

The Acton Free Press

Don McDonald, Publisher

Founded in 1875

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The system's at fault

Obviously the province and the region have different ideas about what Halton Hills should be like than the people of Halton Hills.

Halton Hills must revise its official plan from the draft prepared by the planners. Last week the general committee of council thought it was necessary to call for a task force composed of the mayor and four councillors to steer the plan in the right direction and have it done in time to meet the deadline at the end of '81.

Over a year ago the town circulated its draft official plan to other levels of government. Both Queen's Park and Halton Region replied that the plan does not go far enough, being merely a consolidation of the old Georgetown, Esquesing and Acton official plan.

What then does Queen's Park want?

The Province wants the plan to look at issues such as energy conservation, downtown redevelopment, transportation and heritage policies as well as social issues. It's an in-depth study which will likely need the services of expensive consultants for some of the studies.

It is too bad the Province had not been more specific when they first issued guidelines for

preparing the official plan. Perhaps official strategy is to burden the municipalities with a little information at a time. An expensive plan.

The Province also wants the Halton Hills plan to conform with the region plan, a sensible attitude, but one likely to set the cart before the horse. It would seem more sensible to have the region plan flow around that of the municipalities. There are vast differences of opinion between north and south on the future shape of Halton Region.

Let's face it, the south of the region is primarily concerned with urban issues. North of Dundas Highway (No. 5) the concerns are a mix of urban and rural, an entirely different bag.

Utopia it isn't. Councillor Pam Sheldon thinks the Halton Hills plan should reflect "what we are." Eminently sensible.

The farther removed a level of government from the people the more impractical its ideas, observed Councillor Ross Knechtel.

Hence the task force, the extra expense and more work for consultants. All the posturing in the world can't change the way the system works.

from The Georgetown Independent

It's weedless Wednesday

You tried to stop smoking on New Year's Day but didn't make it? Well, here's another opportunity. January 21 has been declared WEEDLESS WEDNESDAY by the Halton Council on Smoking

and Health to give you a second chance. Why not call 827-7973 to get help. The Halton Council on Smoking and Health wants you to succeed on WEEDLESS WEDNESDAY.

Our readers write

Judge Black case on merits

(This letter from the former Warden of Halton County, Mayor of Milton and Reeve of Nassagaweya was filed with the Free Press for publication.)

January 15, 1981

Mr. William Lawson,
Chairman of the Halton Board of Education
2650 Guelph Line,
Burlington, Ontario

Dear Mr. Lawson and Members of the Board:

I was shocked and concerned when I read of the predicament of Mr. Keith Black. I knew that I must write this letter which, I might add, is not solicited and is written without the knowledge of Mr. Black.

I was a fellow teacher of Mr. Black when he was at Milton High School. From the time he came to the school I was impressed with his sincerity, his responsible manner and the fact that he really cared for the students and wanted to help them in any way he could.

In 1969 he organized a trip under Ship's school to take students from Milton High School on a 31 day trip to Europe and in 1970 on a three week trip to Japan. I, along with other Milton teachers accompanied him on the two trips. Through his perseverance and leadership 60 students of the school enjoyed a unique educational experience which many have told me they will never forget. On these trips Mr. Black showed his leadership qualities, his ability to get along with other people, his ability to communicate with students and to give his

students the benefit of every experience that he was capable of giving them.

He is not a dishonest man.

My conclusion is that Mr. Black made a serious error in judgment when he decided to resolve his business problems in the way that he did. Nevertheless, I cannot see that it should be used against him in such a way that he cannot follow his chosen profession.

In my judgment when you deliberate on Mr. Black's case, your consideration should not be based on the fact that you would be creating a precedent in relation to future problems that may arise or decisions made in the past. One of the great characteristics of the democratic society in which we live is that cases are decided on their individual merits.

If you decide against Mr. Black you will be depriving a good and just man of the privilege of pursuing his chosen career and what is still more serious, you would be depriving students of the services of a dedicated teacher who will not be easily replaced.

In conclusion, may I quote to you from a famous English bard who I am sure has influenced many great men down through the centuries in coming to a conclusion and judgment with which their conscience could live.

"The quality of mercy is not strained, It falleth like the gentle rain from Heaven upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed, If blessing he that gives and he that takes."

Anne J. MacArthur

Appreciate paper's coverage

Dear Sir:

With the New Year already several weeks underway, the Acton Chamber of Commerce would like to take time out to express its appreciation to the Acton Free Press and its staff for its conscientious effort to keep our community aware of town events, accomplishments and plans.

The year 1980 saw many changes in Acton. As town citizens, businesses and interest groups worked to make our area an active and healthy community, the Free Press made it possible for its readers

to be aware and informed. A renewed sense of community involvement and co-operation promises to make 1981 a year of progress for Acton. Your Chamber of Commerce looks forward to improving past projects and to having an active membership as it meets the challenge of a new year.

