



M. Z. Bennett kindergarten students were reminded Halloween is nearing during a recent trip to Chudleigh's Apple Farms last Thursday. Pumpkins were almost as common a sight as apples. Andy Brower and Peter Brooks chose a nice big pumpkin to take back to school to carve this week while awaiting trick or treat night next Wednesday. Photo by HELEN MURRAY.

## Bilodeau acquitted

Robert Bilodeau has been acquitted in county court of 16 counts of fraud in excess of \$200. Mr. Bilodeau was charged after complaints that he had been misappropriating funds from residents of the Hornby home for the mentally retarded, where he was a director. Mr. Justice Patrick Lesage, in speaking of the four month trial, said the evidence was flimsy and in some areas non-existent. Crown counsel David Price accused Mr. Bilodeau of taking the comfort money of 16 residents, and spending it on his own personal uses, including buying gifts and providing entertainment for one of the residents whom he was allegedly having a homosexual relationship. Jack Belleghem was the defense attorney.

## New factor

### Increase cut 8% taxes still up 5%

Modifications to new assessment equalization factor established by the provincial government will reduce the impact on Halton Hills taxpayers from \$908,792 to \$349,535.

This is a reduction from a 13 per cent projected increase to five per cent, or in dollars on an average assessed house, from an increase of \$47 to \$17.

The factor is intended to even out assessment all over the province.

The province promises no municipality will have more than a five per cent increase because of the new factors in 1980, but says nothing about future years.

Councillor Ross Knechtel asked Treasurer Ray King what he anticipated.

The treasurer said it was reasonable to assume some of the original 13 per cent increase would be phased in over the years.

Mayor Pete Pomeroy warned the five per cent increase meant a built-in five mill hike "right off the bat".



Bill and Mabel Denny celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Saturday with an open house at St. Alban's parish hall. Their actual anniversary was Monday.

## Bill, Mabel Denny celebrate 60 years

For most people, 60 years is an entire lifetime, or more. For Bill and Mabel Denny, it is only their lifetime together.

The Elizabeth Drive couple celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary Saturday in St. Alban's parish hall.

It was October 22, 1919, when Mabel Rolls and Bill Denny were married in Listowel. A honeymoon to Galt and Hamilton followed.

At the time of their marriage, Mr. Denny was a farmer, but illness soon forced him into the barber business. He opened a shop in Drayton. Then in 1926, the couple moved to Kitchener, where Mr. Denny took on a partner in his new shop.

After a few years with his hand in barbering, Mr. Denny joined the Prudential Insurance Company, and was transferred to Acton in 1944. He admits he did not want to come to town at first, but his bosses pointed out he was the only one on staff who had ever lived in a small town and understood it. Now, he says, he has no regrets.

In 1954, Mr. Denny went independent. Son Harold was in Toronto working for a rival company and was son persuaded to join the family fold. They worked together until Mr. Denny's retirement in 1969, following an eye operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Denny have lived through two depressions, one in the 1920's and the other in the '30s. Mr. Denny says that the world will never see another depression, even now with the economy so bad, but he says there may be hard times in store.

Mr. Denny was deputy reeve of Acton back in the '60s serving with his good friend, the late Les Doby. While living in Kitchener he was the Rover Scout leader, and a Sergeant Instructor with the St. John Ambulance.

Mrs. Denny was a nurse with the special service. She is also a member of the Women's Institute, and the Anglican Church Women. Both are active in the church, and are also members of the Progressive Conservative Association.

An open house was held Saturday by the ACW and a family dinner was enjoyed Sunday, put on by son Harold and wife Audrey. They also have two grandchildren.

Telegrams were received from Prime Minister Joe Clark and Buckingham Palace. Plaques were received from Ontario Premier William Davis, presented by Halton MPP Julian Reed, and from the town of Halton Hills presented by Mayor Pete Pomeroy. They also received many cards, gifts, and flowers.

