



Mac Sprowl was honored recently for his long service to the Arthritis Society. During the 7 years he has been chairman of the campaign over \$17,000 has been raised in Acton. The plaque Sprowl, second from right, is holding states "In appreciation of exceptional Public Service." Pictured with Sprowl are Acton Rotary vice-president Ken Grubbe, president Bill Scott and the incoming chairman of the campaign Jack Melnen.

## News digest

### No damage in electrical fire

Acton Firefighters were called to a mid-morning electrical fire at the R. Dickson home, 225 Elmore Dr., Saturday. Fire Chief Mick Holmes reported no damage as a result of the fire.

### Story of courage

The story of a courageous Acton area youngster, Roger Moore, will be reprinted in Diabetic Dialogue, the national quarterly publication of the Canadian Diabetic Association.

Roger, the 14 year old son of Lloyd and Betty-Lou Moore of Rt 4 Acton, recently celebrated three wins at Quarterama, Canada's largest Quarter horse show. For a first time entrant in the Toronto equestrian event this is remarkable, but when it becomes apparent that Roger is competing in western games, the most strenuous of events, with a hole in his heart and diabetes, his participation is especially noteworthy.

Roger's story was first told in the Acton Free Press Profiles column appearing weekly on page two.

### Windows smashed

Two Mill Street businesses were the target of vandals on the weekend. A beer bottle was thrown through the window of Viman Arts and Crafts and was reported to Police, Friday. The window is valued at more than \$200.

A second window, George Gray Real Estate, was smashed when a brick was thrown sometime Friday evening or early Saturday morning. Damage is estimated at \$190.

### Silver Creek grant

A \$1,457,500 Ontario grant will be used by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority to continue acquisition of additional valleyland in the Silver Creek Conservation Area.

Natural Resources Minister James Auld said the grant will assist the Conservation Authority's long-range plan to acquire this very significant Niagara Escarpment area located east of Acton. In addition to containing marsh and spring areas which flow into the Silver Creek tributary of the Credit River, many significant and rare species of flora and fauna are located within the area.

Total estimated cost of the multi-year project is \$2,650,000.

### Country jamboree

Country Music promotions have announced plans for the biggest Country Music Jamboree ever to be held north of the border. The Mohawk Jamboree is to be held on the long weekend of June 28 and 29 at the Mohawk Raceway in Campbellville, just west of Halton Hills.

Appearing will be the Roy Clark Show featuring Buck Trent, the Oakridge Boys, Tammy Wynette, Ray Price, Mel Tillis, George Jones, Brenda Lee, Roger Quick, Ronnie Milsap, Freddie Hart, Connie LeStitch, Walter Ostanek and champion fiddler Jana Jae. Canadian star Gordie Tapp will be the MC.

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## Middle school here to stay though K-8s do as well

After 11 reports, Halton's Board of Education concludes middle schools are no better places for learning than kindergarten to grade eight schools. The board, however, still favors middle schools.

The board's executive committee, after reviewing all the reports since 1969, judged "the research evidence that demonstrates decisively the superiority of one form of organization over another does not exist."

That was the first of eight judgements which comprise the executive committee's position on middle schools after its examination of the latest report.

There is no convincing evidence prior to the report, nor after it, that middle schools result in "superior academic achievement, improved pupil attitudes towards school and learning, and improved concepts of

self-worth in the pupils of middle school as compared to those same factors in a K-8 school."

The executive committee also concluded that arrangements of grades six, seven and eight were better than just the two senior grades such as at Stewarttown. Moreover, where there are at least two classes of each grade an offering of broader programs is possible, according to the committee's report.

Board Superintendent of Program Dr. Robert Dixon urged trustees implement the three-year format. One reason given was that schools with grades seven and eight lose half their students every year.

"While still favoring the move towards the implementation of a middle school organization wherever practical and feasible in economic terms, we do not believe that such a move should

endanger the future existence of small K-8 schools by the administrative removal of Grade 6," states the committee's position paper. The adding of grade six to a grade seven and eight school "could result in twinning a small K-8 school with a neighboring school."

Grade 6, seven and eight pupils, according to the executive committee, require some specialized facilities for science, industrial arts, family life, and health education, art and music.

Any further shift to implementation of the middle school concept "is still limited by fiscal restraints and, in some cases, from limitations on available pupil places." That is estimated to cost \$4-million in the next five years.

Centennial, W.I. Dick, Stewarttown, Brookville and McKenzie-Smith, Halton's middle schools in the north, and the rest

should develop timetables so that teachers will not have responsibilities for large numbers of pupils.

More than 90 per cent of the middle schools' staff is composed of former elementary school teachers. The executive committee concludes there is a need for teachers to be brought into tune with the children. And also there is training for teachers so they can prepare pupils for high school.

The main differences in program—what pupils are taught—depend on the size of the school, according to the latest report.

Smaller schools, because of limits on staff and facilities, are restricted in such subjects as art, science, history, geography and physical education.

The report also found that the grade six, seven and eight format is better than grade seven and eight for middle schools.

"We've spent just less than \$7,000 on a study that tells us middle schools are good; they provide us with things that K-8 schools do not. We'll move to middle school as money and enrollment permit," Acton-Esqueving Trustee Betty Fisher said.

