

# The Acton Free Press

Founded in 1875

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Don McDonald, Publisher

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## Why leave it to Beaver?

One of the tallest hurdles for a student looking for a summer job or a new graduate searching for a path into the work force is the lack of work experience.

For many jobs, an applicant needs to have experience. However, if one can't land that first job, how does one get experience?

Educators have had a hand in helping students break that no-experience, no job circle. At Acton's High School, for example, teachers have taken on some extra responsibility, in addition to their regular duties, and encouraged students to operate the cafeteria.

Students have learned about nutrition, the handling of customers and money, plus the calculating of profit and loss: all from day-to-day experience.

The student-staff cafeteria has been in operation for some time; ever since Beaver Foods was bumped out of the school. Beaver Foods operates cafeterias in some other Halton schools.

Now Halton's Board of Education has undertaken a study in co-operation with Beaver Foods "to examine the advantages and disadvantages of having a cafe-

teria run by the school staff and students."

According to Halton's Director of Education Em Lavender it's prudent to look at the staff time and responsibilities as compared to the advantages.

Indeed it may be prudent. However, the approach of the study stretches the credibility of any advice Beaver Foods will give the board. Surely it is too much in Beaver Foods' interests not to produce unbiased opinion.

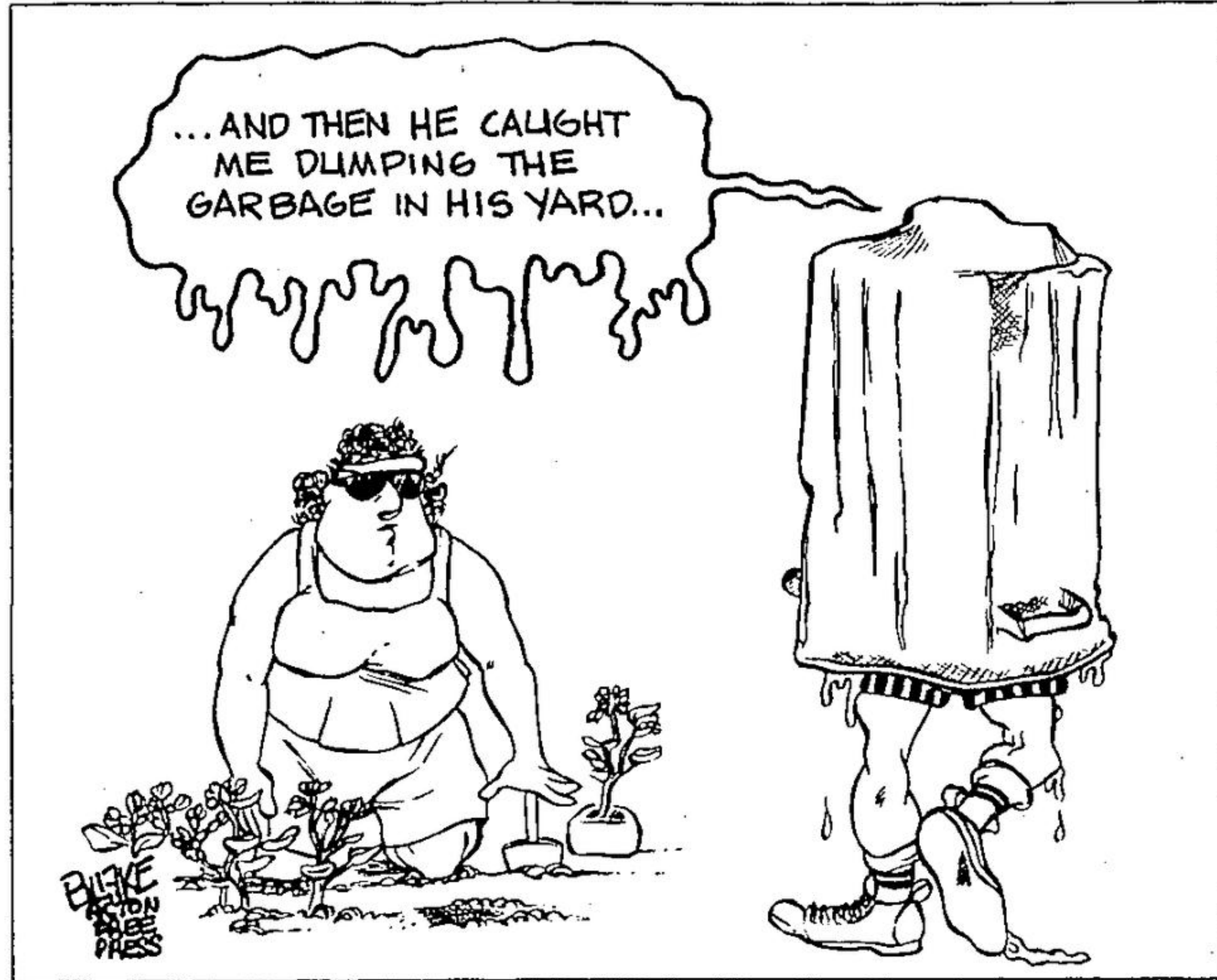
There are arguments the board can produce in defence, such as, one must go to the people with expertise in the field under study.