# The Acton Free Press

Twenty Pages—Twenty Cents.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1979.

One Hundred and Fifth Year—No. 16.

## 87,000 people to live in north Halton by 2001

Milton and Halton Hills will have a population in excess of 87,000 by the year 2001 and more than one-third of those are expected to make up the local work force.

The population is projected in an Ontario Ministry of Housing letter to Halton Region on revisions and corrections to the regional official plan.

The letter comprises 25 pages based on a review by various ministries which have reviewed it. The changes will be discussed at the next planning committee meeting Nov. 13.

Milton is expected to have 33,000 population by 1986 with 37,000 expected in 2001. Halton Hills expects 45,000 people by 1986 with an ultimate population of 50,000.

Oakville will face the largest growth. Currently, with 68,500 people, there will be 98,000 by 1986.

Burlington, currently 104,300, will have 139,000 people by 1986 and 170,000 in 2001.

This results in a total regional population of 313,000 by 1986 and anywhere between 398,000 and 457,000 by 2001.

The Ministry review predicts a decline in the number of people farming and manufacturing. This is balanced by an increase in the service sector.

Those involved in farming, forestry, and mining will represent 2.7 per cent of the work force by 1986 and 1.9 per cent by 2001.

Similarly, the 35.7 per cent of the work force engaged in construction and manufacturing in

1986 will drop to 33.5 per cent by 2001.

A rise from 61.6 of the 1986 work force to 64.8 per cent will be in the services area.

In terms of percentage of population engaged in the work force, Milton will have 15,700 of its 2001

population of 37,000 working. In Halton Hills about 17,000 of its projected 50,000 will be working.

On a regional level, 1986 will see 113,000 of the population of 313,000 in the work force with 161,300 to 186,900 working

population of 37,000 working. In Halton Hills about 17,000 of its projected 50,000 will be working.

On a regional level, 1986 will see 113,000 of the population of 313,000 in the work force with 161,300 to 186,900 working

population of 37,000 working. In Halton Hills about 17,000 of its projected 50,000 will be working.

On a regional level, 1986 will see 113,000 of the population of 313,000 in the work force with 161,300 to 186,900 working

population of 37,000 working. In Halton Hills about 17,000 of its projected 50,000 will be working.

On a regional level, 1986 will see 113,000 of the population of 313,000 in the work force with 161,300 to 186,900 working

population of 37,000 working. In Halton Hills about 17,000 of its projected 50,000 will be working.

On a regional level, 1986 will see 113,000 of the population of 313,000 in the work force with 161,300 to 186,900 working

population of 37,000 working. In Halton Hills about 17,000 of its projected 50,000 will be working.

On a regional level, 1986 will see 113,000 of the population of 313,000 in the work force with 161,300 to 186,900 working

population of 37,000 working. In Halton Hills about 17,000 of its projected 50,000 will be working.

On a regional level, 1986 will see 113,000 of the population of 313,000 in the work force with 161,300 to 186,900 working

population of 37,000 working. In Halton Hills about 17,000 of its projected 50,000 will be working.

## Favorable response to selling Petro-Can—Otto

Most business people who replied to Conservative MP Otto Jelinek's recent survey favor placing parts of Petro-Canada into the private sector. Other economic and labor questions were also asked.

"It is interesting to note," said Mr. Jelinek, "that a simple and a straightforward explanation regarding the privatization of Petro-Canada results in a favorable response to the government's position on Petro-Canada."

People were asked if they approved or disapproved of government keeping control of the following parts of Petro-Canada: "negotiating state to state import contracts for crude oil (as opposed to allowing foreign multinationals to take over);

exploration of energy in frontier areas and development of tar sands and research and development of heavy oils and other alternate energy sources."

Seventy-one per cent approved, 29 per cent disapproved.

Jelinek's questionnaire

A resounding 97 per cent favored the Progressive Conservatives intent to introduce stricter regulations within the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

Also 94 per cent replied in the affirmative when asked if they believed the right to strike should be removed from essential services.