We extend our best wishes for a busy and successful year ahead.

Janet F. Fleming
Secretary

Reader's new boots stolen

To Whom It May Concern:

This past Christmas I was fortunate enough to receive a new pair of size nine Cougar Boots.

The other week I went to the Acton Medical Centre and I left my new boots out in the hall. When I came out my new boots

were gone! No, it was not a mix-up in patients' boots—they were taken from the Medical Centre.

I would appreciate it if the person who "took" my new boots could just put them back in the Medical Centre.

COLD FEET



On the Leavell

With Helen

Wedding anniversary congratulations go out to Flo and Louis Charlebois, who celebrated their 25th recently. A surprise party was put on at their Elmore Drive home by daughters Lynne, Jose, Ann, Andre and Julie. Friends and relatives came from as far away as Nova Scotia, Ottawa, Orangeville, and Newmarket to help them celebrate.

The Friends-In-Deed handicapped organization is putting out an appeal for new members, both male and female. As

1981 has been designated Year of the Disabled, they have a special year of activities planned and want to share this fun with other handicapped people of the community.

Able-bodied volunteers are also needed for the group to help in the special activities, as well as the weekly swimming trip to the Acton indoor pool Sunday mornings. Anyone interested in helping can contact Mrs. Emily Price at 853-2324. The next meeting is Jan. 27 at 7:30 at M.Z. Bennett for those who wish to join.

This handicapped organization is not just for those confined to a wheelchair or on crutches. Many people in all stages of arthritis and other illnesses are members. Many appear to be quite healthy.

To the volunteers: disability can strike anyone—at any time, so why not help those less fortunate than yourself now while you can. Then, maybe if something happens to you, there will be someone who will help you.

The staff of Indusmin Link, an in-house newspaper for Indusmin Limited across

Ontario, must have spent all winter in Acton for this month's issue.

Featured on the front page of the tabloid are pictures taken at their annual party at the Acton Curling Club on September 27. Some of the faces seen are Mrs. Frits DeHaan, Louis Westfall, Gerald Lafce, Fred Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Gillingham and Mrs. Art Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. Doug Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Danny Dempsey, Barry Dempsey, Ken Murchison, Mrs. Gloria Kierstead, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Beerman, Mr. and Mrs. Hilton Batchelor, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Newell, and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Poland.

The tabloid also ran pictures of the group's prize winning float in the Santa Claus Parade on November 29, and named the people involved as Carol and Rick Baginski, Amy and Dave Carr, Gerald and Frankie Clark, Pauline and Ed Diamond, Doug Ferguson, Steve and Brigit Hulme and Bruce Pinder. The short story also mentioned that the tractor and float were provided and driven by John Galbraith.

Also in this month's issue was a story and picture on the firm's local ball team.

Region concerned about Cher's, owner says will meet standards

Halton region's health and social services committee passed a motion last week expressing concern about Cher Rest Home, Main St. North, Acton.

The committee rejected last Tuesday, a request from the owner of Cher's, Tryphena Cherwonlak, for a purchase of service agreement.

However, the committee went further and passed a motion stating, "that appropriate action be taken forthwith to notify Halton Hills of our concern about the condition of Cher Rest Home, Acton, in that it has not complied with requests to protect the health and welfare of its occupants and that Halton Hills be advised we support such private sector operations provided they comply with standards."

Acton's regional councillor Dave Whiting explained in an interview that a few years ago the region determined it didn't have enough facilities for the elderly. It was decided to purchase services from private rest homes throughout the region, pay operators to house and feed senior citizens the region couldn't accommodate.

However, before starting this procedure Halton broke ground in Ontario by establishing a set of standards rest homes, which have purchase of service agreements with the region, must meet, Whiting noted.

In an interview Brian Cherwonlak said they plan to go back to the region again and seek a purchase of service agreement because they will soon meet all region standards. He expects a region supervisor will go to the rest home Monday and inspectors will then be called in.

