

News digest

Drop-in revamped

The ward one councillors drop-in will soon become the ward one councillors and trustee's drop-in. Starting next month Acton member of the Halton Board of Education Arlene Bruce and Halton Hills member of the Halton Separate School Board Irene McCauley will join Acton councillors Dave Whiting, Terry Grubbe and Ross Knechtel for the drop-in. The drop-in will continue to be held at the Acton Community Services Centre, but because there haven't been many people dropping in since last spring it will now operate just on the second and fourth Fridays of each month instead of every Friday. The councillors and trustees urge residents with concerns drop by to discuss the issues. Also, when the Halton Regional Police hold their open house on Friday, February 6 at the Acton Legion the councillors and trustees will hold their drop-in at the Legion from 7 to 8.30 p.m.

The councillors note that a drop-in can be arranged for a Friday when one isn't normally scheduled simply by calling one of the councillors. They will also hold evening drop-in sessions by appointment. The Friday afternoon drop-in runs from 1 to 3.

Named "Activan"

The equipped van to be used for the transit service for the disabled in the pilot project hoped to start soon, will be known as the "Activan".

The name was submitted by Doug Griffin of Main Street, Acton, and was chosen by the committee it denotes activity and mobility, which the vehicle will give the disabled.

Smoke spreads in house

Acton Firefighters and two trucks were called out to the John Neeley home, 96 Church St. E., at 1.20 a.m. Monday morning, because a breakdown in a circulating fan caused smoke to spread throughout the structure. Firefighters used fans to help clear smoke from rooms.

Library model here

Actonians will be able to get a firsthand look at the new Halton Hills Library-Theatre Cultural Centre—in downtown Acton. The scale model of the new facility, commissioned by the town, goes on display in the front window of Stedman's.

Y meeting tonight

Frank Savola, vice-president for inter-association affairs at the Metro Toronto Y will be the guest speaker at tonight's (Wednesday) Murray Memorial YMCA annual meeting starting with dessert and coffee at 7.30 p.m. The annual meeting, including election of the Y board and the review of annual reports will start at 8 p.m.

Care for dying meeting

An information meeting dealing with the subject of helping people who are dying and their families will be held tomorrow night at the Glen Williams hall at 8 p.m. Spokesman for the Volunteer Task Force on Hospice Care, Eva Sansom of Spynside, said they hope to increase peoples' awareness "that death need not be painful and lonely." The public in North Halton is invited to this meeting along with representatives from area hospitals, doctors, funeral directors, clergymen and nurses.

Halton carries on search to avoid teacher strikes

Trust—a word not heard during Halton Board of Education's contract negotiations with high school teachers last year—is slowly creeping into trustees' vocabularies.

Halton came within inches of its first strike by 1,165 Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation members last spring.

Since then the board and teachers, including elementary teachers and other staff, have started looking for other ways

negotiating contracts.

In its interim report the Negotiation Process Committee, which is searching for new methods of handling talks, indicated that its work may influence negotiations this year.

One of the alternative methods being looked at by committee members is single team bargaining. Trust, according to Milton trustee John Bradley, "is the one key word in single team bargaining."

"Single team bargaining is an alternative to the adversary approach," according to Bradley who chairs the committee.

Bradley went on to characterize single team bargaining as a method where "everyone wins". Participants act as if they were on one team rather than opposing teams.

"They are not the enemy anymore," said Bradley referring to the high school teachers' federation and Halton's Elementary Teachers' Association.

"Trust has been very shaky in the past," observed OSSTF's Ron Harris.

Burlington trustee Bill Priestner characterized single team bargaining as a sell out.

Bradley indicated the committee is examining methods in other jurisdictions—Lakehead, London and Simcoe—where there is success in settling contracts without strikes.

Education Director Em Lavender indicated there is more than one right way to reach an agreement. "London has a climate of mutual respect but they bargain in the conventional way," "Bargaining there," continued Lavender, "rests on a whole other system of attitudes."

The Negotiation Process Committee hopes to have recommendations by March.

Martin Tepitsky, the mediator-arbitrator who piloted the last contract between Halton and OSSTF wrote: "The public will likely be the victim of a long and difficult strike in Halton if the board fails to heed the responsible and able professional advice which is available to it and if teachers fail to develop greater sensitivity for the impact of their tactical choices on the relationship."

Mrs. E. McGeragle showed a film of many beautiful quilts made by Women's Institute members for the Canada Packers Quilt contest.

The committee of Mrs. C. Aitken, Mrs. J. McCulloch and our hostess served a delicious lunch. Mrs. M. McGeragle was courtesy convener.