Most businessmen replied in the negative when asked if they had noticed a drop in the amount of paperwork within the

was sent to 3,000 business establishments in the Halton constituency. Some 750 replied.

Seventy-nine per cent indicated approval of Finance Minister John Crosbie's intent to introduce mortgage interest and property tax credits.

A resounding 97 per cent favored the Progressive Conservatives intent to introduce stricter regulations within the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

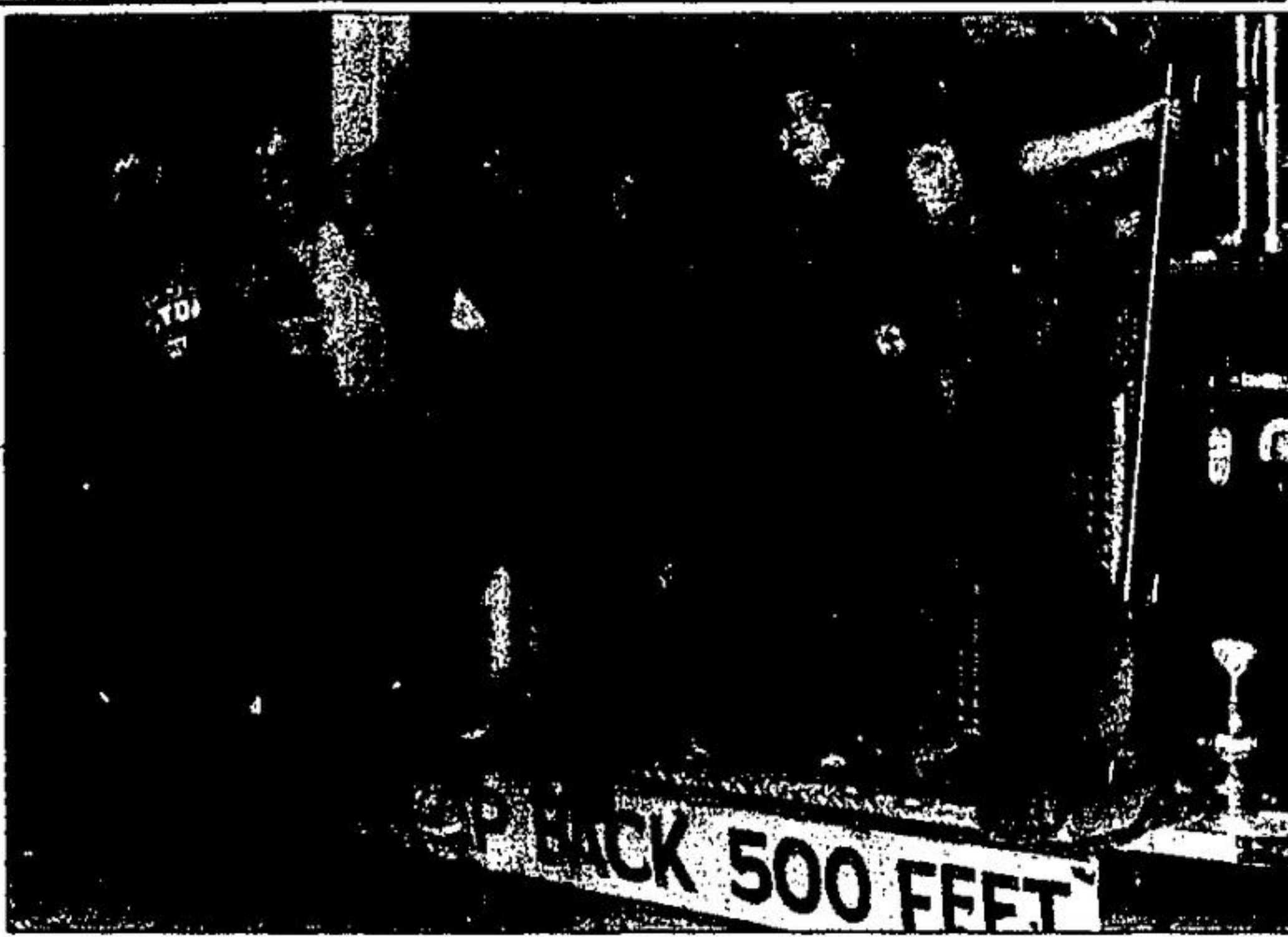
Also 94 per cent replied in the affirmative when asked if they believed the right to strike should be removed from essential services.

