



BALLINAFAD POND is part of a string of small ponds north of Highway 7 near Silvercreek.



SNOW'S CREEK WOODS is an environmentally sensitive area stretching north of Highway 7 from Sixth Line to Eighth.

Third in a series of studies on environmentally sensitive areas in this district, based on a report from Halton Region.

GO bus link

GO Bus passengers can now travel directly between Guelph-Rockwood-Acton-Georgetown and Oshawa, and points in between, without changing buses.

For example, without making any transfers, passengers can travel between Oshawa and either Georgetown or Guelph, or ride shorter distances along the route, such as between Brampton and Pickering. Travel within Metro Toronto along the Highway 401 corridor, such as between Weston Road and Scarborough Town Centre, is also possible.

Through travel was technically possible previously but connecting at York Mills was impractical. With revamping of the Guelph-Georgetown-Brampton GO Bus corridor on October 29, through buses run generally every two hours during off-peak periods, weekends included. Future expansion to rush hour service may be possible.

Details are contained in the new GO Transit System Timetable and the new Northwest schedule. Passengers should be aware that the new through buses, which display final destination signs, are not expresses and still serve existing stops, including Yorkdale and York Mills subway stations.

Anyone wanting more details should call GO's telephone information centre, the numbers for which are listed on the new timetables' cover.

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Thursday, November 23rd
Hillsburgh Community Centre

7:00 p.m. — Banquet

8:00 p.m. — Business Meeting
Includes election of delegates and receiving of reports.

9:30 p.m. — Entertainment
by Paul Brothers & Shirley

BANQUET TICKETS \$4.00 each

By the meeting
Chairman of Council
R.J. Wright
U.C.O. Corporation Secretary

Unusual plants shelter in district swamps, ponds

Ballinafad pond

Part of a chain of ponds, Ballinafad pond is a small

kettle lake community situated just west of Sixth Line and north of Highway 7. The ponds support a variety of aquatic plants and turtles. The water is bordered by coniferous and mixed wet-

land forests featuring tamarack, black spruce, spagnum bog, red maple, yellow birch and balsam poplar. Secondary vegetation includes labrador tea, leatherleaf and mountain

holly. The dense area habitats are divided into: northern conifer bog, dense shrub thicket, open and semi-open mixed swamp, dry upland deciduous forest, and aquatic communities.

Unusual species present include wintergreen, pale laurel, starflower, gold thread, and wild calla lily. Regionally rare species feature pitcher plant, labrador tea, winterberry holly, leatherleaf, black spruce, common highbush blueberry and virginia chainfern. The report concludes the land appears wholly under private ownership and is largely undisturbed. It recommends the area should not be over used for educational or recreational purposes or encroached by development.

Drainage to lowland and creation of lowland communities have encouraged growth of cedar tangle, open grassy swamps and mixed lowland forest. The area is the headwater for Silver Creek and is traversed by Snow's Creek, both tributaries of the Credit River. Among the plant species found here are *moldenhair* fern, dwarf ginseng, marsh marigold, watercress, gold thread, shinleaf, butternut, royal fern, teasel, black Ash, white baneberry and starflower. Regionally rare plants include yellow lady's slipper, showy lady's slipper, northern green orchis, long bracted orchis, cardinal flower, lesser pyrola, pink, and larch. The report states Snow's Creek Woods provides valuable water storage and recharge area as well as a habitat for unusual orchids. It recommends the area be protected from development and states the area remains virtually undisturbed at present.

Nov. 21 for OMB hearing

The Ontario Municipal Board has set November 21 as the date of a hearing on the rezoning of 64 acres on Highway 7, near the Wildwood Road corner for Jehovah's Witnesses headquarters.

Sid Heller who with his wife, and neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Skok, objected to the development and brought about the hearing. He told this newspaper he will ask for a postponement, since he feels there is not enough time to prepare. "The date seems to have been set with more haste than usual," he commented.

He also claims the Toronto location of the hearing should be changed to the Georgetown area.

Snow's creek woods

A little farther south of the ponds is a small wooded wetland known as Snow's Creek Woods. It stretches just north of Highway 7 from Sixth to Eighth Line. The drier upper slopes support fair to poor quality deciduous forests of beech and sugar maple.



