

Concludes 10-year career

Morrow quits politics

Ric Morrow will not seek re-election as Halton Regional Chairman. Morrow signalled the end to a 10-year career in municipal politics when he announced plans to quit during a meeting of Halton Regional Council Wednesday.

Morrow cited problems of carrying on his job as an Air-Canada pilot, serve as Halton Regional Chairman and find time for his family as the crucial reason in his decision to bow out of the political world.

He explained he had spent only a few weekends with his family since taking on the job. He said he felt it was incumbent on him to make his feelings known to others who might be considering running for the job. He said he would be going on course with Air Canada over the next year and that would put even more demands on his time. Morrow was reminded that he had publicly regarded the job as a part time function when he assumed office almost two years ago but now agrees the job is very much a full time position. He notes that a self-employed person or someone who could set their own office at a job outside of politics might manage both. "Even with the hours and the pressure I wouldn't want to have missed it for any-



Ric Morrow thing. I've really enjoyed the political process. It isn't an easy decision but I really want to have just one job for a change." Morrow made the an-

ouncement during a debate on the adoption of uniform water rates. He said he timed the announcement then so that his comments might carry more objectivity than otherwise. Morrow has been fighting to have uniform water rates adopted ever since he assumed office. He told reporters after the meeting that he had been accused of favoring the adoption of uniform water rates because it would enhance his position politically both in the north if he wanted to run for Mayor of Halton Hills and with his relationship with the Conservative Government at Queen's Park. Morrow served five years on Regional Council and five years prior to regional government, two of those as reeve and three as a local

councillor. Morrow noted another reason was that the meeting was on his wife's birthday and it was considered a special kind of gift. While Morrow is certain that he won't be in the political world after the next election or in the next year or so he hasn't closed the door to resuming a political career some time down the road. Morrow was rumored as a likely mayoral candidate and as a possible Tory MPP in the next provincial election. Morrow's last minute decision to run for the regional chairman's job left him as a dark horse candidate with little chance of winning. In fact Morrow claimed at the time he had some things he needed to say and used the

platform as a candidate to say them. His election came as a surprise to him and a lot of other people. He defeated Allan Masson. Masson was appointed by Queen's Park and Morrow was elected by the regional council. There are no declared candidates for the chairman's job yet. Councillors sorry to see Morrow go - See Page 2-



THE REV. JOHN COOPER and Mrs. Cooper have recently moved to Acton from Paramus, New Jersey, to head the congregation at Beth-el Christian Reformed church. Pastel painting behind Pastor John was done by a member of his former congregation.

The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Fourth Year.—No. 8. ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1978. Fifty-Two Pages.—Fifteen Cents.

Jailed nine months over armed robbery

A former Oakville man was sentenced in Provincial Court in Milton Monday to nine months in jail for his part in an armed robbery at an Acton variety store and two other theft and possession charges. Stephen William Jones, 38, of no fixed address, was charged by Halton Regional Police about a week after the July 8 knife-point robbery at the Royal Variety Store, Queen St., Acton. His girlfriend 20-year-old Cindra Kirby, also of no fixed address, also appeared before Judge R. Scott Monday but her trial on the armed robbery charge was held over until October—as she is expecting a baby early in September, the court was told. She was released on her own recognizance.

Jones pleaded guilty to all three charges. He has been in custody at the Toronto West Detention Centre since his arrest. Evidence produced by the crown attorney indicated that about June 23, Jones and an accomplice had broken into a canteen at Coral Park near Kildee and stolen seven cartons of cigarettes and some food.

On July 8, at closing time, a man and woman walked into the Acton variety store and while the woman engaged a lone male clerk in conversation, the man picked up a 10 inch steak knife from a store display and approached the clerk from the rear, the crown's report said. The clerk was shown the knife and told to hand over the receipts. He emptied the till and a box of money kept below the counter, handing over a total of \$724. The clerk was told to give police a false description of the pair, according to the crown.