Most businessmen replied in the negative when asked if they had noticed a drop in the amount of paperwork within the



Otto Jelinek

(Continued on Page 2)



Firefighters of the future. First Acton Cubs were just some of the people who attended an open house at the Acton Fire Hall on Monday. The group enjoyed touring around the hall as well as seeing films on safety.

## Acton man guilty in cocaine case

An Acton man is one of a pair facing a minimum seven year sentence after he was convicted of conspiracy to import \$1.5-million worth of drugs from South America last week.

Thirty-four-year-old Geoffrey Dubois, of Acton, and Norman Hunt 37, of Bellwood are to be sentenced Friday morning in Milton County Court.

The crown alleged the pair were connected with a plot to bring 6.5 pounds of cocaine into the country from Brazil. A Toronto man, Enrique Castro, 28, was acquitted of the same charge. The trio face additional charges, according to police.

The court case went on for about six weeks. The guilty pair were among six men arrested

by Mounties, provincial and Peel Region Police last December after a four-month investigation.

## Clocks back

Daylight Saving Time will end at 2 a.m. Sunday. Be sure you turn your clocks BACK one hour at bedtime Saturday night.

## Poppy Week

The Town of Halton Hills agreed to a request from both the Acton and Georgetown Legions and will declare the week of November 5 to 11 Poppy Week.

During Poppy Week the familiar red poppies will be sold throughout the two areas.

The town will again pay for printing Remembrance Day programs and the publishing of the proclamation for both legion branches.

## Hydro rates may jump

Acton Hydro customers face a possible 16 per cent increase as of January 1, 1980, as a result to a proposed rate hike by Ontario Hydro.

Acton Hydro Commission chairman Wilf McEachern told The Acton Free Press his office had not officially been notified of any increase on the part of Ontario Hydro. But, he said, he had heard they planned to raise their rates 16 per cent. The chairman explained this still has to be approved by the Ontario Legislature.

Municipal commissions purchase their hydro from their provincial counterparts. In the past several increases, Acton Hydro has absorbed some of this increase to keep costs down to their customers. This time, however, Mr. McEachern said, it may not be possible to absorb the costs, and local residents may be paying the entire 16 per cent.

He explained that when Acton and Georgetown Hydro Commissions, in addition to Ontario Hydro's rural customers in Esqueping are amalgamated on April 1, Acton will be inheriting debts from the other two facilities. For this reason, he said, Acton Hydro might not be able to afford absorbing some of the hike. He explained if the increase does not come now, it will come later once the amalgamation takes effect, so it is either "pay now or pay later."

Mr. McEachern said he would not like to see the cost of hydro jump 16 per cent, but he said it is possible. Nothing will be definite however, he said until the meeting of the commission next month. He pointed out any local increase is subject to Ontario Hydro's approval.

# Pensioner's cheque added to hall fund

So moved by appeals to save the old Acton town hall was one senior citizen, she transferred all of her September pension cheque—\$300—to the restoration fund. That's the kind of spirit Town Hall Restoration Committee chairman George Elliott likes.

"That kind of support, even from a third of people of Acton, would ensure restoration," Mr. Elliott told a special fund raising meeting in Trinity United Church Monday night. Mr. Elliott kept secret the pensioner's name.

Out of that meeting came some directions for Halton Hills Council plus volunteers to raise restoration dollars.

