



Balmy, bright sunny weather greeted Santa Claus when he appeared for the annual parade in Acton on Saturday afternoon. Thousands of adults and children witnessed the procession which paraded down Mill St. from the McKenzie-Smith middle school to the community centre in Prospect Park. Santa brought up the rear of the parade pulled by two of his prancing reindeer. Floats in the parade were excellent and drew admiring looks from spectators. The scene here at the corner of Mill and Main Streets was colorful as Acton firefighters' old Studebaker firewagon, filled with clowns, put-puts down the street. Santa, meanwhile, hails the photographers just before the parade started. Photos by HARTLEY COLES

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Water-sewer brochure to explain new rates

Residents of the north Halton region will be receiving brochures between Dec. 7 and 11 explaining the new equalized water and sewer rates.

The brochure will cost \$8,300 to produce and will be sent to an estimated 80,000 homes in Halton Region.

Added to it will be a series of sample water rates so residents can compute what it will cost them per year to use their services.

In Milton the bi-monthly rate for a standard home with a 20 mm (¾-inch) pipe will be \$9.22 for the first 27.28 cubic metres (6,000 gallons) and 18.37 cents for every cubic metre used after that.

In Halton Hills the rate for the first 27.28 cubic metres will be \$10.84 and 21.62 cents per cubic metre after that point.

The rates are slightly higher in Halton Hills because these prices take the place of the sewer surcharge which has previously been paid.

On an annual basis, a Milton homeowner using 181.8 metres per year (40,000 gallons) will pay \$58.66. The average consumption in Milton is pegged at about 300 cubic metres (66,000 gallons) per year and this would cost \$80.37.

In Halton Hills the 181.8 cubic metre cost would be \$69.97 and the 300 cubic metre rate would be \$94.53.

If you live in Milton and use 100,000 gallons per year the charge will be \$108.76 and the same amount of water used annually in Halton Hills will cost \$127.95.

Commercial users will be getting a special letter from Regional Business Development Director



Medal of Merit
Gordon Douglas, left, "receives" word from Venturer Yves Savard he is to be awarded, on behalf of the Governor-General, the Medal of Merit. Douglas, a former District commissioner, lives on Weber Dr., Georgetown. In terms of volunteer service by adults, the medal is the second highest decoration. Venturer Savard presented Douglas with the letter at his home. The medal is to be presented in the new year.

Youths seen fleeing Post Office fire

Three youths were spotted leaving the scene of a fire set behind the Acton post office Monday evening.

Police say the fire was set in some garbage at the rear of the building. An employee from the post office arrived in time to catch the youths fleeing the scene.

The garbage fire burned itself out and no damage resulted. Police have not yet made any arrests in connection with the incident.

Town to advertise board vacancies

Vacancies on local boards will be advertised within the next two weeks, as they are every year at this time.

Applications will be accepted from anyone interested in serving on Halton Hills parking authority, Halton Hills Library Board, Halton Hills Committee of Adjustment, Halton Hills Safety Council, and as line fence viewers.

Present members of boards whose term expires at the end of this year, must reapply if they wish to be on the board.

In the case of the library board only one spot will be open that can be filled by a town appointment. Halton Board of Education and Halton Separate School Board also make appointments to the library board.



Nancy Patterson, 17, and Christopher Geggie, 20, were honored by the Acton Optimists during Youth Week. Nancy and Chris each received copies of "Dreams and Deeds, the Story of Optimist International" and \$50. Each was honored for school activities and also for their work in the community.

Commission unveils master plan

—See Page 3—

Recommend revised anti-loitering bylaw

Acting upon a request from Acton Chamber of Commerce, Halton Hills general committee recommended the passing of a new anti-loitering bylaw, Monday night, and the rescinding of a 1975 bylaw.

The bylaw is modelled after those in operation in other municipalities, which have been successful in the courts, said the clerk-administrator.

The proposed bylaw is very brief, and simply states "no person shall lounge, loaf, loiter or stand as an idler on any public sidewalk, street, highway or public place as defined by the Criminal Code."

Provisions for fines ranging from \$10 to \$300 are included in the bylaw.

Councillor Ed Wood said all councillors had a copy of a letter from Bertan Bigelow, of 747 Restaurant and Lounge Acton. The letter decried the vandalism and foul language among youths hanging around the bus

lounge, loaf, loiter or stand as an idler on any public sidewalk, street, highway or public place as defined by the Criminal Code."

He called for stiffer penalties, the return of the strap in school and birching for misdemeanors. He termed Maplehurst Correctional Institute, the "Milton Hilton."

No comment was made on the letter.

Refugees arrive

Acton's first family of Vietnamese refugees arrived last week, and are in the process of settling in their new surroundings.

