



YAHOOOOOOOO! School's out. And these grade four—oops, grade five—students from Robert Little School are ready for summer. Leaping into the holidays are left to right Geoff DeJong 10, Peter Bray 10, Allan Boyle 10, Kevin Fabian 10, and Scott Corcoran, 10. Now that school's out a special warning to motorists: Watch out for carefree kids and make the summer a safe one.

photo by DIANA WALTMAN

Reject 112 homes

A plan for 112 single family homes on Highway 25, opposite 25 Sideroad, on the former Acton boundary line, was turned down by Halton Hills planning board, this week.

There was no discussion by planning board members, who unanimously agreed with a planning staff report and recommendation.

The 36 acre parcel, owned by K. Fisher, is next to the Beardmore aeration field on one side and McNair Mushrooms on the other.

A letter from Beardmore objected to the 112 homes, claiming a residential area so close to an industrial establishment would lead to complaints about noise, odor and other factors common to the manufacturing process.

Neil Patullo, Public Health Inspector, for Halton Health Unit, pointed out in a letter that Beardmore uses the adjacent land for spraying effluent from their waste disposal system, and McNair Mushroom Farm is located immediately south-east.

Patullo concluded the location is unsuitable for

a residential subdivision.

The planning report agreed the surrounding land use did not lend itself to residential development, and pointed out the water pollution treatment plant located, to northeast could result in "unpleasant conditions".

The planning report pointed out a review of

urban boundaries is now being done, which could determine the allocation of sewage plant capacity, and stated until this is completed any sewage allocation would be premature.

The planning department recommended the area be included in the Acton Urban Boundary Review.

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Ted Tyler feels the Acton Town Hall could become a focal point for downtown Acton again as it was in the days of his childhood. With this in mind, he and two co-chairmen are working hard to make Acton's first lottery, Actario a smashing success.

The lottery, designed to raise all the money needed by the town to restore the town hall, was Ted's idea and he's worked out most of the details. Working with him as co-chairmen to organize the fund raising lottery are Alma Sweetman and Yvonne Rosenquist.

Ted hopes the lottery will give Acton a "much needed shot in the arm" and will appeal to a sense of gaming as well as to those people who wish to support the restoration of the town hall.

"Actually some people who are participating don't give a darn about the town hall... they think it's pretty good odds."

And at 100 bucks a throw for a chance at \$350 a week and a whole bunch of weekly bonuses, plus a trip a month, it is.

Only 1,000 tickets are being printed and must be sold this summer before the first draw date in September. After that draws will take place weekly for a whole year, with every winning ticket being thrown back in the pot.

Groups are forming to purchase tickets, several high school students are co-operating to buy a ticket.

Post dated cheques will be accepted and people can take advantage of this offer by paying \$25 down and writing three cheques for \$26 each dated November 10, February 10, '81 and May 10, '81.

"It's really only two bucks a week" Ted comments.

Back to Acton Days celebrations marked the

kickoff for ticket sales and Ted was delighted to report he sold \$1,100 worth of tickets in one evening alone.

"Hard times are around, but people have still got 100 bucks... I'm amazed and surprised how many people have a 100 dollars in their pocket in cold, hard cash."

Twelve licenses needed
Organization of the lottery was considerably more difficult than that of a small draw of raffle. Ted's involvement? "I must have been mad one night!"

He was asked to attend a fund raising meeting concerning the town hall and says he was "keeping my mouth shut for a change and keeping the hell out of trouble" while ideas for bake sales and quilting bees were kicked around.

Where raising \$50,000 was concerned Ted felt the committees couldn't deal in "nickel and dime stuff" so he came up with the idea of the lottery.

"It's only a matter of working out the math".

There were stumbling blocks. The town's lottery licenses are only good for \$5,000 prize draw so Actario had to go with 12 monthly licenses totalling the amount of the \$50,000 to \$60,000 worth of prizes that will be awarded, instead on one license for the whole draw.

Irrevocable letters of credit were needed for a draw of this magnitude and "we needed a pretty good credit rating," Ted says.

Money not required for prizes will be invested in term deposits so extra income can be earned.

"We don't just want winners," Ted comments, "we want everyone involved... we want to make it an occasion and create a hive of activity down town... the last time we had a repetitive activity in town was the weekly games of our hockey team (back in the 50's)".

"I have mixed feelings about the town hall," Ted adds, "I like nostalgic things but when you're talking that amount of money (nearly a quarter million dollars for town hall restoration) you wonder if it's worth it. But with so many other people getting involved (grants) we are getting a restored town hall for \$50,000 to \$60,000—it's the bargain of the century."

We'll never get another

Ted's mixed feelings about the town hall don't include his memories. He says he has very fond

memories of activities centred around the town hall when he was a boy in Acton, before he took over his father's transport business and started his own travel agency.

