

Public health nurses recognized this week

by Helen Murray
For thousands of nurses across Canada, this week is special, having been named Nurses Week. However, this year, the emphasis is on the little recognized public health nurses, those who go into homes to care for the sick or needy.

Acton, at present, has two full time public health nurses, Shirley MacKay and Kay Semple, both highly qualified to tackle any situation. Their duties range from visiting new mothers and discussing problems they may be having, to dropping in on

senior citizens to make sure they understand their medication, or even to see if they are eating properly. They also do some psychiatric counselling, although now there is a special team of social workers and a mental health nurse for this type of care, they will be able to spend their time elsewhere.

The nurses mainly handle referrals from hospitals where a patient has been discharged, but are not yet ready to take care of themselves. "The object of the public health nurse is to cut down on hospital ex-

penses, and get the patient home faster," Mrs. MacKay emphasized. When not dealing directly with sick people, Mrs. MacKay said, they find themselves in schools, checking for communicable diseases, head lice, etc., as well as giving inoculations.

Also in the schools, the nurses give formal teaching on health in general. If any particular student is having trouble in school, Mrs. MacKay said, she or Mrs. Semple will try to determine if the reason is medical. The public health nurses also teach pre-natal

classes, which are becoming more popular all the time. Once a month the nurses also run a senior citizens' clinic in the Y. At this time, the senior can have toe nails clipped, pulse and blood pressure taken, or discuss any problems they may be having. Once the senior citizens' apartment building is completed and occupied the nurses hope to hold clinics there also so every person in town is within easy distance to at least one clinic.

A family planning clinic can also be arranged by calling the Georgetown clinic.

The life of a public health nurse is a very busy one, says Mrs. MacKay, but one that is rewarding. After the regular nurses training is completed, a person then

must obtain another university diploma in public health. Mrs. MacKay has her Bachelor of Science in nursing, and her public health diploma. In addition, she continued on in university in the nurse practitioner Program. This permits her to do most of the routine things a doctor does—diagnose, treat chronic care, etc. She has been working in Acton for four years.

More information about the public health nursing program can be obtained at 877-2238, or by calling the Community Services Centre at 853-3310 and leaving a message.

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Mayor threatens court action

Sixth Line pit permit extended

There were fireworks at Halton Hills general committee Monday night, with both Mayor Pete Pomeroy and Councillor Russ Miller exploding, when they discovered another wayside pit permit has been issued for the Odorico pit on the Sixth Line to operate until September 1980.

"How many tons are to be taken out this time?" demanded Miller.

Doug Walters of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications said the application by Bot Construction Ltd. Oakville is for 400,000 tons.

Miller said Halton Hills is providing gravel for everyone. "A man stood there and told us there might not be enough gravel in the Odorico pit to finish the present job and now you want another 400,000 tons."

Walters replied the Ministry had confirmation of the sites listed as available and there were no objections from council. "We are locked into a contract."

Miller told about the number of calls at all hours of the nights he received from residents, and contended the MTC doesn't care about anyone. He said one man is nearly out of water and blames it on the pit being taken down to such a depth. "We have to say No!, even if it means going to court. We can't have people's life styles disrupted. These are \$150,000 to \$200,000 homes."

Continuing his tirade, Miller claimed the roads are being ruined, and the pit operations, not supposed to start until seven in the morning, are starting at 5:30.

Walters retorted the MTC can put on controls and enforce them.

"The only control I'd like to see is no more gravel from Esquering," shot back Miller.

Councillor Roy Booth contended the last permit for 250,000 tons from the Odorico pit was supposed to clean it out, and said he argued that the pit should be cleaned out, rehabilitated and finished.

"It makes us look like jackasses. We said the pit could be emptied and now here's another application."

Councillor George Maltby said King Paving Co. representative clearly said they didn't know if there was enough in the Odorico pit to finish so wanted to use the Pitutti pit also. "You should level with us. Surely you know how much gravel is in the pit," charged Maltby.

The MTC representative pointed out a motion of January, 1979 by council included six pits as being available, and said they simply followed the list, with the contractor going where it is most economical.

Mayor Pomeroy said the town has many objections, among them the fact police are on the roads checking trucks and residents are up in arms. He said he doesn't want to put anyone out of a job but they must consider the people who live in the community. He suggested the MTC pay for a special road to take the aggregate out.

The mayor said people are upset, especially about running out of water. "After the aggregate is cleaned out we'll have to bring water out there, and then there will be pressure for residential development. The pits are owned by developers." He said he wanted someone from the MTC to come to see him.

"Are you prepared to publish a telephone number where people can call 24 hours a day, and can you supply an enforcement officer to make sure controls are lived up to?" he demanded.

