



Several Acton High School students were the recipients of special awards at the school's annual graduation exercises but were presented with their awards in the school's bear pit last Wednesday. Halton Board of Education Trustee Betty Fisher and principal Wally Watkins made the presentations. Left to right, Christine Rieder, Adele Tilton, Mrs. Fisher, Mr. Watkins, Curtis McCoy, Renato Cadorin, Doug Hannah, Paul McTrash, Gary Mandarino, Sharon Bendicks, and Steve Springale. Missing from the photo but receiving awards were Shirley Ancher, Sandra Splinter, Marlene Lott, and Greg Ivany. Photo by ROBIN INSCOPE.

# Planning Board approves supermarket, retail stores

## Tearing down old Force Electric plant

"The first step in the revitalization of downtown Acton" is how Larry Greaves, speaking for the Acton B.I.A., described the proposal to build a large Foodland Supermarket and tear down the "Force Electric" building.

He made the statement at Halton Hills Planning board, Tuesday night as he urged members to approve the proposal.

Planning board agreed and approved the proposal in principle, and directed staff to prepare an Official Plan amendment.

The development proposed by A. Gordon and Lumsden Brothers bounded by Mill, Eastern, Church and Wilbur Streets still has some kinks to be ironed out.

The new enlarged Foodland store would be located abutting Eastern Avenue and further back from Mill Street than the present store with the parking fronting on Mill

Street, with the entrance off Eastern Avenue.

The existing Foodland store will be torn down when the 15,000 square foot new store is completed and other retail stores built on the site.

A landscaped walkway from the 28 car parking lot for the smaller stores to be built will connect to the Foodland 61 car parking lot.

The planner's report pointed out there has been no opposition to the plan from any agencies, nor from the public. A public meeting will be held when the Official Plan amendment is prepared.

The planning department favored the concept, explaining the railroad tracks provided a logical boundary bet-

ween the residential and central business district. In addition the removal of the permitted industrial use would prevent an incompatible industry from locating.

The closing of Fellows

Street could pose a problem, said the planning report, since a sanitary sewer is located there. Either the sewer could be relocated or an easement procured. (Continued on Page 3)

### Blood clinic

Due to lack of donors, the Toronto Red Cross office has cut the hours of the Acton Blood Clinic to 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday) at the Legion.

Even with the time greatly shortened, the Red Cross workers are still hoping for a good turnout. To make it festive, Santa Claus will attend this clinic to hand out candy canes and talk to the children.

Remember: no medication at least 24 hours prior to giving blood.

# The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Fifth Year—No. 23.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1979.

Twenty-Two Pages—Twenty Cents.

## Two Churchill Rd. men killed in head-on crash

Two Acton men, both living on the same street, were killed, and three others sent to hospital following a head-on collision at Silvercreek corner, Highway 7, early Saturday morning.

William Alan Keir 19, of 196B Churchill Road S. and David M. Brown, 199 Churchill Road N., Acton, were pronounced dead on arrival at hospital shortly after the 12:10 crash.

Passengers in the Brown vehicle, Mark Brill, 21, Larry McGilloway, 22, and Robert Brenton, 22, were all taken to Georgetown hospital by am-

bulance. Brenton was treated and released while McGilloway and Brill were admitted and later released.

A spokesman from the Milton detachment of the OPP said the Keir vehicle, a 1971 Ford Pinto, was eastbound on Highway 7, crossed over the line and struck the Brown vehicle, a 1970 Camaro, head-on.

Halton Hills area 2 firefighters, from Georgetown, were called to the scene along with Georgetown Volunteer ambulances. Halton Regional

Police assisted at the scene but the accident investigation will be completed by the OPP.

Keir is the son of Lloyd and the late Beatrice Marie Keir of Glen Williams. Funeral service was held Monday at the McClure-Jones funeral home in Georgetown.

Brown is the son of Helen (Mrs. Bud Fitzgerald) of Acton and the late Bud Brown. Funeral service was held at the United Church, Acton, also on Monday.