The family is sponsored by Operation Lifeline, Acton Group No. 1, organized by Arlene and Bob Bruce. The family is comprised of the parents and four children, aged between six and 15, two boys and two girls.

The children will be enrolled in school this week. Pauline Lealey is organizing English classes for the parents.

After having spent eight months in a refugee camp, the family is looking forward to starting a new life in Canada. They are appreciative of all that has been done on their behalf.

ICG, Hydro take to air

CBC Radio Noon listeners got an ear full of Ontario Hydro and Interested Citizens' Group (ICG) issues when they tuned in Monday.

CBC producers pulled together Ontario Hydro's Ken McClymont and John Minns of the ICG for a "pocket documentary" on the long standing dispute in general and expropriation laws specifically.

McClymont maintained the provincial interests must be supreme over what he termed local issues. On the other hand, Minns strove to impress upon listeners the impact of the issue beyond Halton.

Some people's attitude is one of "not me Jack," said the ICG vice-chairman. "People don't realize the price of beef can be affected. People don't realize the price of pork can be affected, because of the diminishing resource (land)."

With respect to hydro corridors, there is no protection in law for farm land, said Mr. Minns.

Both men split on the issue of the studying of the north-south corridor: from the Bruce nuclear generating station on Lake Huron to Milton Switching Station. That runs about 109 miles.

McClymont maintained that the north-south line was studied by the Solandt Commission. He clarified the statement by indicating the study was of the lower end of the corridor, where it would join the east-west line which parallels sections of Highway 401.

There was no study of the north-south line, contended Minns. The east-west line was studied by the royal commission because citizens along the proposed route pressed Ontario Premier William Davis, he said.

Soon after the north-south line, which is to run through Halton Hills, was approved it was exempted from the Environmental Assessment Act, said Minns.

"A travesty of justice was done in the beginning and continues, said the ICG spokesman.

Flag is stolen

A Canadian flag, valued at \$23 was reported stolen from the Chicken and Pizza Spot, Friday morning. Police say the flag was removed sometime between Thursday evening and Friday morning.



German exchange student Peter Wetklo studies while Kevin Grubbe takes an interest.

Learning experience for exchange student

It means missing a year of school but the experience of a German exchange student well makes up for the time lost.

Peter Wetklo is living in Acton and attending grades 12 and 13 at Acton High, as part of a Rotary Club exchange program.

The student has been in Canada since the end of August and will remain with several local families until June. Peter was staying with Terry and Kenneth Grubbe and their son Kevin since his arrival, but began a three month stay with Acton Free Press publisher Don McDonald and his family on Churchill Road last Saturday.

Peter comes from Schwalbach, West Germany, a town of about 15,000. His school in Germany was the same size as Acton's, says Peter, but the school houses only grades 11, 12 and 13.

Peter is accustomed to the English language and takes it as his second language at home. English or French are compulsory, says Peter. "And the English is more like German."

He began taking English in grade 5, and as a result has been able to communicate well with new Acton friends. In grade 12 English at Acton High School Peter is averaging 78 per cent after the first reporting term.

Peter is also studying math, geography and physical education while here, although none of the credits he picks up here will help towards graduating from his home town school.

"What I did last year in grade 11 math I am doing in grade 13 here," says Peter.

One thing Peter is learning is the teacher-student relationship here is close. "The whole atmosphere here between students and teachers is more friendly, here they get involved."

Peter has become involved in the various clubs at Acton High and the community.

He is a member of the school's Senior Boys' Basketball team, badminton club, cross country running team, cross country ski team and the clay work club, as well as trying his hand at hockey for the first time in the Legion Juvenile house league.

One club Peter has grown fond of is the Outers Club at the high school. He travelled with them on a Thanksgiving canoe trip to Killarney and felt at home in the wilderness of northern Ontario. "You could drink the stream water," says Peter. He is looking forward to next semester at the high school when he will take a total immersion course which deals with the outdoors.

So far in his stay in Canada he has visited many of the sights around Toronto as well as making a trip to Sarnia. He is looking forward to one more trip to Toronto and Maple Leaf Gardens this Saturday to watch the Leafs and Philadelphia Flyers.

"This is not Peter's first trip to Canada or North America. He has visited New York, Philadelphia, Idaho, Montana, Vancouver and Calgary.

"The first two weeks were the hardest," said Peter.

Now he has little time in a busy schedule getting involved in many different things. Although the year doesn't count scholastically he is pleased. "You learn about yourself and get to know people," he says. He recommends to anyone who gets the chance at such a program they should take it.

Peter was specially thankful to the Rotary Club of Acton and Terry and Kenneth Grubbe for their hospitality and the chance to explore another lifestyle.