Police staked out a tent where the suspects were living at North Halton Campground near Acton, and after a six-day wait, the pair were arrested. Police recovered only \$86.48 of the stolen money, plus three coolers that had been stolen from Rockwood Conservation Park campsites on July 12, valued at around \$100. Evidence showed Jones and his accomplice had moved into the Holiday Inn at Oakville and spent most of the money on food, entertainment and stereo equipment for Jones' car.

Counsel described Jones as a good worker who has held good jobs but was presently unemployed and had had a rift with his parents. It was his first criminal charges, it was pointed out. His counsel also stressed there had been no attempt to use the knife during the robbery at Royal Variety—it was shown to the clerk but was not used in a forceful way, he added. The young couple were broke and "desperate" after living in a tent on nothing but toast for several days, the lawyer said.

Judge Scott handed out a nine month sentence on the first charge (break enter and theft), six months on the second (armed robbery) and two months on the third (possession of the coolers). But he ruled the sentences would run concurrent. Jones is to be placed on probation for one year after he leaves jail. The judge said the sentences normally run consecutively but in light of the crown's evidence and the counsel's recommendation for leniency, he would allow the sentences to be concurrent.

Region rejects grant — town goes after it

Mayor Tom Hill was backed by council Monday night, in a move to have the provincial government give Halton Hills part of the \$900,000 transitional grant for water rates, turned down by Halton Regional Council. The \$900,000 grant was offered to Halton Region, providing uniform water rates in the whole region were established by December of this year. Last week, regional council rejected uniform water rates, on a 15 to 7 vote. The mayor said Acton faces a 60 per cent increase in water rates by 1980 and Georgetown a lesser jump. He said both towns' new sewage plants will up the rates, since 50 per cent of the water bill is sewer surcharge. He said the increased maintenance, and the new well and new piping in Acton park also contribute to the projected increases. He explained water rates

in Acton have been too low to cover increased costs. The motion suggested by the mayor, but put forward by Councillors Pete Pomeroy and Pat Patterson, pointed out the region has the sole responsibility for the supply and distribution of water, and stated the province was prepared to make \$900,000 available in transitional grants if uniform water rates were established by December 1978. Continuing, the motion stated, since the region rejected the idea, Halton Hills was asking for an appropriate share of that amount to reduce the impact of water service on the residents. A copy of the motion will be sent to the Premier, the Treasurer of Ontario and to the Ministry of Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs. The mayor said the whole town would benefit.

Councillor Pat Patterson said the only way the region could work was if the councillors thought of the good of the region as a whole. "I was down there Wednesday and if you want to see three hours of entertainment at no cost, it's the greatest afternoon. Nobody knows what they're doing." "What do you mean at no cost?" quipped Councillor Mike Armstrong. Councillor Pat McKenzie pointed out the uniform water rates were rejected but with the phrase "At this time" added. He suggested if sewer and water rates were tied together regional council might accept the idea. Hill maintained the timing of the motion asking provincial help was appropriate since a lot of "heavy" Conservatives sit on regional council. "When this gets to the Premier's office it may have some effect."

Councillor George Maltby asked how uniform water rates throughout the region would affect people with wells who do not use municipal services. The mayor said rural areas would not be affected, and with an unintentional pun said water debentures are floated on water users only. Armstrong suggested some members of regional council are afraid accepting uniform water rates would be only the first step toward one-tier government. McKenzie suggested the provincial government should be told Halton Hills favors uniform water rates and sees this as the only alternative, since the region turned the idea down.

McKenzie suggested the provincial government should be told Halton Hills favors uniform water rates and sees this as the only alternative, since the region turned the idea down. - See Water Rates Up Again—Page 3.

