



Kymm Lakin of Acton is entered in the Miss Teen Mississauga pageant this Saturday at the Square One Shopping Centre. The Miss Teen Mississauga Pageant is co-sponsored by the Mississauga News, a sister paper of the Acton Free Press, and Square One Shopping Centre.

## Mayor Pomeroy urges

# Amalgamate Acton, Georgetown Ys

Halton Hills Mayor Peter Pomeroy would like to see the Georgetown and Acton Ys amalgamate into a Halton Hills YMCA.

That was the mayor's message to the Murray Memorial YMCA annual meeting last Wednesday night in Acton.

In his speech Pomeroy conceded there are still problems with regional government, but little by little he feels opposition to Halton Hills is dwindling.

Tremendous pressure is on the horizon for both volunteer recreation organizations like the Y and the municipal rec department. And along with increased pressures to provide programs will come increasing difficulties in raising necessary funds, Pomeroy warned.

With travelling costs increasing all the time residents will be looking for more and better services within their own community, he said.

If programs can be carried out by volunteer organizations then the town will do everything it can do to assist and encourage them, Pomeroy pledged, adding "it is critical that we open dialogue. We are both in the same business."

He urged a Halton Hills Y be started and said a combined Acton and Georgetown Y could accomplish more in both programming and fund raising. A combined Halton Hills Y could eliminate a lot of duplication between the town and volunteer groups and "it is important to me that you consider this proposal."

Pomeroy said he envisaged one Y membership for Halton Hills residents and this would be a great help to the town's recreation department.

He noted the Georgetown Y is negotiating with the Central Lakeshore Y for assistance and increase in staff so it can provide more programs and he suggested Acton too "should avail itself of this expertise." The Acton Y, because of facilities, is at a critical point in its time and so must take a look at amalgamation, the mayor said.

He concluded he'd like the Murray Memorial Y membership to "consider my comments in a positive frame." Pomeroy continued that the Y must remember they, like the town, are trying to serve the public and they have "common goals."

In his year-end reports chairman Keith

Robbins echoed Pomeroy's remarks.

He noted at the start of 1979 the Murray Memorial Y looked forward to a year of expansion but the goal proved more "elusive" than expected.

"Nevertheless, at the beginning of this new decade, we have every reason to remain optimistic: optimistic because the enthusiasm and dedication of our board members is undiminished; optimistic because the support and co-operation we receive from our Y's Men and Y's Menettes remains as unselfish as ever."

Robbins pointed out the work and planning of the last year has left the Y in good shape for the coming year.

Expansion remains a goal, both in the form of Programs and physical plant Robbins noted, adding program expansion will likely materialize first.

"At a recent meeting the Murray Memorial YMCA committed itself to an intensive effort to expand its membership and provide the type of activity which would prove attractive to the community. Such an effort could involve co-

operation with the Georgetown Y, or draw totally on local efforts and talent."

Robbins urged the Y not "divorce ourselves from Halton Hills," adding "there is a great deal of benefit in co-operation" with Georgetown's Y. Competition between various recreation groups in the town hurt co-operation, he explained, and said he hopes the era of competition is dead.

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A band is coming to Acton from Alberta and the ADHS band is Edmonton bound. Details on page 10.

RCMP nab smugglers. Turn to page 2.

What to do about interest rates? See what Halton's candidates say on page 9.

Acton service clubs have big plans for 1980. See B6.

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# The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Fifth Year - No. 30

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1980

Eighteen Pages - Twenty Cents

## Hydro erects towers farmers wait for pay

Ontario Hydro construction crews are pushing their way onto some Halton Hills farms with-

out completing financial arrangements called for under the Expropriations Act, according to an

Interested Citizens' Group (ICG) spokesman. "No money has changed hands," said the

ICG's John Minns. Ontario Hydro expropriated a right of way for a 500 kV power line through Halton Hills but the conditions of the expropriation have not been dealt with, he said, referring to the Jim and Pat Stark farm, Lot 12, Concession 5, and others.

The Starks phoned the police (and according to Taylor, so did Ontario Hydro) and drove to the construction site. "I moved a piece (of mesh) over a stake and they had five fellows to put it back," said Mrs. Stark.

The utility had three security men at the site. They were "to protect Ontario Hydro people and Ontario Hydro property," said Taylor.