The mayor went on saying he was prepared to fight the MTC in court if necessary. He emphasized councillors take the brunt. Pomeroy said the MTC misled them and does not tell what jobs are coming up.

Walters said the MTC can enforce the crusher and haulage times.

The mayor retorted it has not been done yet, and said it is now up to them.

Miller argued the licensed pits are not getting MTC jobs, and emphasized the town has some control over them. He said Wheeler and Duff had been responsible pit operators, using calcium on the road, and controlling the trucks. He said when someone calls the police about speeding trucks following ten feet behind each other, by the time police appear everything is orderly. "They use their radios and tell each other."

"The people look at us as liars now," spluttered Miller. He said he had tried to be fair saying the aggregate was needed, but they would only have to put up with it this year then it would be all over.

Nothing was resolved, but later the mayor announced he was meeting with the MTC in his office, Friday afternoon, then the matter would be brought up again at Monday's council meeting.



Melanie and Paul Bray, Elizabeth Dr. earned gold medals in music competitions at the Canadian National Exhibition last month.

Brays are tops at Ex contest

Melanie Bray, of Elizabeth Drive, earned two gold medals recently as a novice competitor at the Canadian National Exhibition music competition.

Melanie earned her medals and two scholarships in beginner woodwind and 13 and under flute.

A student at McKenzie-Smith Middle School, Melanie is also a member of the Acton Citizens' Band.

Brother Paul, competing for his third consecutive three gold medals and one silver, plus a scholarship, in two categories of tenor saxophone and another two categories of clarinet.

Paul is a long time member of the Acton Citizens' Band and principal clarinet for the Oakville Symphony Orchestra. He spent the month of July touring Europe as first clarinet for the Ontario Youth Concert Band. Paul has served as a member of the Ontario Youth Band for three years and last summer was part of the National Youth Band of Canada.

He is a grade 12 student at Lord Elgin High School in Burlington.

Syrup finances not too sweet

The financial end of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority maple syrup program is not so sweet.

The Authority has been losing money on the project and has decided it will not be expanded at the Orangeville reservoir site, but will remain purely as an educational project.

Last year the Authority had to spend \$13,366 to buy maple syrup when their own supply ran out. This coming year they plan to use only the maple syrup from their own trees, and when that is gone that will end the sale of maple syrup.

The boiling down of sap in the maple bush will go on as usual, with school children making trips to watch the old-time operation.

Bike licences double in '80

Costs of obtaining a bicycle licence will double next year, but the licence will be on a one-time basis, until the vehicle is sold.

In a letter to Halton Hills Clerk Administrator Ken Richardson, deputy treasurer Grant Usher explained that each year the town purchases 1500 licence plates at a cost of \$892, and they are sold for \$1 each. As of September,

only 796 licences have been sold, and the town is losing money on this operation as it has in past years.

"The form did not originally intend to make money from these sales, but to supply a service to those who are owners of bicycles as all sales are also sent to the Bicycle Guild in Montreal for registration," Mr. Usher explained in the letter. "Bicycle licence plates

are kept on record with the Bicycle Guild and in the event of theft, the individual or police can trace the serial number either through the town or the guild."

The one-time only, \$2 licence will be in effect as of January 1.

Regional hike

Lot levies up again — now \$3,217 on house

Halton Regional council upped their lot levies this week, bringing the regional levy to \$1,705 up \$180 from the previous \$1,525.

With the Halton Hills lot levy of \$1,512 added, this means the lot levy on a single family home will

be \$3,217. A single family home in a rural area, where there is neither water nor sewer services, will pay \$2,177, with \$665 going to the region and \$1,512 to the town. The same house with water services will pay a lot levy of \$2,642, with \$1,130 regional levy and \$1,512 town levy.

Link homes, semi-detached, duplexes, triplexes will pay an additional \$45 per unit.

Apartment houses of more than three stories making a levy of \$1,570 to the region and \$1,590 to the town, for a total of \$3,082 for each unit.

Apartment houses with three stories or less will pay \$2,766 per unit, if more than two bedrooms. \$1,196 goes for town lot levies, and \$1,570 for regional lot levies. Two bedroom apartments, or less, will now pay \$2,081 per unit.

Apartment houses of more than three stories and more than two bedrooms will pay a total of \$2,606 in lot levies for each unit, with \$2,076 to the town's share and \$1,570 the regional share.

Apartment buildings over three stories, with two bedrooms or less will pay a total of \$2,061 per unit, with \$1,076 going to the town and \$985 to the region.

85% spent

With four months to go on the budget, Halton Hills has spent 85 per cent of its budget for legal fees, Councillor Harry Levy warned Monday night.

General Committee received the remark with no comment. Then Levy raised the old question of a sign bylaw, and was surprised to hear from Clerk Administrator Ken Richardson that a draft bylaw would be in front of them two weeks from now.

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