Beaver Foods, however, can be seen only as a competitor in the eyes of the AHS students and staff.

On a larger scale can one envision the Ontario Ministry of Consumer Affairs asking Simpsons to assist in a government study of Eaton's merchandising?

If the board needs expertise with the study, why not at least ask some other company for advice.

Or better still, ask the real experts at AHS: the staff and students.



## Cool heads needed

Market value assessment represents a threat of creating much ill feeling between new and old Acton homeowners. As the debate concerning the advantages and disadvantages of one tax system over another goes on; residents ought to adopt an attitude of understanding.

The general arguments from each side are old in nature. They've been raised before elsewhere.

Older residents say the newer people should pay the cost of their homes plus help pay for streets outside of the subdivision.

Newer residents are of the opinion, why should they assist with the cost of road repair in the older parts of town when they already pay for, in their area, the streets, sewers, water mains, sidewalks plus the lot levy for sewage capacity and schools.

On the surface the shift to market value assessment appears to mean little. Out of 1,815 residential properties in town, 296 would not change, 695 would decrease while 823 would increase.

The size of the increases in tax bills, however, would, to some older residents likely mean hav-

ing to give up their homes. Taxes in some places would increase many times over.

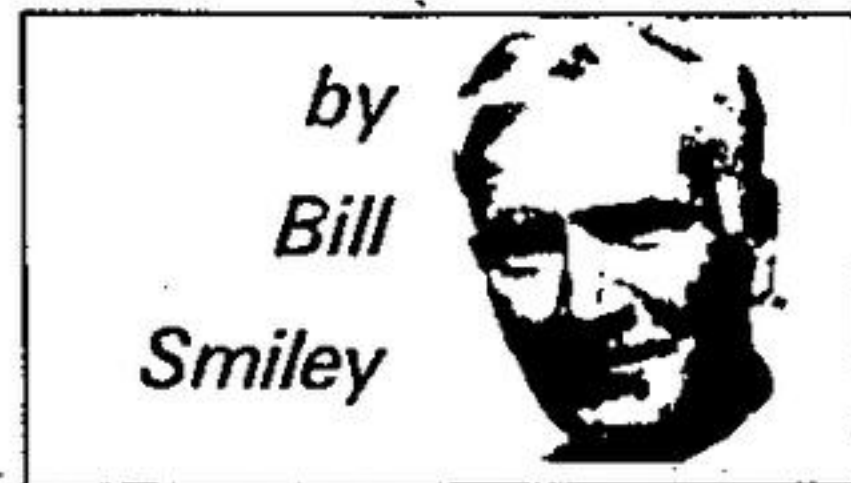
The best bet is for officials and residents to get as much information as soon as possible, then take their time, with a liberal dose of understanding, to square off as many of the inequities as possible. It likely will not be as easy task.

A public meeting is to be held June 16 at the Acton High School to discuss market value assessment. Town and region officials are likely to be there as well as many residents.

The meeting will not likely see the end of the tax controversy, however, with cool heads it may be the beginning of the end.

Right now the town does not appear to have enough information to decide whether or not to take on the new form of tax. For one thing, no one knows how the new form will affect industries.

The province has given the town some bits of information concerning market value assessment and if there is anymore information residents want to know about, it's time for the province to help quickly and efficiently.



by Bill Smiley

## Separate holidays make domestic cage bearable?

It's bewildering when you think of the number of things that can break up a marriage that began in heaven and ends up in the other place.

