



Joanne Turner left, and Anita Farrington right, admire the medal awarded to Susan Lidbury (centre), a grade seven student at St. Joseph's school. Susan won the Ten Day for World Development essay competition. Her classmate Kim Muspratt came second.

News digest

No drop-in Friday

The Acton councillors' drop-in won't be held this week because of the Good Friday holiday. The drop-in will resume next week as usual on Friday afternoon between 1 and 3 p.m. at the Community Services Centre.

Kicks OPP cruiser

A 20-year-old Acton resident was charged after he kicked the door of an OPP cruiser last week. Milton detachment of the OPP report the Actonian was one of three people they arrested last week and charged with impaired driving.

After the man was released he kicked the door of an OPP patrol car parked in the Milton detachment lot, causing \$50 damage, and was charged with wilful damage by Halton Region Police.

Coat library glass

Norm Elliott, a member of Halton Hills Library Board, wants the upper part of the glass panes over the front entrance of the library coated to cut down sun glare and preserve the foyer colors from fading. He has also asked the library board to have the coat of arms of Acton, England, which was presented to Acton a number of years ago, mounted on the back of the display case facing the entrance, if the sun fading problem can be solved.

Nursery needs no grant

For a change Halton Hills council found a non-profit group in the community doesn't want a grant. Council received a letter Monday night from the Acton Co-operative Nursery School stating in the past they have asked for money from council to help purchase much needed equipment, but this year don't need a grant since they were able to raise the funds they require for this year.

Window cracked

Halton Hills Library Board is planning to replace one of the thermopane windows on the main floor of the Acton library after it was found another crack has developed in the glass.

CWL week

Catholic Women's league week in Halton Hills will be April 20-27. The request to proclaim April 20-27 CWL week came from Margaret Wilcox, Holy Cross Council, CWL, Georgetown. Halton Hills council agreed to the proclamation Monday night.

Non-Catholics pay more

A 10 per cent fee increase for non-Catholics in Catholic schools recommended by the finance committee of the Separate school board was accepted by the Board at their regular meeting last Tuesday.

The single student fee of \$25 per month has been increased to \$27.50 and family rate for two or more students of \$40 was increased to \$44 for kindergarten to grade 8. Parents with children registered at the K-8 level and grade 9-10 level face a month increase from \$75 to \$82.50.

Caught red-handed

An Acton youth was caught red-handed while attempting a break and enter at an Acton Blvd. home, Sunday. Neighbors caught and detained the youth until police arrived.

Hub caps stolen

Chrome hub-caps were reported stolen Saturday from Cargill's Motor Homes, 364 Queen St. The caps are estimated to be worth \$384.

Bishop Reding is safe

Hamilton diocese Bishop Paul Reding is believed to have escaped injury from the shooting and stampede during the funeral for a murdered archbishop in San Salvador.

Bishop Reding is expected home from Central America this week. Bishop Reding was attending the funeral of slain Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero Sunday. During the funeral about 40 people were shot to death by members of a political faction. The shooting started thousands of people running away.

Region budget hike 17-25%

April 9 has been set aside at Halton Region to delve into the 1980 budget.

The budget was to have been debated by full Council today but that was rejected at last Wednesday's Administration and Finance Committee when councillors objected to dealing with a number of last minute pages of numbers which were brought in by the Treasury Department.

The main objection was the columns of figures were not easily understandable and were not presented in a manner which councillors had been accustomed to in the past.

The other reason for concern was what some considered "missing" items not shown such as the \$600,000 the Region had found itself in hot water over in double charging under the water-sewer equalization.

According to Deputy Treasurer Jim Stewart the 1979 approved budget of \$43,532,982 will be in the neighborhood of \$50,370,000 in 1980. This is based on the 1979 figure, plus a growth factor of eight per cent, plus the additions which were being added after budgetary review by various committees.

On the other hand, the Chief Administrative Officer, Ernie Reid has predicted in a report presented earlier this year the budget would show a 20.6 per cent increase not the 17.9 per cent increase envisaged by Mr. Stewart. Mr. Reid now predicts a 19.8 per cent increase.

The question of the actual increase is still in question as the equalization factors from the Province of Ontario have yet to be released. These factors must be applied to all municipal budgets in Ontario.

The net result is there are four budget amounts being mentioned inside Halton Regional headquarters.

In addition to the predictions by Mr. Reid and Mr. Stewart, Milton Mayor Don Gordon has his own amounts which show a total 19.1 per cent increase based on a \$14,413,819 net growth amount which is taken from the Stewart computation.

Halton Hills Councillor Russ Miller has the fourth amount. In budgetary discussions of the Regional grant to the Halton Children's Aid Society, he said the budget could be as high as 25 per cent. There is some agreement at the Region Mr. Miller may be right.

Mr. Gordon told this newspaper he would not vote for a 19.8 or 19.1 per cent increase in the Regional Budget because of the impact on the Town of Milton.

According to his figures, a 19.1 per cent increase would mean a 28.8 per cent hike in the 1980 apportionment. Also based on his figures, Halton Hills would be looking at no less than a 47.7 per cent increase in the 1980 apportionment.

