



60th anniversary

Thomas and Constance Weir, Church St. apartments, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Saturday with a family party at the home of their son Tom Weir, Jeffery Ave. See story Page 2.

Cancer drive is underway

Throughout the year, their work goes unnoticed by most. A handful of volunteers strive continuously to make life a little more bearable for victims of cancer, one of the nation's top killers.

But for one month of the year, the Acton branch of the Canadian Cancer Society comes out of the woodwork for its national campaign to raise funds. That month is April.

The local campaign officially kicked-off Monday morning with the raising of the Cancer flag at the Acton cenotaph. Daffodils, sold in advance in March, will be delivered Friday. But most important of all, some 210 canvassers will be knocking on doors asking for donations.

The campaign, led by Arley White, has set a goal of \$13,500 this year. Every year except last, since Mr. White took over the campaign, the canvassers have surpassed their goal. And each year, they have beaten the previous campaign by \$2000. Because of this effort, the Acton branch has been recognized nationally as having the highest per capita donation rate. Something the town's people should be proud of, says branch president Gloria Coats.

When Mr. White joined the branch five years ago, he walked the streets of Acton and took note of every house. He then divided each neighborhood into sections and assigned his canvassers accordingly. Some attribute this organization to the great success of the

campaign.

"It's child's play now," Mr. White says. "It's just a matter of adding material each year, now that it is all set up."

Anyone not home when the canvassers come calling can still make a donation. An envelope will be left with an address for delivery. Plastic daffodils will also be put in businesses around town.

Once April is over and the group has hopefully reached the \$13500 mark they will once again settle into their quiet on-going campaign—that of helping the sick.

Part of this effort is transportation to treatment centres in Toronto and Hamilton. People in need may get a free ride into these centres for as long as they are taking their treatments. The Society provides dressings if necessary and home visiting. Those in need may also take advantage of the supplementary services such as home nursing, drugs, lodge care, etc. "The services are the heart of the society," says Mrs. Coats, who is grateful to Sue Kuechler for her hard work at services chairman.

Cathy McGillivray heads the education end of the society. Special kits are placed in schools to help young children understand about the disease. Celly the Cell teaches kindergarten to grade three children, with a different kit for grades four to six. A new kit will soon be out for grades seven and eight.

Films, brochures, posters, etc. are available in all schools either

through the school board or through the Cancer Society. Mrs. McGillivray, according to Sue Sale has done a lot of work in the library setting up a display.

The local branch is also available for meetings of various organizations to speak to them about Cancer or to show films. An industrial education van travels to the various communities every three or four years and goes just to industries to educate workers.

During the year, volunteers around town are busy knitting, sewing and baking items to send to patients in the various hospitals. Two or three times a year, including Christmas, packages go out to these people. Last Christmas, students at M.Z. Bennett school made wooden toys to send to Children's Hospital in Ottawa.

Those wishing to send in Memoriams in memory of a loved one, can do so through Elma Braid, at Acton Home Furnishings. If given at the funeral home, they are directed there afterwards.

Of the 50 people belonging to the Society, excluding canvassers, Mrs. Coats is president, with Sue Sale as her vice. Sue Kuechler is service to patients chairman, and Cathy McGillivray as education chairman. Marion Patterson is secretary and publicity convener, and Hugh Patterson is branch treasurer. Jayne Telford helps Mrs. Kuechler with the activities and services, and Marg Oliver is Daffodil convener. Rena Arbie is co-convener.

Police Chief warns

More involvement in child abuse

Halton police will be more involved in cases of child abuse when the new Child Welfare Act is proclaimed June 1, police chief Kenneth Skerrett told police commission Thursday.

The new act will have more effect on Children's Aid Societies," Skerrett said in his report, but added "... it will directly affect our force above and beyond the previous act in the area of child abuse."

He said he has taken "special measures to ensure that the police's youth and family service sections are made aware of every suspected child abuse case so that they might ensure that the C.A.S. is informed to fulfill our legal obligation."

A set of guidelines from Roy McMurtry, Solicitor General of Ontario, the same as from Keith Norton, Minister of Community and Social Ser-

VICES to the CAS's, is being discussed with Acting Crown Attorney Larry Owen "to gain his input and expectations of our force and the Children's Aid Society."

He said the results of both the new legislation and the guidelines will "no doubt greatly increase the involvement of our officers in investigations and in Juvenile and Family court."

Members of the forces

youth and family services section are to attend a three day workshop, to discuss the implementation of the act and the Solicitor General's guidelines, he said.

The police chief included the definition of abuse in the act, the reporting responsibilities and a copy of the guidelines in the act.

The Act defines abuse as a condition of "... (a)

physical harm; (b) malnutrition or mental health of a degree that if not immediately remedied could seriously impair growth and development or result in permanent injury or death; or (c) sexual molestation," he said, adding that the latter condition is new.