Sexual or emotional incompatibility, disparity of interests, rotten kids, desertion, booze, insanity, to name just a few of the serious ones.

Then you work your way down to the aspects that seem trivial on the surface, but can be just as rending over the grind as the big ones.

Stuff like halitosis, dandruff, body odor, nose-picking, digging wax from ears or jam from toes, and similar physical foibles.

And then there are the basic differences in genes that shatter many a case of conjugal bliss. Some people are yawning until the tears spurt at 9:20 p.m., and are wedded to other people who just begin to hit on the cylinders about the time the late movies begin.

That's bad enough. But the former are the type who leap out of bed at six a.m., carolling: "Here hath been dawning another new day; think, wilt thou let it slip useless away?" And the latter have to be dragged out of bed at the crack of noon with a block and tackle. Not much chance for them.

Then there are the poor devils who put on a pound just by reading a menu, and bitterly resent their mates, who can shovel in the chocolates, pastry, whipped cream and beer, and go around remarking blithely, and smugly, "I have to eat like a horse to stay even." Grounds for a hatchet murder.

Some people, mostly men, look 40 when they are married, and still look 40 when they are sixty. Others, mostly women, look 16 when they are married, and 80 when they are 40. This can lead to a certain amount of savagery.

And there is plain old body temperature. Some like it hot; some like it cool. Thus we find running battles as bedroom windows are thrown wide or slammed down; as the thermostat is viciously wrenched up to 80, and the moment the back is turned, is triumphantly twisted back to 60.

Another of the fractious items in the constant domestic skirmishing is the question of who does the most work. A man, let's say a barber, bleats that he's been on his feet all day, and they're killing him. His erstwhile soul-mate retorts that she's been on her knees all day, and she'll kill him if he doesn't get out and mow the lawn.

In the same vein, an executive will reel in from work, collapse in a chair after mixing a triple martini, and go into a recitation about the overwhelming stress he's under: a fight with the boss; a client lost; inefficient underlings.

And his "darling" "sugar", or "hon" of 30 years ago will come back like a tigress with her stress: the phone rang 13 times today; she had a fight with the plumbers; the new drapes don't match anything except puke; she had to take the new car to a garage because some turkey creased her, to the tune of \$300, in a parking lot.

Heck, I could go on for an hour, listing reasons that people first begin to get on each other's nerves, proceed to smoldering dislike, and end up in a glorious blaze of pure hatred. And I'm sure every one of you gentle readers could add to the list.

I'll do a 30,000 word thesis on it someday. But for now I'd like to add just one item to the list that is seldom mentioned by either sociology professors or Ann Landers.

This cause of fractured marriage is too much togetherness. When a married couple spend too much time together, they not only begin looking alike, but talking alike, thinking alike and all the other alikes.

As a result, they become two-headed calfs, Siamese twins, freak vegetables with two carrots growing from one seed. Repeating the same old things, bickering about the same trivial things, chewing their cabbage twice, they lose their individuality, and become both boring and boring.

They are nearing the end when they start calling each other "Mother" and "Dad", and can spend half an hour patiently disagreeing over a third-rate TV show.

This was no great vision on the road to Damascus. It came to me when my wife went off for a few days in the city and I was alone, all, all, alone, on a sea of beautiful privacy.

Nobody saying, "Lights out, dear, you have to work tomorrow," at midnight just when I'm getting into the guts of a novel. I know I have to work tomorrow. Two nights she was away, I read until six a.m.

Nobody telling me what a day she'd had, when I'd had a worse one. And vice versa.

She thought I'd eaten the cooked ham she left me. I fed it to the squirrels and ate a lasagna that almost killed me. Dill pickles, ice cream, coffee a spoon would stand in. Unmade bed, unwashed dishes, cigarettes with no filters. Bloody Mary's for breakfast.

When she came home, of course, everything was spic'n span. But she loved me so much she almost strangled me. It was mutual.

Try it. It cost me about four hundred. Worth every cent. About once a year, I do the same; take off to a convention or into the woods. She doesn't miss me, loves the solitude, and I'm delighted to be home.

Separate holidays might make that domestic cage of yours bearable. No pun intended.

## Back issues

### 10 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Acton Free Press Wednesday, June 10, 1970

The 24-hour rotating strike has affected the staff at Acton Post office, where they didn't report for work Friday.