## Ex-Acton OPP officer murdered

A member of the Acton detachment of the OPP when it was closed in September, 1975, Constable Duncan McAleese, was murdered last Wednesday night outside a sandwich shop in Delhi.

After the Halton Regional Police took over from the Acton OPP, Constable McAleese was transferred to the Simcoe OPP detachment. He was a member of the Acton detachment that was honored as Acton Citizens of the Year for 1975. Constable McAleese had been with the detachment a little over a year before it closed.

His former detachment commander in Acton, Corporal Bob Arbour, described Constable McAleese as "a great guy." He said the slain officer, who had a farm in the area, played on the police ball team and "got along well with the kids on the street."

The slain officer, father of three sons and husband of Dorothy, was 33 when he was shot nine times in what investigating police have called a set-up. A 32-year-old Simcoe man has been charged with his murder.

Constable McAleese was called at home and lured to the shop with the promise of information, police said and when he arrived at the rendezvous he approached a truck occupied by one man who opened fire at close range on



Constable Duncan McAleese

the officer. Constable McAleese fell to the ground and was fired upon again before the vehicle fled, dragging the officer 25 feet. He had no opportunity to draw his revolver in defence, it was still in his holster. Constable McAleese was pronounced dead on arrival at Norfolk General Hospital in Simcoe.

Four colleagues from his days in Acton, Bruce McArthur, Bob Willmott, Gerry Gibson, Ron Barrett and Corporal Arbour, were among the approximately 1,000 policemen from across Canada and some from United States who attended funeral services for Constable McAleese in Simcoe Saturday. About 30 Halton Regional Police officers attended.

His coffin was then flown to his native New Brunswick for burial.

Mr. and Mrs. Stark and other area farmers stood and watched early Friday morning while Ontario Hydro's crews augered holes and poured foundations for two towers on the rear of the Stark's beef and pig farm.

Two Halton Regional Policemen were on hand to keep the peace between the utility's construction crew and security people on the one side and the farmers on the other side.

The utility's crews arrived at work at the rear of the Stark's 90-year-old farm at seven in the morning. About a half acre construction area was fenced off with steel shafts and orange colored mesh.

After checking with the crown attorney, Halton Regional Police Sergeant Walter Hansen told the four or five farmers "We've been instructed these people (Ontario Hydro) can go ahead."

ICG's Minns spent part of the day trying to arrange for a court order to stop the construction work. Meanwhile cement trucks were discharging their cargo into fresh holes for tower foundations.

According to Stark, Ontario Hydro does not have a building permit

from Halton Hills. The start of arrangements under the expropriations act has been made with the Starks by Ontario Hydro, according to Minns. Stark did indicate a utility forestry man visited him last week.

An Ontario Hydro senior property agent also visited the Starks Wednesday. "He recited the expropriations act, same as you'd plug in a machine into a wall," Stark contends, however, the man omitted any mention of the land owners' interest.

Stark was able to fend off against one of the utility's crews the previous Monday. Crew members removed about five fence posts and drove some steel stakes into the ground. There was a backhoe and some security people too. However, after some words with the field supervisor, the fence posts were replaced and the crew retreated.

"I don't know why they didn't stay. I still can't understand if they were so right and proper in procedure on Monday, why they removed to the



Linda Pilgrim piped in the haggis at Saturday's Burns' Supper at Knox Presbyterian Church Hall. The haggis bearers were John Watson and Ian Findlay. See story on page 2. Photo by GORD MURRAY

## Prime Minister tells the Acton Free Press

# PetroCan task impossible: profit from unprofitable



Acton Free Press editor Gord Murray interviews Prime Minister Joe Clark. The Prime Minister gave an exclusive interview to Murray and Acton

Free Press Publisher Don McDonald Thursday. The discussion touched on many issues, including energy.

by Gord Murray  
Editor, Acton Free Press

Canada's Progressive Conservative government is planning to revamp PetroCanada because the national oil company was given an impossible mandate: "to make money doing unprofitable things"; Prime Minister Joe Clark told me in an exclusive interview with the Acton Free Press Thursday.

The Prime Minister met with the editors and publishers, including myself and Don McDonald, of the Inland Publishing Co. Limited group of suburban community newspapers. Inland President Douglas G. Bassett performed the introductions.