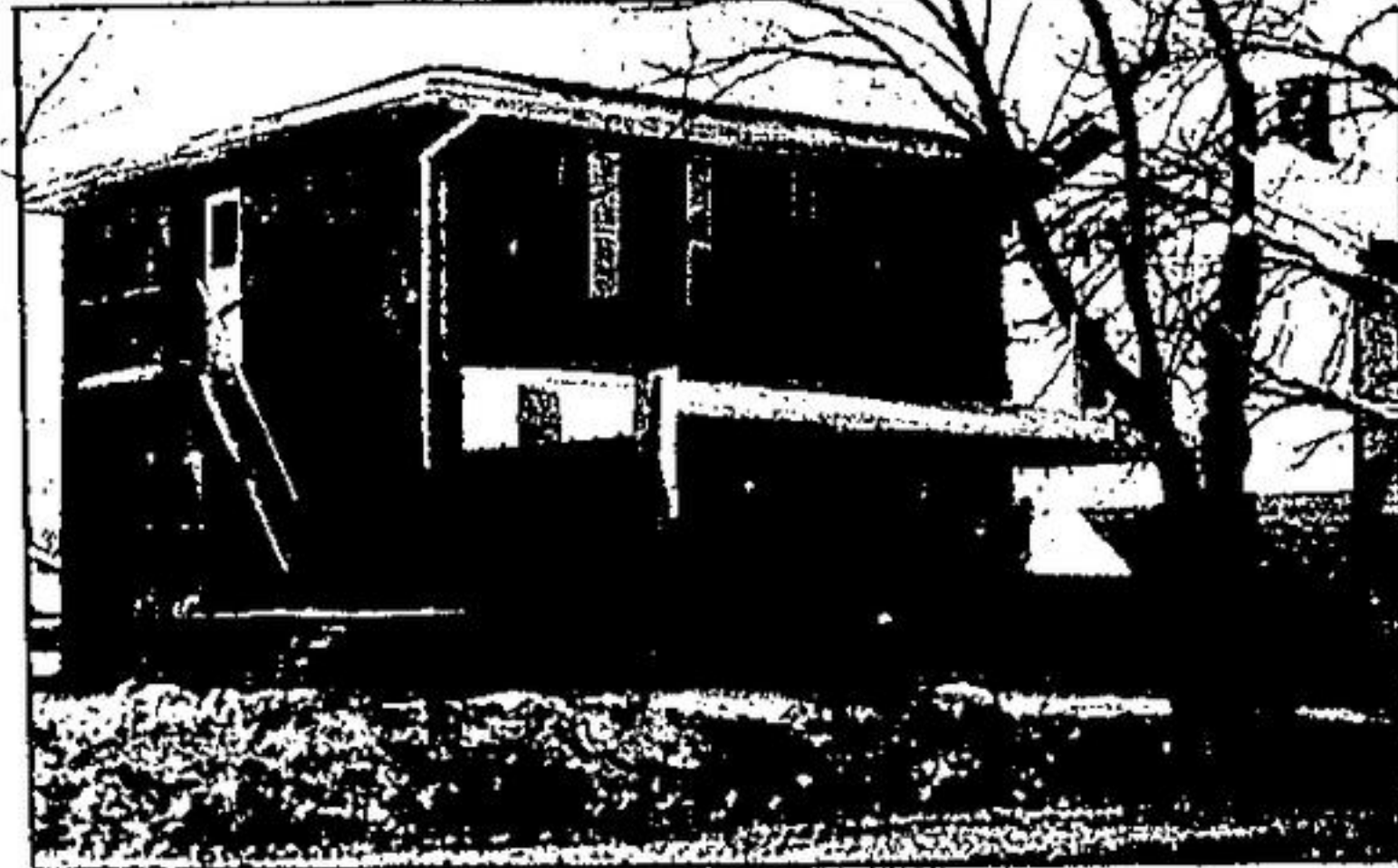
Cherwonlak said they have been working to make the changes requested by Halton to meet region standards. Eighty per cent of the requirements have now been met and by Monday they all will have been met.

He disputed the region's motion, saying they have not been disregarding the safety and welfare of their residents. Cherwonlak said they feel the region is applying its standards unevenly, that the same set of standards aren't applied to every rest home.

Many of the standards, which a nearly month old report from a regional official said hadn't been met, had been met by the time the committee reviewed the request for a purchase of service agreement last Tuesday.

In a report dated December 16, 1980, regional social and family services administrator Rennie Vivian outlined the reasons staff was urging committee reject going into a purchase of service agreement with Cher Rest Home.

His report stated: "The initial inquiry for an agreement was made



Cher Rest Home on Main St. North

by Mr. and Mrs. Cherwonlak in March, 1980. The inquiry was acknowledged with information regarding the procedure along with a copy of the Rest Home Standards (approved by Regional Council December 19, 1979) forwarded.

"In August, Mrs. Cherwonlak applied for an agreement. Written instructions were sent to her and arrangements made for the various necessary inspections and reports—health, fire, building and hydro.

"Reports were received from the Halton Hills Building and Fire Departments indicating recommendations for improvement. A site visit was completed by Mrs. J. Kirkwood, Senior Supervisor, to review the Standards for eligibility and the outstanding requirements. Mr. and Mrs. Cherwonlak agreed to take necessary action

for completion of the requests. They indicated that the department should have all the reports by November 1980.