"Hard work, good livin' and lots of cigars," That's the formula for longevity C. K. Browne, Acton's grand old man, passed on to friends at his 100th birthday party.

Although attendance seemed lower than usual, a large crowd gathered for Decoration Day. An evergreen tree donated by Acton WI was dedicated by Rev. Harry Dawson.

Dr. Allan Buchanan and Fred Wright were presented with their 40 year service pins by life member George Mussette at the Legion.

Nassagaweya council is seeking legal advice in its opposition to the hydro line through the township.

Ray Nellis was declared the winner of the demo derby at the speedway.

### 20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Acton Free Press Thursday, June 2, 1960

Sandy Best M.P. announced that negotiations are almost finalized to acquire part of the Dominion Hotel property and land owned by Jack Smith on Main N. for a site for a new post office.

Charles Kelly Browne celebrated his 90th birthday.

A campaign for artificial ice has been sparked by the town's newest organization, the Lions Club.

A cairn was erected at the Robert Little school by the Home and School Association, a cement base housing the corner stone from the demolished school topped by the old school bell.

High school field day champions are Carol Goodwin, Janice Gardner, Bonnie McDougall, Jackie Dawe, Bob Foyers, Pete Hurst, Grant Baker, Sheldon Blow, Jon Hurst, Peter Hoker.

Rev. A. S. Callaghan, of Rockwood and Oustic churches, has been 40 years in the priesthood.

Superb pitching by Denis Gibbons led the midjets to a 7-5 win over Aldershot in the season opener.

Murray McBride was ordained as a minister.

### 50 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Acton Free Press June 5, 1930

Rev. W. J. Hamilton has taken charge of the Baptist church.

For a number of years the ladies of Acton Women's Christian Temperance Union have been actively engaged in encouraging the study of the evils of intoxicating liquors and the use of tobacco by the students of the schools. The annual presentation of prizes took place in the United church. The prize in the oratorical contest was won by Barbara Taylor followed by Vera Rawlings and Elwood Johnston. Barbara Guthrie, Isabel Switzer, Beth Harrison and Elwood Johnston read essays. Scrapbooks were shown by Wilmer Davidson, Edna Hinton, Ruby Allan, Vera Cox and May Waterhouse. Miss Minnie Bennett announced the winners of awards in the Sunday schools, Norman Gibson, Laura Hall, Teddy Hansen, Harvey Hassard and Lucy MacArthur.

Seventeen aeroplanes flew over Acton in a squadron, travelling from Michigan to Kingston to take part in a rally. There were originally 18, but one crashed. The pilot landed safely by parachute.

There are now 221 pensioners in Halton whose applications have been passed.

Several of the streets in town are receiving a liberal coating of gravel.

### 100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Acton Free Press Thursday, June 3, 1880

Undoubtedly Mrs. S. A. Secord has the most tastefully laid out garden in the village filled with the largest assortment of flowers.

The new Band Stand is to be erected on Bower Avenue, at the head of John St., Dr. Morrow having kindly consented to have it built on his property there. A new sidewalk will be built on John St. from Mill to Bower Ave.

A number of young men make a practice of congregating on the sidewalks at the entrance to the different churches, as the congregations are dismissed on Sunday evenings, to the annoyance of others, especially the ladies.

Considerable sickness in Nassagaweya. Several fatal cases among children.

Creditors are mourning the sudden departure of Herman Clark, who rented the Rockwood mills from Messrs. Hague Bros. Mill and Main streets are receiving a coat of gravel.

A certain class of persons have lately engaged in the disgraceful practice of decorating the walls of the offices in the school with drawings, cuttings and pencilings of an obscene character. Any who engage in this filthy amusement will be expelled or prosecuted.

## Our readers write

### Mosquito spraying protest

To the Editor Dear Sir:

I would like to protest the proposed mosquito spraying. I sympathize with the problems of those with allergies and with the wish to be rid of such pests. However, we are very gullible if we believe that it is possible for any agency to recommend a "safe" spray. The hazards of these chemicals are not known. It will be too late if we find out in five or 10 years that another regrettable "mistake" has been

made. And what about those people who will have allergic or other reactions to the spray?

My advice to Mrs. Houston and her supporters is to protect themselves with insect sprays, by staying indoors and by working to eliminate possible breeding sites.