THREE STUDENTS from Repentigny, Quebec are staying with Acton area families and are attending Acton High School as part of a student exchange program. Front row l. to r. they include Francois Clapin, Josee Lupien and Patrice LaFleur. They are staying with Jay Sankey, Lisa Thomas and Chris Kainz. The Acton students will spend three months in Quebec beginning the end of January.

Vandals stone C.N.R. lights

Stone chucking vandals damaged the flashing lights at the C.N.R. crossing at Eastern Avenue last week. The incident which took place either late Thursday or early Friday caused about \$300 damage.

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Student exchange here

As part of one of the largest student exchanges between Ontario and Quebec three students from Repentigny, Quebec, about ten miles from Montreal, have been attending Acton High School since September 23. They will return home December 23, just in time for Christmas.

The students are part of a group of 32 in Durham, Burlington, Oakville, Oshawa and Toronto schools.

Josee Lupien, Francois Clapin and Patrice LaFleur all attend grade 11 at Jean Baptiste Meilleur in Repentigny.

There are only a couple of differences between the two schools, said one of the visitors. At Jean Baptiste there are 3,000 students and "the grade 12 math here, I took two years ago in Quebec."

While here, the Quebec students live with Acton families. Francois is staying with Jay Sankey and his family. Josee is living at the home of Lisa Thomas and Patrice is with the Kainz family and Chris.

The Acton students will make the trip to Repentigny in the latter part of January for three months. The Quebec

students feel that the Ontarians will have a harder time adjusting to the language in Quebec than they did in Ontario. "Quebec is a bilingual province," said one "and we have bilingual friends to speak to," said another.

The three visitors find family life is a major difference to that in Quebec. They felt things were discussed more openly here and parents and children communicated more freely. Another thing they are surprised about is all the churches.

While here they have learned many things. Besides English they have learned how to meet new friends and are used to the family change. Josee has also learned to swim. She has become involved with the Acton High School Swim team and enjoys badminton. Francois is also on the swim team and enjoys playing afterschool football. When asked about the Toronto Argos he just laughed. Patrice enjoyed participating in the intramural ping pong.

Francois would not comment but Josee and Patrice are not in favor of a separated

Canada but this is not the reflection of all young people in Quebec's opinions. In most cases it is a carry over of parents' feelings. If the parents are in favor of separation then the children follow.

They feel there are two major ways to save a united Canada. One way would be to have two languages and they feel the exchange program may be the best way. They feel that the student exchange program helps the young people to learn and they recommend the experience for many others.

The group returns home December 23, just in time for Christmas and then they will await the arrival of their Ontarian friends. Josee, Patrice and Francois are all enjoying their stay and are looking forward to returning for a summer visit.

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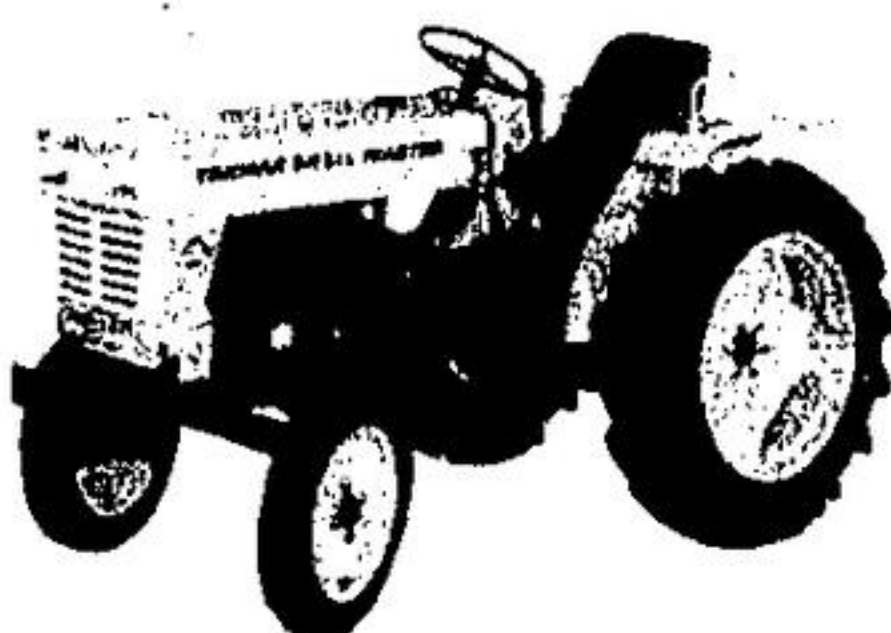
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