Fair organizers plan action-packed weekend

As fall fair time draws near Acton Fair board members are busy putting the finishing touches on the many new and old attractions planned for September 15, 16 and 17. The annual fair is entering its 65th year with events packed into the three day weekend. Beginning Friday morning those who wish to enter in the hall exhibits will be bringing in their wares to be judged. By 4 p.m. the hall and poultry exhibits will be judged and open for public viewing. Many concession displays and items for sale will fill the top floor of the arena. The midway and outdoor activities will also be running. Lights have been installed in the park and will be used to light the track where the heavy horse pull will be staged. This event is always popular among people of all ages.

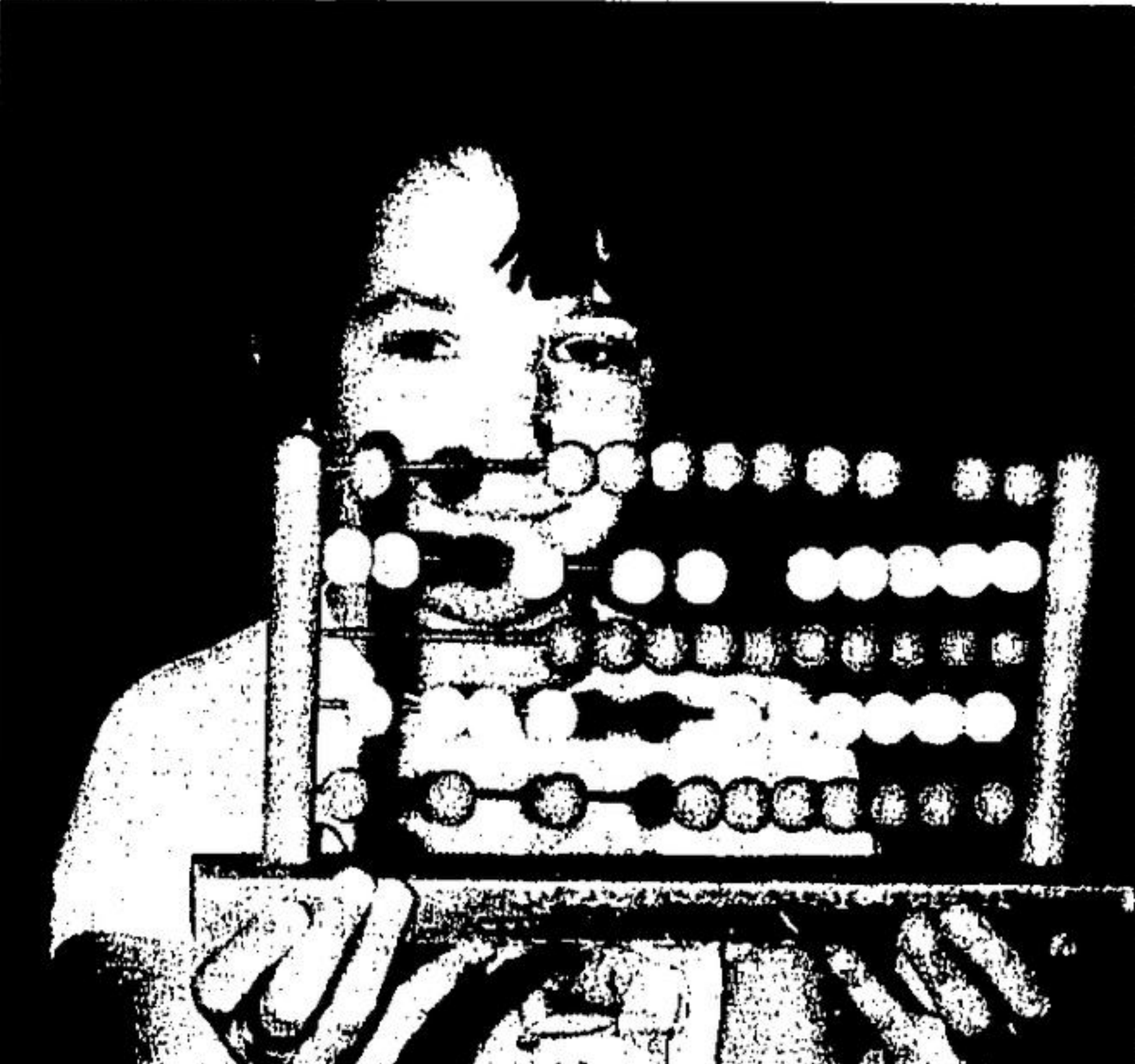
On Friday evening, a show with entertainment by the New Commers will fill in between appearances by Miss Acton Competitors. Saturday is jam-packed with events to please everyone regardless of age. At 9 a.m. the fairgrounds open with hall, poultry and concession exhibits on display once again. Throughout the park there will be an abundance of food and refreshment stands put up by many of the local clubs and organizations. The Carlsberg team and wagon will also be on display both Saturday and Sunday. They will also be a part of the parade Saturday. The outdoor animal shows begin Saturday morning as well. The beef cattle and junior beef cattle show will take place, the light junior (Continued on Page 2)