In this way toxic chemicals will not be imposed on people who do not want them.

Lynne Wilson

### Presentation appreciated

Dr. Paul Tamblin Acton District High School

Dear Sir:

It was a great pleasure and a distinct honour to be present yesterday during the presentations made by your students Miss Miriam Beaton, Miss Paula Ruppert and Miss Sandra Kirsch to the Niagara Escarpment Hearing Officers in Ancaster.

I have had the opportunity of sitting through numerous briefs made to the Officers and can only say that yours was by far the most interesting and certainly informative on the broad sense of the younger generation's views. You and your group are to be highly commended in that your efforts have certainly brought a great deal of attention and respect to both your

school and the Town of Halton Hills.

As you know I represent our Town both on Local Council and Regional Council and I am your representative on the Niagara Escarpment Commission. I feel, therefore, qualified to personally and on behalf of the Town congratulate you for a job well done.

As I indicated to you if there is any way that I can be of assistance to you please feel free to contact me through the Town Office at your convenience.

Yours sincerely, R.E. Booth, Regional Councillor, (Niagara Escarpment Commission Commissioner) Town of Halton Hills



## On the Leavell

With Helen

Total Chamber of Commerce membership now stands at 106. The following are members:

A-B Foodland, Achilles Motors, Acton Bowling Lanes, Acton Automotive, Acton Chicken & Pizza Spot, Acton Community Services Centre, Acton Free Press, Acton Home Hardware, Acton Hydro Electric Commission, Acton I.G.A., Acton Photo and Camera, Acton Precast Concrete Ltd., Acton Rent All, Acton Tool & Die, Acton Transmission, Acton Travel Ltd., Acton Welding, Al's Marine & Service Centre, Allinson John, Aquatic Enterprises.

Bank of Montreal, Bank of Nova Scotia, Beardmore & Co. Ltd., Bell Canada, Building Products of Canada Ltd., Cam & Bell's Catering, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Canadian Tire Corp., Cargill Motor Homes, Commercial Shearing Ltd., Corrie's Hair Place, Daly, Farnworth & McGregor, Davies Truck Equipment Ltd., Denny's Insurance Agency, Don's Lock Service, J.C. Duff Ltd., Ed's In-N-Out Variety, The Fabric Shoppe, Facey, Dr. Jeffrey, Family Cleaners, Family Restaurant, First Line TV Sales & Service, Fourth Line Flower Shop / Nursery, Fread Construction.

Glenslea Drug Mart, Glenslea Medical Clinic, Guelph Daily Mercury, Guy Cartage Ltd., Grant's Motors Ltd., Hall's Custom Carpentry Shop, Halton Hills Custom Upholstery, Halton Hills Furniture & Appliances, Halton Hills Veterinary Services, Headly's Haircutting Parlour, Hinton, H.H., Jon Hurst Electric, Induslim Limited, Inland Publishing Co. Ltd., J-T Sports, G. Alec Johnson Limited, Kumil Industrial Supplies Ltd., L.E.C. Maintenance & Electrical Services, Laing

Construction, Lakeview Centre, Liquor Control Board of Ontario, Lovell's Meats Ltd., Lyle's Family Barber Shop, Mabley, Kim, MacKenzie & Chapman, J.B. MacKenzie & Son Ltd., McNair Mushroom Farm Ltd., Maple Rock Shooting Range, Minuteman Press, Murray Memorial YMCA, The Music Stop.

Nellis Construction Ltd., Nielsen's Clothing, Noble, Phil, Nor Halton Park, Q Bar J, Enterprise, Queen's Restaurant (Bolton) Raceway Motors & Collision Ltd., Nick Redekop Masonry Contr., Rich's Service Centre, Roger's Insulation Ltd., Ron's Burner Service, Royal Variety, Schumacher, Dr. R.W., Stedman's Department Store, Superior Motors, Sweetman, Dave and Alma, Telford, Dr. R.M., Thompson, Dr. W.R. Tom, Thompson Fuels, Todders to Teens, Toronto Dominion Bank, Tullman's Garden Centre & Landscaping, Tyler Transport Ltd., V & W Contracting, Vaeform Plastics Ltd., Wheelan, Vincent G., Whiting, David, P.J. Wilson Electric, Wooden Heart Inn, Goodwin, Roy, Ron Saunders Excavating.