Miss Nancy DeGraaf has successfully completed her eleven weeks Basic Training in CFB Cornwallis, Nova Scotia. She has chosen Performance Oriented Electronic Technician as her trade and will continue her training at CFB Kingston.

## Guards hope point proven

by Linda Kirby

Maplehurst Correctional Centre guards are hoping they have proven their point with a three-day illegal strike last week.

"I think we have proven our point."

"We were frustrated and wanted changes," stated Bob Ewing, chief steward of the 140-member Maplehurst local of OPSEU and representative of the Communications Committee.

"I think the membership is agreed that we didn't like breaking the law."

"But we had to make our point," he said.

Mr. Ewing is confident 3,000 jail guards across the province will win

their case for a separate bargaining unit.

Maplehurst officers voted 86 per cent in favour Wednesday to accept the provincial government's offer of binding arbitration to settle their dispute.

A professor with Osgoode Law School at the University of Toronto has been chosen to act as arbitrator by the union and the Ontario Civil Service Commission.

The dispute is expected to be settled by the first of January, said Mr. Ewing.

Procedures have returned to normal at the medium-security institution, according to Maplehurst superintendent Allan Roberts.

The centre ran "very well" despite the absence

of nearly 150 correctional officers, said Mr. Roberts.

He praised inmates for being "sensible" and "responsible" for the duration of the strike.

Mr. Roberts said he plans no disciplinary action against staff members who took part in the strike, as part of the settlement agreement.

"One of the terms of settlement was that there are to be no dismissals, no releases nor termination of any staff member," he said.

Approximately 70 management staff and employees from the head office of the ministry of correctional services manned the institution during the walkout by striking guards.

### Reject MTC request

## Pit hours stay same

Despite a request from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications that the hours of operation at the Pilutti and Odorico pits be extended to start truck loading at 6 a.m., instead of the present 8 a.m., Halton Hills general committee Monday night unanimously backed the Sixth Line residents, and refused the request.

At an October 1 council meeting, the bylaw cutting the hours back to eight in the morning was passed. At the same meeting council withdrew its approval of a list of six pits available for aggregate to the MTC. The pits include the Cohoon and Macassa pits on the Fifth Line, and the Odorico, Pilutti, Spitzer and Vincent pits on the Sixth Line.

A letter from R. D. Gunter, head of the Geotechnical Section of the MTC, told council pointed out the contractor has indicated he will claim damages from the MTC, since the shortening of the hours after the tender was let affects the economy of the contract.

The letter said increased production from the longer hours would mean an earlier completion date.

In return for the extended working hours, the MTC letter committed itself to a study of the impact of removing the Spitzer and Pilutti pits from aggregate source lists, and to restricting the extraction of material from the Odorico pit to the southern section of the property.

While the actual letter had not been seen by the Sixth Line residents, the contents were anticipated as a result of a meeting held approximately a week ago, with Sixth Line residents, Mayor Pete Pomeroy, Councillor Russ Miller, Al Pilutti, and MTC representatives in attendance.

Nan Creaghan, speaking for 33 home owners on the Sixth Line, said their objectives are clear. "First we seek the closing of the Sixth Line pits as soon as possible, secondly during the final operations of the pits we seek proper control over operations and trucking, and third the pits must be rehabilitated after closure."

She said the Sixth Line pits are not wayside pits, but quasi-permanent pits, close to housing and in fact almost in people's backyards.

Mrs. Creaghan said when Julian Reed tried to find the capacity of the Odorico pit he was told 700,000 tons, but said it seems it means at least 700,000 tons with no commitment as to the full extent. Referring to a list of wayside pits near residential made available by the MTC she pointed out seven of the nine have been approved by the local municipal councils and only two are MTC pits.

She said only two pits have run longer than a year and of these only one is near a small residential section, which is half a mile away. "Only two of the pits have as many nearby residents as the

Sixth Line, and the contracts lasted only four and five months respectively.

She emphasized the loss of value of their homes, the irritating noise, road deterioration, truck traffic, potential water problems, crusher operations moving closer and closer to homes, the destruction of farm land and the landscape. She told council the Ministry of Environment is looking into the water situation.