"It (the study) didn't produce anything, in my mind, that we didn't have before."



Who's that knocking at my door? Four peacocks (we're presuming they were couples), were paying friendly visits to residents of Fourth line Thursday. They weren't too friendly with the newspaper's photographer however refusing to show their colors or even smile.

## Budget up \$2 million

Based on expenses for 1979 the Halton Separate board is projecting an increase of just over \$2 million for the upcoming 1980 budget. Average daily enrolment is expected to increase by 22 students.

The budget, recently approved by the board, calls for a 1980 expenditure of \$15,930,563, an increase of \$2,178,685. In 1978 to 1979 enrolment in the Catholic system increased by 337 students. This year they are calling for an increase of 221 students.

ool taxpayer the tax increase will be the same as those announced by the Board of Education since mill rates for elementary Separate school purposes are the same as public school mill rates. The board is looking to raise an additional \$269,613 over last year from the Separate school supporters through local taxation.

Expenditure per pupil is projected to rise by a little more than \$200, compared to costs in 1979. It will now cost an estimated \$1,723.37 to educate a student each year. Biggest expense for the board, is instruction, with \$1,242.53 of the operating budget of \$1,486.90 per student, going towards the teaching staff.

**HELP THE MENTALLY RETARDED**  
"Support the Flowers of Hope"

## HALTON HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT AREA NO. 1

- Applications for volunteer firefighters are now being accepted
- Application forms may be obtained at the 'Acton Municipal Office'
- Preference will be given to those applicants with the following qualifications:

- Are physically fit
- Between the ages of 19-30
- Work in town and are available for day time alarms OR work night shifts but are available for day time alarms

Completed applications may be returned to the 'Acton Municipal Office' or District Chief B. Van Fleet, 35 Nelson Court, Acton

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May 25	\$399	\$339	\$120
June 1, 8, 15, 22	\$369	\$299	\$120
<b>Sea Club Hotel*</b>			
May 25	\$389	\$319	\$140
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## Schools, families hold key to stem youth drug abuse

Today's adolescent drug consumer is having to relearn the lessons about LSD-25 because there remains too few drug-wise members of the '60s generations.

"A lot of people got burned on these drugs; many died," says Addiction Research Foundation consultant Richard O'Brien.

Ten years ago there was considerable LSD around however, the market dried off as some users wised up. For others the lessons came too late.

"There's a resurgence now of LSD," according to O'Brien who spoke to a mixed group at the library last week on the subject of drug use among adolescents.

"Drugs are being used by younger people than 10 years ago and one doesn't have to be a member of a cause," observed the consultant. LSD is expensive; about \$3 per unit. The number one drug

abused by adolescents is a legal one: alcohol. Holding down the number two spot on the drug hit parade is marijuana, said the consultant.

O'Brien's remarks came during an information meeting. He was describing for the 14-people audience stimulants, tranquilizers, hallucinogens and other drugs.

The majority of people who call in, who claim their kid has a drug problem—90 per cent—have an adolescent problem that can be dealt with in the family," according to O'Brien.

Caught up with the family are the schools. One parent asked why informed people, like O'Brien couldn't go into high schools more than they do.

O'Brien replied the police can't very well go into the schools about drugs, because they do not get a good response. The Addiction Research Foundation could, but that's a time consuming

step and means the hiring of staff. "The only solution, I think, is to challenge the school boards. Give them the basic information and have it distributed," said O'Brien.

"I think we'll find school boards will increase drug information," predicted the consultant.

(Halton Board of Education is expecting a report on drugs from the Addiction Research Foundation within two weeks).

Tangled up with the schools, are the families. If a student, once he's got the basic drug information from the schools, can't talk about it with his parents, he may go elsewhere; away from the family.

Parents have to be informed and the school system has to make a concerted, standardized effort as part of board policy, said O'Brien.

Marijuana's initial users among adolescents seem to involve the drug with growing up; the transition from child to adult.

"Children don't seem to have much patience and a very easy way to get recognition is to smoke dope."

At that point, a good home life is important; where parents gradually recognize the growing adult. Otherwise, the adolescent may turn to his school friends for identity or love and all their other needs.

**SUNDAY, MAY 18th**  
**Giant Dusk to Dawn Show**

**The LONG RIDERS**  
United Artists

- "Corvette Summer"
- "Americathon"
- "The Body Snatchers"
- "Long Riders"
- "The Passage"

Box Office Opens 7:30  
Show Starts At Dusk  
Sorry, no children admitted to this program  
Hwy. No. 7, Guelph 824-5431

**MUSTANG DRIVE-IN**

**Starts Friday, May 16th**

**The LONG RIDERS**  
United Artists

David Carradine, Keith Carradine, Robert Carradine, James Keach, Stacy Keach, Dennis Quaid, Randy Quaid, Christopher Penn, Phillip Bruns, Mike Connors, and arranged by Ry Cooder. Produced by Tim Zeman. Directed by Walter Hill. Written by Bill Brubaker, Steven Phillip Brill, Stacy O'Keefe, James Keach, Executive Producers James and Stacy Keach. United Artists

**PLUS SECOND FEATURE**  
"The Body Snatchers"

Box Office opens 8 p.m.  
Show starts at Dusk  
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**MUSTANG DRIVE-IN**

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