of the commission—which governs the force—have read the report. He said he read it over the weekend.

There are many things we'll have to talk about with Chief Ken Skerrett, said Hourigan. No special police commission is planned to study the morale report, he said.

Initial Halton Police Commission response came from Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett who tried to have the report dealt with in camera. His first reaction was surprise: "This is to be discussed in the press?"

Halton Regional Police Association President Al Ruelens told the commission 125 association members, at a meeting the night before, unanimously instructed him to post the report in every division and also to give copies to the commission and the press.

Commission chairman Hourigan said Monday he was surprised the report was issued the way it was because it was not the way commission members anticipated handling the report.

In the four years since the regional police force formed some things are much the same now as then. "To be sure the human element and strongly set emotions are involved and as a result

resentments were carried into the new force from all sides. These still exist to some extent, the clinging to old ideas and boundaries. This has a bearing on the morale of the Force," states the report.

Today with Halton's population at 234,598, there are 878 people for each officer. The force numbers 264 police officers.

Halton police officers are "beginning to feel the pressure in logged overtime, overloaded with calls and backlogs of calls, shortage of officers available for backups to calls of serious nature".

One of the recommendations from the association calls for an increase in manpower to a point where Halton's ratio of population per officer would be the average of other regions.

As far as work load would be concerned, using last (Continued on page 2)

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**UNLOVED, unwanted stray** needs a home. Looking like Paddington Bear, this pup has adopted the name. See Sideroad 5 column on page 15 for more about Paddy.

## Seek cause tree death

Halton Hills engineer Robert Austin and his staff will investigate the cause of death of a tree in Acton.

Councillor Les Doby asked that the death of a full grown maple tree at 200 Churchill Road North be investigated at Monday's works committee meeting.

He said the town needs to find out if reconstruction of the road killed the tree.

Austin promised to report back to committee noting his staff has examined the problem already but no conclusion has been reached.

## Police would shut Acton move to Georgetown

The Halton Police Association is recommending several changes be made in the present set up.

If we could get all those recommendations, it would be one big step for Halton Region, police association president Al Ruelens said Monday, but he continued: "That's inconceivable".

The association is calling for one central police building for each of the three districts, and that these structures be designed and equipped to suit the needs of police.

The only police building in Halton, according to the report, is used to house the administration at Oakville. The report suggests switching the Oakville division into that building and putting the administration in the other building.

The report also calls for moving the north district's headquarters to Milton from Georgetown. And putting the Acton officers into the Georgetown station.

Consideration is also asked about splitting the north into a Milton and Halton Hills

district so that along with Burlington and Oakville there would be four districts instead of the present three.

Promotions are to take place within 30 days of postings.

New men be hired. That officers leaving because of retirement or resignation be replaced immediately.

That Fraud, Rape and Sex Offenders Squads be set up plus a Bomb Squad.

There is a call for the resumption of in-service training and also for a continuing flow of information on new legislation.

The police also want their equipment to be of higher quality.

In a step away from current practice, officers called for the equipping of cruisers with electronic sirens. Cruisers should also have a bar light, or seal beam light system.

Among other recommendations they call for adoption of the Erin patrol jacket and open neck shirts for summer wear. They also would like to see

a bank of new vehicles to replace old ones which pass the 60,000 mile mark.

An immediate study should be undertaken to reduce unnecessary duplication of paper work.

Some of the equipment they would like to have includes more dictating machines, tape recorders, binoculars, informant money, a crime scene equipment vehicle, and tanks for a snuba team.

There are calls for (1) consistent treatment be given for all breaches of policy, regardless of rank and (2) that there be a set policy on internal investigations which will be rigorously adhered to.

The Chief of Police is called upon to make his "presence in the divisions more obvious."

And finally there is an appeal for a closer working relationship between the police commission, the administration and the association in the policy making of the force.

### Engineer warns

## Limit coming on garbage bags

Georgetown and Acton home owners will have to cut back on the garbage they produce or else keep it around the house longer once town staff comes up with restrictions on the number of bags which can be put out on collection day.

Halton Hills engineer Robert Austin told works committee Monday night his department is working on a new garbage collection by-law which will greatly "limit" the number of bags of garbage residents can put out.

Austin's announcement is just another in a series of town and region actions point-

ing to Halton's worsening dump crises.

Earlier this year the region started restricting what can go into the dump harring building materials, tires and other inert goods. For a time it was thought the new restriction would effect municipal garbage pick-ups and force the cancellation of the annual special spring collection of items like old furniture and appliances. After a few weeks the region decided its new dump rules wouldn't apply to garbage in municipal packers.

Not long after that Halton Hills passed a resolution asking Milton not to dump its

garbage in Georgetown's dump anymore.

The council resolution noted Milton residents have been fighting a regional dump in that town and have done nothing to reduce their garbage.

Halton Hills noted its Georgetown dump doesn't have much longer to live and the town will have to start trucking refuse to Oakville or Burlington dumps next year so the space left in the Georgetown dump should be reserved for Halton Hills residents. Milton was told to take its garbage to Oakville or Burlington.

In Georgetown the town is operating a

pilot recycling program and the project has been fairly successful so far. Many residents are separating papers, cans and bottles from their regular garbage. The separated items are collected by the town and sold to recyclers. This cuts down on the amount of garbage going into the Georgetown dump.

Austin made his announcement that garbage in Halton Hills will be restricted during discussion by the committee of a request from close to 100 Glen Williams residents for municipal pick-up.