"The following remain outstanding, hence staff's recommendation: 1) Hydro, 2) Halton Hills Building Dept. and Fire Dept. 3) Halton Regional Health Unit, 4) Medical and X-Ray reports for all staff, 5) Canada Assistance Plan Form 30, 6) 1980-81 Operating Budget."

Whiting noted there is a big difference between nursing homes, which are regulated by the province, and rest homes which aren't governed by any legislation. "Anyone can just go and open a rest home," he declared.

The region has established rest home standards, but these standards apply only to those which have purchase of service

agreements with Halton, Whiting pointed out.

He observed Halton's municipalities are now looking at licensing and regulations for rest homes. Whiting said he believes Burlington has passed a bylaw and knows both Oakville and Halton Hills are working on a bylaw to govern rest homes. Last year Councillor Terry Grubbe urged licensing of all rest homes in Halton Hills and a draft bylaw is expected to be presented to councillors soon.

Whiting said Mrs. Cherwonlak discussed the matter with him and said she has two residents who haven't paid for several months. The operator said she won't evict the two elderly people but needs financial support from the region. Whiting added nine seniors live at Cher's and the oldest is 83.

Back issues

10 years ago
Wednesday, January 20, 1971

A Mediterranean cruise is being planned by high school students and their chaperones Marion Patterson and Keith Black.

Assured mail delivery is coming to Acton. One day delivery is promised to major centres.

Carl Cayer has replaced Mrs. Martindale on the high school staff. Peter Blake has taken over Mrs. Marion Reed's classes since she broke her hip.

George Lee was again elected library board chairman with the same board members, Rev. Harry Dawson, Fred New, Ted Pratt and Mayor Les Duby. Mrs. Isabel Watson informed the board library circulation was slightly down, with all three schools now having good libraries.

20 years ago

Thursday, January 19, 1961

Triplet calves were born at the farm of O. W. Manes on Friday the 13th.

A royal oak, planted at Dublin school at the time of the coronation in 1937, has been moved to the front of the new Speyside School. When Mrs. George Wallace was teacher, an acorn from Windsor Castle was planted to mark the coronation. The tree grew well.

Lucky winner in the Acton Merchants draw this week was Mrs. Lorne Masles. The draw takes place every Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. at the post office. J. Bert Wood, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, announces the winners.

A 30th anniversary dinner was held at the Legion. One of the highlights of the evening was the installation of the new officers under the team of E. E. Barr, George Musselle and W. Middleton, with Gord Beatty sergeant-at-arms. Max Storey began his second successive term as president with 1st vice M. Jordan, 2nd J. Milne, secretary-treasurer Gordon McCutcheon, sergeant-at-arms A. Irwin. Rev. H. B. Stokree recalled the liberation of Holland. He is a former member of the Dutch underground.

50 years ago

Thursday, January 22, 1931

An unusual record has been established by Joseph Marsden, a Rockwood farmer. Of a group of 29 hogs graded, 19 were selected and 10 bacon, a record which can be claimed by few breeders.

Another successful year was shown in the annual report of the Halton Union Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance company. Losses were \$23,197.

The annual report on water and hydro shows that there are 472 domestic consumers, 81 commercial, 20 power and 18 rural. Average consumption of water per inhabitant is 19.81 gallons. The revenue from the sale of water amounted to \$6,653. Reports show 1930 the highest year yet in the history of Acton Fair. D. D. Waldie was elected the new president. The receipts were the largest on record, amounting to \$3,641.

75 years ago

Thursday, January 18, 1906

The new council is getting down to business in real earnest and several knotty questions were up for discussion. The overloaded condition of the power plant was referred to when the Park Committee asked that the new rink be wired. Reeve Swackhamer held that the requests of citizens for current should have equal consideration. The electrical said that the 35 lights requested for the rink could not safely be added. Merchants who burn lights unnecessarily on closed evenings will be asked to turn them off, and the rink will be wired.

Reference was made to the long and loyal service of Mr. T. T. Moore, Clerk and Treasurer and his salary was increased by fifty dollars per annum. When he commenced his work 17 years ago the financial revenues of the corporation totalled \$5,000. Last year over \$22,000 passed through Mr. Moore's hands. The voters lists have doubled and reports required trebled.

100 years ago

Thursday, January 20, 1881

A large number, about 450, attended the debate Monday on Baptism between Rev. H. McDiarmid of Toronto and T. L. Wilkinson of the Methodist Church here. The committee decided not to allow applause from supporters. After the meeting and during the next day the debate was the topic of conversation among all parties. On the following evening the attendance was even larger, about 550, when the subject was continued. It was mutually decided to continue on Wednesday evening, when the question was "That baptism administered by sprinkling or pouring is scripturally performed." A large number were present from surrounding villages and towns. It is expected the discussion will not be concluded until next week. It is useless for us to give an opinion as to which speaker has succeeded in making the largest number of points, as every person has his own opinion.