The restoration committee asked, through Councillor Ed Wood, Halton Hills Council to carry through with Mayor Peter Pomeroy's offer to have town staff and council's special committee on the hall restoration complete and deliver an application for Wintario funds to the provincial Ministry of Culture and Recreation by October 31.

That was the easy part of the meeting. The hard part, according to Mr. Elliott, is the need for volunteers to raise the money.

"It's not a very encouraging story in many ways:

cold hard facts. I think probably the only way to do it is knock on doors," said the committee chairman. He went on to say the committee's six members do not have the time. "Some group has to set itself up to do the leg work," said Mr. Elliott.

The four volunteers, Kay Dills, Stella Brunelle, Alma Swetman and Yvonne Rosenquist, are putting their heads together to come up with fund raising ideas and also to draft a chairman to help them loosen people's purse strings.

Tips on fund raising were offered by Louis and Flo Charlebois and Councillor Terry Grubbe. Mrs. Swetman suggested asking people who have already given money, those who pledged last December, to help persuade other people.

Mr. Elliott indicated the restoration committee could handle service clubs and other organizations. He went on to say he thought that if a pledge organization was set up and working the money need not be collected by the end of the month, though Wintario is "hot to close the grant." A campaign to raise money should be underway by the end of November, he said.

Referring to Friday's meeting between Halton Hills Council's special committee on the hall's

restoration and provincial ministry representative Bill Kriesel, Councillor Wood reminded the group that the crunch comes down to having to convince Mr. Kriesel that something is being done. Later he told the other 17 people in the church he did not think they were any further ahead in restoring the building than they were three years ago.

To Councillor Wood Mrs. Dills asked: "Do you not find a lot of people want it (the hall) saved?" Many nodded.

"No. I've had quite a few people say, 'Are you crazy?' A large majority don't give a damn," replied the councillor.

"Could we not point out to people, if we save the hall, we save the downtown core?" said Mrs. Brunelle. "We have to look ahead."

"I think we've pushed the historical point to death. I think we could do more with that building the way it is than with five or six parking spots," said Mrs. Rosenquist.

The offer from Mayor Pomeroy to have the staff and council's special committee complete the Wintario application was contained in a letter to Mr. Elliott.

Council's special committee, with members Ed

Wood, George Malby, John McDonald and Marilyn Serjeantson, was set up in May. Since then it has not met with the Town Hall Restoration Committee.

"We received no notice that the special committee was appointed or its terms of reference," Mr. Elliott disclosed Monday. The recent mayor's letter contained that information.

That committee, according to Halton Hills general committee meeting of May 14 was "to deal with all aspects of the town hall restoration in Ward One."

Mayor Pomeroy wrote in the letter, dated Monday, it was clear to him Council was prepared to commit \$40,000 toward the restoration in next year's budget "and this money would be a general levy against all the taxpayers."

The diverting of the \$40,000 from demolition to restoration resulted from Councillor Wood's suggestion to council last May.

The restoration committee has felt itself to be nearly helpless in applying for grants from government authorities because Halton Hills, not the restoration group, owns the building.

Mayor Pomeroy wrote that because the application to Wintario is in the name of the

restoration group. "It would seem to me that the answers to the question related to the grant monies should have been dealt with by the restoration committee in co-operation with the committee of council and if there has been some misunderstanding about who should take the initiative on this key matter, then I as Mayor, assume the council's portion of the lack of co-operation."

Two years ago the estimate on restoring the 19th-century town hall was \$236,000. Inflation has boosted that figure by \$50,000. Not all the \$286,500 may be needed, Mr. Elliott points out, because the estimate included work on the stage, a part of the building's upstairs that has already been removed.

Estimates of monies are as follows:

Recreation Centre	\$71,625
Heritage Fund	\$70,000
Wintario	\$48,286
Municipal	\$40,000
Acton Citizens	\$56,584

Councillor Wood reminded the meeting that all that money from the granting agencies may not be available for two years.