It was my first meeting not only with Prime Minister Clark, but in fact with any head of state ever.

To say I was a little nervous is an understatement.

To compound my squeamishness, I soon discovered the editors would be meeting Mr. Clark in the alphabetical order of their community's name; so Acton went first.

I didn't remain jittery for long, though. Prime Minister Clark, with his easy, friendly manner, soon put me at ease, breaking the ice by asking me about both my personal and professional background.

By the time the interview was concluded I had decided his earlier prediction that "once Canadians got to know him they'd like him", was in fact true. I felt he was a genuine, sincere, unpretentious servant of his fellow citizens.

I find both the Canadian and world energy situation a fascinating topic, albeit baffling, so much of our talk was devoted to what I suspect should be the number one election issue, if in fact it isn't.

Discussing his government's plans to reorganize PetroCanada, Mr. Clark said the company needs management by people with oil industry experience, not bureaucrats. His plan for reorganization calls for 50 per cent of the shares in PetroCanada to be given to Canadians while 20 per cent will be sold to Canadian business and individuals and Ottawa will keep 30 per cent.

In a large country like Canada giving people

shares of PetroCanada will make them feel they have a "stake" in the nation, Mr. Clark explained. He noted his plan isn't a new idea and its roots can be traced all the way back to the wheat pools and farm co-operatives in this country's early days.

Another plus in the Conservative PetroCanada reorganization plan will be the swelling of federal coffers by \$450 million from the sale of shares, he said. PetroCanada will become, once the proposal is enacted, the biggest citizen owned company in Canada and one of the largest in the world, the Prime Minister added.

Boosting the need for a national energy bank, Mr. Clark said urban transit development could be a major source of energy conservation potential and the energy bank will help fund urban transit.

Oil company revenues, above what they can prove is needed for exploration, will fund the energy bank so Canada can get on with the job of domestic energy development, of not just oil and gas but also many different types of alternate energy sources, the Prime Minister explained.

Prime Minister Clark suggested it was ironic that United States President Jimmy Carter should be applauded by the Congress in his State of the Union address for making energy self-sufficiency a national goal while he's defeated in the House of Commons for trying to take the first steps towards achieving that goal in Canada.

As long as oil prices are kept artificially low in Canada, the nation won't be able to afford to develop new energy resources the Prime Minister warned. At the same time, Mr. Clark said, his government won't give away Canada's advantage in world markets by allowing oil prices to climb above 85 per cent of American or world prices.

He decried finding other nations in the world, which don't have our energy development advantages, ahead of Canada in the development of alternative energy. Mr. Clark said it is essential that renewable energy sources be developed in Canada.

According to the Prime Minister the biggest energy problem in this country is that nobody really

believes we are running out of oil, but Canada must get on with the job of energy development in all areas because "we don't have to be hostage to anyone."

Aware that a number of candidates for the United States presidency have advocated an energy common market for North America, Mr. Clark said his government will never negotiate with the Americans on energy. Energy won't be used as a trading card either, the Prime Minister vowed.

Touching on other subjects, the Prime Minister conceded he is concerned about the breakdown of medicare in some areas of the nation, but is waiting for a study from Mr. Justice Hall before taking action. He wants to see medicare modernized, but also wishes to see the fundamentals of the system preserved.

The polls which show the Tories will lose aren't reflecting reality, Mr. Clark said. He expects as the campaign draws nearer to voting day Progressive Conservative support in Ontario will continue to grow until they win possibly as many as 60 seats in this province. The Prime Minister added he couldn't recall a time when party morale was higher or when there were more volunteers involved in the campaign.

Prime Minister Clark revealed the rift between himself and Ontario Premier William Davis has been bridged, but not totally. That was to be expected, he said, since there will always be differences between the head of the national government and any premier, in any province.

He's aiming confidently for a majority and couldn't say if the budget which brought his six month government down would be modified to gain the confidence of the House of Commons if he forms another minority government. Mr. Clark admitted he could have made deals to avoid the election but that could result in Canada's most worrisome problems not being acted upon. He pointed out the deals between then Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and former NDP leader David Lewis back in the early '70s when there was a minority government caused the massive deficit which plagues the nation.