Acton water meters now Regional read

Water meters in Acton will now be read by a part-time Regional employee.

Acton Hydro Commission has informed Halton Region it will no longer be reading water meters in that town after April 1. The result of this cancellation forced Halton to find a method of keeping the meters read so that the water-sewer equal-

ization bills can continue to flow.

Three alternatives were proposed. The first, which was recommended to Council by the Public Works Committee, calls for a part-time person paid \$3,700 by Halton. It is estimated the job costs \$7,000 per year to do less the \$4,000 Acton Hydro will pay to keep the service going. The \$700 is

considered the cost of gasoline mileage.

The second option proposed was for a full-time person to read meters in Acton and Georgetown. This would have paid \$10,000 from Halton and \$4,000 from Acton Hydro.

The third option was for a twice yearly reading with the four other billings being estimated.

Town to charge for ball, soccer fields

The town is going to start charging teams using soccer fields and ball diamonds this year.

Monday Halton Hills council approved rates for use of fields in the town and will also establish rates for use of tennis courts later this month.

At the same meeting new rates for use of community halls were established.

Soccer and football field rates for fields owned or maintained by the municipality have been set at \$5 per team for a season for minor sports. Adult rates are \$10 a team for a season and games under the lights will cost \$5 per game.

Minor teams, up through mid-age, will pay \$5 for each team using town owned or maintained ball diamonds. The rate for adult groups using diamonds but not the lights is \$10 a team and the fee for adult teams playing games under the lights is \$20. The fees apply to both fields and diamonds the

town owns and those they maintain at the schools.

Bills for field and diamond use will be sent out at the start of the season. Lighted games on soccer fields will be billed according to the team's schedule and each club must submit its schedule to the town.

For soccer and football fields tale and liners will be provided by the town and the lines will be burned at the beginning of the season.

Tale and lining for ball diamonds will be the responsibility of each team or league but tale will be available from the town at cost.

Recreation director told council the fees will bring in about \$2,600 in revenue the town hasn't received before and will cover about two per cent of the maintenance budget for soccer fields and ball diamonds. The fees will cover the town's hydro costs.

Maintenance at the Glen Williams ball park is handled by the residents of the hamlet so there will be no charges

to their teams. In his report to council shepherd noted soccer, ball football and tennis groups have been appraised of the town's plan to move towards "user pays" for maintenance of fields and diamonds.

Non-profit organizations in Halton Hills renting facilities for meetings, registrations or programs in the Acton Arena Hall, Hornby, Norval or Esquesing halls, the Rose Room in Arena, the recreation department boardroom or the gym at Cedarvale in Georgetown will be charged \$4 an hour or \$20 maximum. Fund raising events in the same facilities will cost \$6 an hour or \$30 maximum.

Fees are lower for the room downstairs at the Acton Arena, the Esquesing library, and the kitchen or boardroom downstairs at Cedarvale. Rental of these facilities for Halton Hills groups is \$3 an hour to a maximum of \$15, except for fund raising events when the rent goes up to \$4 an hour or \$20.

Council praised for wayside pit handling

Halton Hills council received some kind words from Tony Harbrow, Sixth Line resident, Monday night, when he thanked council for their efforts on the controversial wayside pits.

"I believe the solution will be judged equitable by all parties involved," he commented.

He said the pit owners should be satisfied virtually all the aggregate will be extracted over a minimum period of time and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications will benefit through better dealings with the municipalities.

He praised council for their time consuming and diligent handling of the situation.

Harbrow said the residents are satisfied with the solution, and said the

approximate closing date of the pits will restore real estate values. He emphasized it has proven the municipalities do have power in dealing with the provincial government, which should strengthen local councils and enable them to reach the most environmentally sensible decisions.

A letter from the MTC said they could not guarantee the Odorico pit would be closed by December 1981, but said they would try to establish a date. They confirmed the aggregate in the Odorico pit does not exceed 300,000 tons over and above the amount already committed to Bot Construction.

Council agreed to the MTC request that trucking operations for the wayside pits be changed to 6.30 a.m. rather than 7 a.m.

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Vacform closes

Vacform Plastics closed its Acton plant Friday and will reopen April 4 with English Plastics in Brampton.

Vacform general manager Roy Topelko told this newspaper Thursday that no jobs were lost by the move because the staff has moved with the firm to Brampton.

Vacform has been employing about 14 people here. He said no new tenant has been found for the Commerce Crescent plant.

The Acton plant closes



April is cancer campaign month and the flag was raised this week at the cenotaph. Yvonne Courtine, Sue Sale and Arlie White raised the flag.

Teachers to vote Thurs.

The results of contract talks between Halton's Board of Education and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation will be known Thursday evening.

Trustees will receive the recommendations from the salary committee then and teachers are expected to release the results of their ratification vote soon after.

OSSTF President Ron Ness confirmed that all the meetings between the executive and teachers were completed Monday. The vote is supervised by OSSTF.

Both sides in the contract dispute are considering recommendat-

ions from mediator Martin Teplitsky. A tentative pact was made after 14 hours of mediation on March 22.

Halton's high school teachers have worked since August without a contract.

Earlier this year teachers handed OSSTF

executives a 93.5 per cent strike mandate.

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