Police sign lease after parking settled Street there is enough room for three spaces. Skerrett said he would have to have a look in answer to Georgetown commissioner Glenn Magnuson's inquiry about sufficient space. The commission withheld signing of the lease while talks with Halton Hills continued. The police commission hoped for three parking spaces, but when the lease was first drawn up, two spots were set aside for police parking on Mill Street.

Vandals ransack Mill home

Halton Regional Police have one or two suspects in mind concerning the busting up and ransacking of a Mill Street West home last Thursday evening. Police estimate damage to the home to be \$1,500. Vandals broke the bathroom window, bedroom mirror, rear door, lights, bottles and the rear patio door. They also ransacked the bedroom, livingroom and kitchen.

Cathie DeGraf, 19, of 14A John St. was struck by a small orange colored car, possibly an import, while she crossed Mill Street's pedestrian cross over. She suffered minor injuries from the mishap and was treated at Glenlea Medical Centre. Police are asking anyone who saw the mishap to call 878-5511.



DAWN CLARK peers at the camera through the colorful beads making up one of the many toys available for children attending the Y's Kiddies Club every other Friday. Only four children showed up this week. The poor attendance is blamed on holidays.

Police ask for witnesses

Halton Regional Police are looking for witnesses to a hit and run car accident at the corner of Eastern Avenue and Mill Street yesterday at 12:30 p.m.

54 immunized at polio clinic in Y

The Acton Polio clinic had a steady stream of customers last Friday, in the Y, but all but 54 were sent away as they did not qualify. Halton Health Unit had limited the immunization receivers to those 18 and under, and persons travelling to and from Holland. Anyone who received a booster in the last five years also did not need another shot.

Most of the 54 were between the ages of 12 and 18. In the screening process, potential receivers were asked if they had had a tetanus shot in the past year. Apparently, according to health unit employees, the vaccine given in Acton was a combination of polio and tetanus. If a tetanus shot was received, they could not have the polio booster. Names were taken from people coming in and phoned into a computer in the south which would tell the workers whether that person had received a shot in the past five years. Sometimes, explained Mrs. Fran Jamieson of the Georgetown Health Unit, students forget they have the shot, or did not know what it was for. Parents' permission was also needed. Several came in off the street to find out if they needed a shot for travelling into the States. The answer was no. Others came in to

Short circuit causes fire

A short circuit in a dishwasher burned itself out before Acton volunteer firefighters arrived on the scene last week says fire chief Mick Holmes. Owners of the 114 Kingham Rd. home were concerned when the smell continued. There was no damage to the kitchen and the appliance is repairable Mr. Holmes said.

Gas generator, spikes stolen

Police have a report concerning the theft of a gas generator and a box of spikes from a Nassogaweya building site. The take is valued at \$1,100.



GLEN HILLIER RECEIVES a shot in the arm from Sylvia Murphy, R.N. at last Friday's polio clinic. Only those 18 and under or persons travelling to or from Holland were able to receive the immunization needle.