She concluded by thanking council for their support in withdrawing approval for the listing of the pits.

Ron Johnson, also a Sixth Line resident and member of the residents' committee, pointed out the extension of hours would affect the hard-won battle by 17 Sideroad residents to have the trucking hours shortened. He admitted the argument could be advanced that the Induamin trucks are allowed on the road at 7 a.m. so why not the trucks from the Pilutti and Odorico pits?

He said the 17 Sideroad residents would say fewer trucks at seven the better. He explained 7 a.m. operations at the pit means empty rattling trucks at 6:30.

Johnson said he was sure the MTC would not want to be compared with local pits since they would be required to obtain licences, pay municipal taxes. He claimed the MTC has competitive advantages over local industry and said they employ local labor, who in turn spend their money locally.

Johnson stated the MTC has indicated the claim for damages could reach \$100,000. He maintained the MTC said they would save \$2 million dollars by using wayside pits in the province. Johnson suggested this \$100,000 claim along with costs resulting from gravel pits close to homes, such as inspectors, road repairs, possible well interference, land rehabilitation made the use of the Sixth Line pits of doubtful economy.

Johnson argued the hours of operation are a powerful leverage which should not be given up easily and should only be traded in for a date of final delisting of the pits and final pit closure.

Tony Harborow emphasized the MTC offer to study the removal of the Spitzer and Pilutti pits from the list in exchange for the extension of hours is only an offer to study and not an offer to delist.

Councillor Russ Miller advised council to leave the hours as they are. He said he didn't think it was fair to the residents to extend them.

Councillor Roy Booth agreed but said he would like an opinion from the lawyer, whether the Town of Halton Hills could be implicated in the damage suit, as a participant.

General committee agreed and incorporated seeking a legal opinion in the motion to leave the hours of operation as they are now.

## Get off farmers' backs, council told

Halton's farmers have been cast aside in the name of development, according to two men who appeared before Regional Council last week to protest the region's new official plan.

Rod Pinkney of Georgetown, representing the South Esqueving Landowners' Association said the ideal in the official plan of protecting prime agricultural land in Halton is just a shame.

He noted the majority of land bounded by Milton, Georgetown and Dundas Highway was slated for residential and industrial-commercial.

Mr. Pinkney, with emotion rising in his throat, said he and other Halton farmers are "sick and tired of being told what to do and people telling us how they want to help."

"If you want to do something, why don't you give us a hand when we're haying."

"The best way to help is just get off the farmer's back."

Mr. Pinkney was followed by Peter Branch who lives on the Halton-Peel border near Norval and operates a small sheep farm.

A former senior civil servant at Queen's Park, Mr. Branch introduced a number of "documents" including the plan of the Niagara Escarpment Commission and the Ontario Agriculture Code of Practices.

Mr. Branch said he, as a farmer, could not live up to a number of tenets of the official plan including the disposal of waste.

"We can't afford to hold in large tanks the waste until our neighbors go on holidays and we can spread it on the land," he said.

Mr. Branch listed a number of objections and quoted several news sources singling out the code of practices for special condemnation.

He said the code had been included in the official plan "word for word" and the effect would mean "I

would be closing down in a few years."

He said the code should be dropped completely in order to aid "farmers trying to make a living, trying to do a good job, and trying to save their farms."

Mr. Branch said he was appearing "because I believe in freedom."

Councillor Roy Booth, chairman of the Regional Planning Committee, said Mr. Branch was wrong in his assessment of the code.

Mr. Booth quoted the official plan which stated the code was being included "only for the protection of farmers."

"It is a single-edged sword."

Council was told the code was recently applied in the Milton area where a pig farmer was able to move a housing development away from his farm.

Later in the meeting the official plan went through council and now only needs the signature of the Minister.



Music director for the Boar's Head dinner, Jean Beaton, almost looks angelic as she plays the medieval piano at Sunday's Trinity United Church Christmas offering. See story and pictures on Page 2.