"Every person who has information of the abandonment, desertion or need for protection of a child, or the infliction of

abuse upon a child shall forthwith report the information to a society," according to the Act, the chief said, adding the new legislation.

"Notwithstanding the provisions of any other Act, every person who has reasonable grounds to suspect in the course of the person's professional or official duties that a child has suffered or is suffering from abuse that may have been caused or

permitted by a person who has or has had a charge of the child shall forthwith report the suspected abuse to a Society."

The penalty for failing to report is a maximum \$1,000 fine upon summary conviction, Chief Skerrett said.

The guidelines have the effect of increasing the involvement of the police with the CAS in joint and parallel investigations and ventures.

The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Fourth Year - No. 40

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1979

Eighteen Pages - Twenty Cents.



Daffodils in bloom

It is the aim of this year's Cancer Society campaign to put daffodils into every Acton home, say campaign chairmen Rena Arbie, left, and Margaret Oliver. Their team of daffodil sellers is making the traditional flowers available downtown, in stores, churches and schools. Mrs. Oliver says she believes daffodils are becoming more and more accepted and with that the Cancer Society hopes to top

the \$1,283 amount raised from last year's daffodil blitz. In all, including flower sales, the society raised just less than \$12,000, according to Mrs. Arbie the past president. This is the third year of Cancer Society efforts to sell flowers to raise money which mainly pays for research.

Photo by ERIC ELSTONE

Halton employs slashing

Cuts totalling \$513,000 were made from the regional budget at the Finance and Administration Committee Wednesday. But it's still not enough.

Treasurer Don Farmer told the committee the cuts bring the percentage increase down to 6.8 per cent.

The committee resolved to reduce the increase to six per cent.

The actual budget increase is 10.8 per cent. Four percentage points of the total consists of new assessments and does not affect the overall mill rate.

The Public Works committee were told to chop half a million dollars from its budget. The children's Aid Society had \$13,000 cut from its budget.

Public Works committee chairman Ron Planché of Oakville was present at the meeting. He requested the budget cuts be referred back to his committee to decide where the cuts shall be made.

The Administration committee agreed.

Regional Chairman Jack Rafitis said he would be willing to sit down with regional staff and hammer out the remaining .8 per cent budget cuts.

He suggested he has a "pretty good idea of where there's fat" since he has attended each committee's deliberations.

Other committee members expressed wariness at this suggestion.

Councillor Bonnie Brown of Oakville said: "Where the chairman feels there's fat may not be the same place as where I or someone else may feel there's fat."

She suggested the Regional Chairman meet with staff and the chairmen of the four regional committees to decide where the budget cuts could be made.

The total regional budget now stands at \$36,736,520, compared to

the 1978 budgeted expenditures of \$34,193,200. Of that \$34 million, only \$33,724,438 was actually spent.

The budgeted revenues

will come mostly from provincial and federal subsidies. The budget calls for \$19,028,958 to come from subsidies and other revenues.

That leaves \$17,707,562 to be raised through the tax levy.

The proposed budget cuts will reduce the figures further.

Election trails

Over-enthusiased Liberal campaign workers caused a bit of egg on the face of Halton incumbent Frank Philbrook this weekend when they jumped the gun and put up election signs.

The signs all had to be removed later when the helpful workers were enlightened to the fact that a candidate must file his nomination papers with the federal electorate officer before erecting signs. Mr. Philbrook was in the process of getting the proper papers signed, something which cannot be done until after the election call has gone out, when the signs went up.

Mrs. Philbrook explained to The Acton Free Press the matter was entirely innocent and no one is to blame for the oversight.

Progressive Conservative candidate Otto Jelinek also had sign trouble this weekend. It seems some under-enthusiased Acton residents didn't like the sight of the signs and vandalized them.

Under the new election act, the damaging of election signs is a felony, punishable by a \$1000

fine, one year in jail or both. If the matter is brought up before a judge and jury, the punishment is increased to a \$5000 fine, five years in jail, or both. Either way, it is an expensive evening, or what some might call fun.

There's been no word on signs of NDP candidate Douglas Black.

Two fires this week

A conveyor belt at Indusmin Quarries had to be replaced after it caught fire while workers were thawing frozen ground Thursday, according to fire chief Mick Holmes.

He could not set any definite damage figure to the small blaze.

A fire in a wastebasket

at the home of Roy McFadden, 350 Orville Rd. "was more alarming than damaging," according to Mr. Holmes.

He explained the fire started after something has been placed in the basket. There was no damage, but the occupants were "alarmed". The incident occurred Saturday.