He remembers when the band used the town hall for rehearsals and he received his first horn from Charlie Mason in the little room that served as police offices for so long.

"It was a horrible horn—it only worked half the time" he remembers.

He feels the restored town hall would make a good focal point and small museum. He'd like to see a corner of the hall kept for mementos of town government as it was, such as the mayor's chair and the two flags Ted and Alf Duby removed when regional government took over in 1974. A history corner for the school children featuring a list of councillors and other historically related items would be valuable, he thinks.

"That's when people did things for the town for the love of it."

Still remembering the hive of activity that went on every Saturday night downtown with people dropping in to the retail outlets such as Ben Rachlin's store, Elliott's, and Pa Jones, Ted would like to see the town hall renew the community feeling alive 20 years ago in Acton.

"Maybe this is the secret of getting people back downtown" he dreams, "after all, we'll never get another Acton Town Hall."



Ted Tyler



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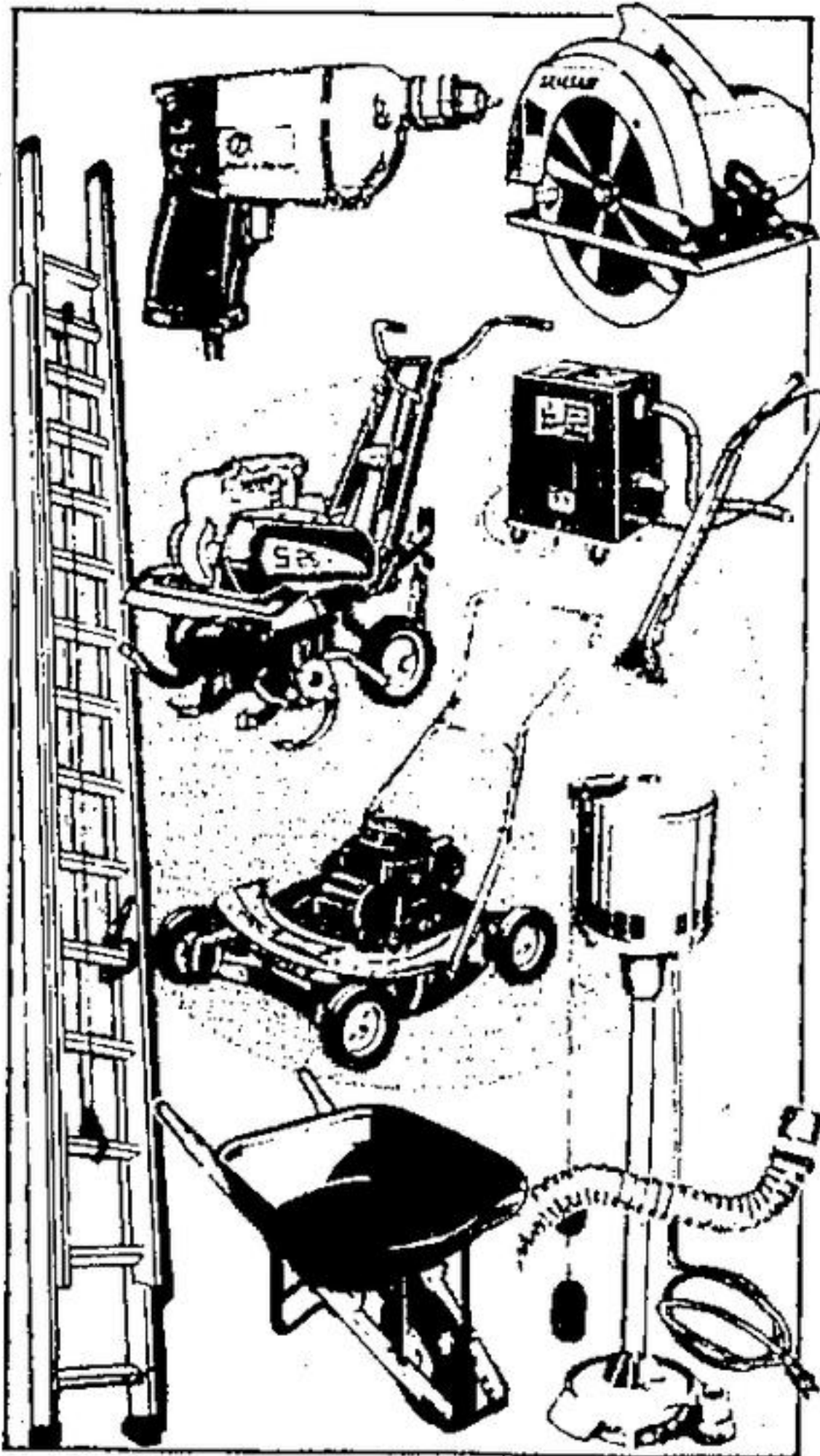
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