



Four Acton and Rockwood area students were award and subject prize winners this year at St. Margaret's School, Elora. Left to right, are Anna Taylor of Rockwood, Juliann Turner, RR2 Acton, Kristen Howard, RR 4 Rockwood, and Stephanie Howard, RR 4 Acton. Anna won awards and prizes for general proficiency, math, art, English and French, as well as an honors pin. Juliann was the recipient of the religious knowledge award. The grade six math prize went to Kristen while Stephanie won the grade five French prize.

Six houses on working farm

Six houses on 20 acres of a 100 acre operating farm was the unique proposal made to Halton Hills Planning Board, Tuesday night.

The houses on a private road running off Highway 25 would be located on the Berry farm, next to Chudleigh's Apple Farm, between Five and Ten Sideroad.

Planning board members tended to favor the concept but questioned the private road, which in the past has been the cause of ratepayers' dissent.

A public meeting will be held and the lawyers for the town and the applicant asked to work out an agreement on the maintenance and snow ploughing of the private road, so it is clear to buyers the Town is not responsible.

The land would be designated Escarpment Rural Area under the draft Niagara Escarpment Plan, which would

allow this development. The NEC asked for the town's comments on the plan.

A report from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food strongly opposed the development, terming it "a massive intrusion on non-compatible use." The Ministry said restrict the present livestock operation since the barn could not be built any closer to the homes. Continuing, the Ministry claimed there is a danger of trespassing on the adjacent apple orchard.

A letter from Tom Chudleigh, owner of the adjacent apple farm, backed the six house plan, and emphasized it would not adversely affect his operation. He pointed out the closest house would be more than 500 feet from his boundary.

Commenting on the suggestion good farm land would be lost, Chudleigh said he had watched

the present owners attempting to farm the property and at least two others with unsatisfactory results. He said he rented the only 20 acres of any use for other than grazing. "It is by no means prime agricultural land, and suitable for its present use as small cow operation, possibly mixed with boarding of horses, he said.

He noted the Berrys have renovated the old house, cleared land and torn down outbuildings which were in a state of disrepair. "In 1905 the land and all buildings were in a derelict state, now the farm is being used more or less effectively."

The town solicitors warned against approving development on a private road, pointing out council has been repeatedly asked to take them over, demanding the same services as other residents. "It may

set a precedent which is likely to haunt you for a long time," said the lawyer's letter.

The solicitor admitted this development is within the Niagara Escarpment Area, so is not exactly the same as a proposal under the town's control.

Councillor Roy Booth, a member of the NEC, said all agencies have said this is a unique situation.

He said this would be a first for the town and for the whole of Halton. Under the NEC regulations this could be permitted he said, and a covenant about private maintenance of the road could be registered on title.

Councillor Russ Miller also warned allowing private roads would come back to haunt the board. He recalled several such roads in the Esquewas area where council has refused to take over the private

roads, despite many requests from residents. Councillor Harry Levy said he was convinced the town could have some control over the private road, and said the solicitors should be asked to work it out.

The planner said the original concept was as a condominium development which would permit a private road owned and maintained by the corporation, but that idea was changed because of the market.

Councillor Ross Knechtel claimed the type of person buying these houses would not want a public road. He suggested they would be expensive homes. Knechtel said signs should be placed at the entrance saying the road is private before any house is started.

Miller commented, "When there's three feet of snow people forget it's a private road, and start

hollering for a snow-plow."

Councillor George Maltby said his laneway

was almost as long as this road would be and said he had to plow it himself.

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Cost of Site F already \$500,000

By Dennis Smith
Halton has spent about \$500,000 on consulting and legal fees since it has been trying to establish a garbage dump at Site F in Milton, says a regional official.

This estimate came from Ernie Reid, Halton's chief administrative officer, who said the figure covers the period from the Region's original involvement to the present.

"The Environmental Assessment Act (provincial) is quite strict," said Mr. Reid. "Even if there were no objections to the site, there would still be a certain amount of tests."

Site F, a 246-acre dump planned for Tremaine and Britannia roads in Milton has origins that go

back to 1972 and has been bitterly fought by the Town of Milton and residents in the area.

The next hurdle in the long battle will be a hearing before the Environmental Assessment Board this fall.

The Region has set aside \$150,000 for this hearing alone and has projected that the Milton dump may be in operation by 1984.

The budgeted figure and the projection both come from a recently-released report entitled Solid Waste Management in Halton.

The half-million dollars have been spent on legal representation and engineering studies on a variety of areas related to the establishment of a dump. Mr. Reid said these in-

clude test borings, study of land capacity, legal representation at hearings, and even a study of the effects of a nearby airport.

The Region is not yet authorized to spend any money on the actual site, said Mr. Reid, noting that land prices will be increasing in the interim.

It's difficult to estimate how much a difference the numerous objections have contributed to the costs, said Mr. Reid, adding the Region has probably been more thorough because of them.

The costs of trying to establish the Milton dump are staggering, said Ron Planche of Oakville, the Region's public works chairman.

"The expenses are astronomical and the environmental controls have just been unreal," he said.

Noting that Halton has spent more time and effort into the Site F question than any other problem Mr. Planche said, "There are other issues of greater importance."

Tipping fees back for study

Residents hauling garbage to landfill sites and finding they have to pay dumping fees like the big haulers will have to wait some time for relief.

Regional Public Works Committee has referred the question of allowing residents not to pay tipping fees back to staff for a further report.

At the present time, anyone dumping in a regional landfill site must pay the tipping fee

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