Greenock WI

Helpful homemaking hints shared by ladies

by Mrs. H.A. Gates

The January meeting of Greenock Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Chester Allan in Acton.

Mrs. W. Aitken vice-president was in charge of the meeting.

Sixteen members answered roll call—Helpful cleaning and cooking hints. Many helpful hints were shared, including: 1. from "Superwoman", diatomaceous earth granules, about 12 ounces keeps away mildew in a damp closet. 2. "Mary Ellen's" is another book of hints. Fish may be cooked (poached) well wrapped in foil, during a full cycle of your dishwasher even along with the dishes; 3. Whipping butter with fork or beater adding a little milk or margarine or perhaps mayonnaise makes buttering a quantity of bread for sandwiches a breeze.

Meditations were given by Mrs. Gordon Johnston on the Ten Commandments.

A Women's Institute Procedures 1 day workshop will be held at Arkell United Church Monday Jan. 28 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is hoped to have two members from each branch in attendance.

A Leaders Training for a Senior Short Course in "Crewel Embroidery" will be taught at the "Arboretum", Guelph University, on Feb. 16 and 17. Two leaders will bring facts and know-how back to be taught to groups within local W.I. branches.

Convenors of Family and Consumer Affairs were in charge of the meeting program. Mrs. R. Sinclair, Mrs. S. McKinnon and Mrs. D. Milton, Mrs. G. Leslie all gave information in regard to consumer protection including:

1. Check out articles carefully before you buy them;
2. Read fine print before signing a contract;
3. Be sure to mail the warranty to the company after the purchase of small appliances;
4. If you are not happy with a contract you have 48 hours to "cancel the deal" with no reasons necessary;
5. The nearest Consumer Services office is in Guelph;
6. If you

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The executive of the Acton Red Cross Society was on hand for the inaugural meeting of the organization Monday night. Front row, left to right, Jens Lausten, vice chairman, Henry Kroes chairman, Carol Frystass, secretary. Back row, Fred Delhaan, treasurer, Alice Schreiber, blood donor clinic, Bert Vanderlaan chairman of the March campaign, Joan Ford, awards chairman, Garry McFadden, co-ordinator of the major disaster response service and Marie Giles, public relations.

Legion happenings

Kevin Conroy PRO Br. 197.

The Branch experienced the usual dwell in activities after Christmas and New Year's, but things seem to be returning to normal.

Comrade Jim Higgins has a full slate of entertainment for Friday and Saturday nights, but the recent turnout has prompted a review of the situation. If you have any suggestions as to how to liven things up let Jim know.

The Branch "Clowns" are attempting to raise funds for costumes and make-up. These members do a great job within the Branch and are determined to raise their own funds rather than dip into Branch coffers. Support them at the Hard Times Dance on February 7.

Preparations are well underway for the annual winter carnival on Sunday, February 15. Our Branch location gives us a great opportunity to enjoy cross country skiing and skating on the lake. Tickets are available for meals at the bar so why not bring the whole family.

The early bird membership campaign piloted by Comrade Ab Irwin was a great success but there are still some members who have not renewed their membership.

We will publish a calendar of events for this year's Golden anniversary. The 50 years are a credit to the many members who worked hard giving what we all too often take for granted. Comrade Joe Hurst is in the final stages of publishing the history of the Branch and copies should be available within the next two months.

Lasby vice-president

Bob Lasby of RR 2 Rockwood was recently elected first vice-president of the Halton 4-H Club Leaders.

Cops asked give pay back

Halton Regional Police commissioners will meet with the Halton Police Association in an effort to recover \$290,000 worth of salary overpayment.

The decision to approach officers for the money was made following a discussion between commission members and Halton Region solicitor Dennis Perlin, Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Perlin said members could either forget about the payroll error and "let them (the officers) keep it" or request repayment from the Association in the form of reduced pays beginning in February.

In most years, there are 28 pay days for the department's 275 police officers, but in 1980 an extra pay day fell on Dec. 31.

Halton Police Commission, aware of the problem last November, had warned the region and officials, they decided to move the Dec. 31 pay date ahead one day to Jan. 1 so the money could be classified as a 1981 expense. But the cheques were issued and dated Dec. 31.

Harry Barrett, chairman of the commission, emphasized officers had been paid their full 1980 contract and were therefore ineligible for the additional pay. "We do have a contract and that is binding. No one can change that," he said.

The additional pays ranged from \$404 for a fourth class constable to \$1,217 for Chief James Harding.

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