No union tie in lay offs Geng says

by Eric Elstone

Decisions to lay off some employees from Superior Glove Works Ltd. early this year were not linked to workers' efforts to form a union, a company official testified during an Ontario Labor Relations Board hearing in Toronto yesterday.

Frank Geng, part owner of the glove company, said his decision to lay off some junior workers preceded his discovery of unionizing efforts.

"When I made the decision (to lay off) I did not know the union was organizing," Mr. Geng told the three-member labor board.

The Canadian Union of Brewery, Flour, Cereal, Soft Drink and Distillery Workers alleges the company interfered with the formation of a trade union under section 79 of the Labor Relations Act.

The union is seeking to get the jobs back for a dozen or so workers who were laid off allegedly for unionizing activities.

Superior Glove counsel, William Phelps said, the lay offs were a result of business reasons and were not connected with the union activities.

Under the act, an employer may not discriminate against a worker because he is a trade union member. Discrimination includes refusing to employ.

Mr. Geng is the first person to testify in the hearing which is expected by lawyers on both sides to go longer than this week.

For about an hour and a half Mr. Geng testified in private concerning the company in general and its financial matters in particular.

The company's lawyer, Mr. Phelps, asked the board for help, guarding against disclosure in the press of Superior Glove's financial matters. Union lawyer John McNamee agreed with the request for a board order that no evidence concerning the company's financial or competitive position be published.

Board chairman A. L. Haladner indicated he was not sure of the board's authority in such a matter. The press, however, decided to treat such questions as in camera material and was absent when the economic data was revealed.

Mr. Phelps argued that disclosure of financial information may harm the company's competitiveness which could translate into a loss of jobs.

Mr. Geng's banker is to testify later. In the early goings on Mr. Phelps said the company believes certain employees have joined the union and they are still at work.

As yet there does not appear to be an application from the union to certify it as the wage bargaining unit within Superior Glove. Union lawyer McNamee said it is seeking reinstatement of the laid-off workers plus full compensation.

Mr. Phelps indicated it is clear the company, on balance, would prefer not to have a union.

Mr. Geng indicated the lay-offs were carried out mainly with regard to seniority. The 12 named by the union in the complaint were hired last October.

Through clarification from board member C.G. Bourne, Mr. Geng indicated he would have had to reallocate workers if the lay-offs followed strict seniority.

In questioning from his lawyer Mr. Geng said the question of unionizing had nothing to do with who he laid off. Mr. Geng went on to say what occurred to him was that he might scare some workers left in the plant into joining the union.

"My problem was the economic end, not the union," Mr. Geng told the board.

Superior Glove today employs about 80 people, the largest group of which work in the sewing room.

Since the lay-offs, another 14 have quit, evidence indicates.

After unionizing efforts became known to Mr. Geng he approached some of workers. He told the board all the discussions were friendly. He also said he reminded some employees of past economic difficulties in the industry.

"If I tell someone an economic fact, it's called intimidation. Some of them were hostile," he said.

Under provincial legislation while the employer may not interfere with the formation of a union, he still has his freedom to express "his views as long as he does not use coercion, intimidation, threats, promises or undue influence."

"Was your purpose in talking to them (plant employees) to decide who was (to) be laid off," Mr. Geng was asked.

"No they are all trained. They're still working there," Mr. Geng said. Moments later he continued by saying: "I wish I could interrogate them. Some of them are lying. All of them are lying."



Joyce Buchanan acted as master of ceremonies Friday at Beardmore during a surprise presentation to secretary-treasurer Lorne Youngblut, in honor of his retirement. The staff presented him with a print out calculator.

L. Youngblut retires

After 40 years of climbing the Beardmore ladder, secretary-treasurer Lorne Youngblut has retired.

Mr. Youngblut started out in the leather factory as an office worker doing invoicing. In 1963, he was made secretary and in 1972, his duties expanded to secretary-treasurer.

The biggest change Mr. Youngblut has seen in the plant in his time there was the switch-over from manual labor to mechanical. However, in spite of this change, the plant employs some 425 workers as compared to 500, 40 years ago. In Acton, he says, he has watched as the town transformed from a small, friendly town where everyone knew everyone else, to a "dormitory for Toronto."

Prior to coming to Acton, Mr. Youngblut worked in Toronto and

Mount Forest. However, Acton was his first exposure to the leather business.

Mr. Youngblut has not only been active at work, but also in the community. He is the company's representative on the Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Acton Investment Club, the Masonic Lodge, is past chairman of the Registered Industrial Accountants, Peel / Halton chapter.

He doesn't plan to let any moss gather under his feet in his retirement. Mr. Youngblut plans to do private accounting around town, and it was for this reason, the staff of Beardmore and Co. presented him with a calculator Friday, his last day of work. Other than his annual holiday and his accounting, he has no plans for his time.