



Miss Acton Fall Fair Lisa McGrath and Halton Hills Mayor Peter Pomeroy were on hand Saturday afternoon to help Liberal candidate Julian Reed and his supporters cut the ribbon to open his office at Dawe Real Estate.

No more gym lunches at M.Z.

After the middle of March M.Z. Bennett pupils will no longer eat their lunches while sitting on the gym floor if the principal, parents and trustees have their way.

All three parties came to a verbal solution to what has been to the parents a nagging problem during a meeting Monday in principal Doug Magwood's office.

Some 100 youngsters have been taking their lunch periods in the school's gym where they sit on the floor. A group of rural mothers have argued in favor of having all children eat their lunch at desks or tables—anywhere except on the floor.

The cleanliness of the practice bothered the parents most. They were, however, also angered because in Halton most of the schools which have children eating lunch on the floor are in the north.

Children who live in town bring street dirt into the gym while youngsters from the country trek in farm manure.

Marilyn Wieck, R.R. 1, gathered figures from Oakville trustee Jackie Cutmore which show that four of the 24 Oakville schools have children eating off the floor; three of the 29 schools in Burlington do the same and in the north there are ten of the 21 schools with youngsters lunching on gym floors.

One of the mothers expressed the wish to be able to send her daughter to school with a hot lunch. She finds this impossible to do with children eating in the gym.

M.Z. Bennett school principal Magwood said after the meeting with

parents and trustees Arlene Bruce and Betty Walker that he hopes that after March 16 "we'll have an acceptable solution."

The principal said he wishes to prepare some options for his staff to consider. "What I agreed to do is consider some options on the understanding the board won't do anything."

"We'll see if we can come up with a plan to have the kids not eating in the auditorium," said the principal. A place to start would be to have the kids eating at desks in a classroom.

With about 100 children, that could mean using as many as four rooms.

The parents are "reasonably satisfied" with the arrangement, said Mrs. Wieck. She and about six other mothers attended Thursday's Halton Board of Education meeting at Burlington where the lunch

supervision and facilities committee presented its report.

The report, which will be voted on March 12, calls for the hiring of supervisors who will watch the children during lunch hours.

The committee calls for a ratio of one supervisor to 60 children. The supervisors would be paid out of a \$100,000 budget.

Meanwhile at Robert Little Public School, Principal Ron Chatten said he has received no calls concerning the school's pupils eating lunch in the gymnasium.

In mid-winter as many as 200 children stay for lunch at Robert Little school. Some children eat

while sitting on balance benches and others sit on the floor, said Chatten. Other times when there is a hot-dog day at the school, children eat in classrooms.

"I'm waiting to see what the board policy will be," said Chatten.

Acton trustee Bruce said she does not think the board will produce a policy concerning where children eat their lunches.

A strong sense of community led Ron to offer his assistance in a variety of areas.

At age 20 he became the youngest member of the Rotary Club and at 32 he's still probably the youngest. He was president in 1978-79. He's presently chairman of the Easter Seal campaign in Acton, part of the Rotary Club.

Sports and Rotary didn't keep Ron busy enough so he joined the Chamber of Commerce and was on the executive for four years. He's

PROFILES



with Jennifer Barr

Ron McKnight is one of Acton's most avid sports fans. Whether it's a hockey, lacrosse or ball game, Ron will be there.

He doesn't play because he has trouble with his legs, but he's scorekeeper, announcer, manager, and just plain working-joe for most of the town's athletes.

Known as "The Voice of Acton", Ron has spent the last 13 of his 32 years helping young players. As a child growing up in Acton, the victim of cerebral palsy, Ron found it hard to watch other kids playing while he sat under a tree. He found a way to overcome his frustration at the microphone and scoreboard.

In a wheelchair Ron managed to attend Acton High School up to grade 10. He was a popular boy, being part of a foursome called "The Meatballs". The nickname stuck and he's still "meatball" to his chums, although younger kids tag him with a "Chief Ironsides" label.

After high school Ron attended Variety Village Vocational School in Scarborough and took a clerical course. Following graduation he joined the town staff and is now dispatcher for the Halton Hills Works Department in Georgetown.

Sense of community A strong sense of community led Ron to offer his assistance in a variety of areas.

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also an associate member of Branch 197 of the Royal Canadian Legion.

But it's in the area of sports that Ron excels. He's been on the executives of more teams and leagues than one can count. Acton house leagues, all-star, industrial hockey teams and the Sabres have benefitted from Ron's help. He was charter president of the Acton Rams, the Lacrosse team that won the Junior C championships in 1971.

Ron's very proud of being asked to be official scorekeeper for the Mann Cup (the Stanley Cup of Lacrosse), at Brampton in '76 and at Peterborough in '78. In 1977 he scored for the Minto Cup in Whitley.

He's considered the good luck charm of the Acton Roadrunners, being scorekeeper and announcer for the ball team when they played with the Georgetown Industrial League. This year he will be manager of the Halton Hills Islanders sponsored by the Georgetown Independent and the Acton Free Press. Ed Hillier will coach the team.

An avid Montreal Canadiens fan, Ron follows their campaigns with the enthusiasm of a seasoned hockey nut. He's proud to number among his friends many professional referees, officials, and players. Rocket Richard has visited Ron at his home.

In October '79 Ron was able to travel to Montreal to be feted by the Canadiens in their dressing room before the game. He met Danny Gagnon, the "Voice of Montreal" and a lifelong idol of Ron's. Canadiens great Jean Beliveau arranged the trip and made sure Ron had a super time. His good luck rubbed off on the Montreal team who won their game that night.

One advantage to being on the sidelines is the minimal chance of injury. Ron has been injured only twice in the course of his sports career. He was hit in the head by a stick once and received nine stitches when his face stopped a flying puck. He was back in the arena after being stitched, watching the final play!

"Lucky ones" Ron calls himself "one of the lucky ones", referring to his disability. When he was a baby his parents were told he would never walk and was unlikely to talk. Ron has put paid to that statement. Not only can he walk with assistance

but he talks a blue streak!

He's managed to find a way around the frustrations of being a sports-loving kid who couldn't play.

"Sure I've got a disability, but I've never had it the other way around so I don't know what I'm missing," he comments. "Being handicapped, I've got some advantages. I meet a lot of people, but I'd give it all away... (to be able to walk)" he says matter-of-factly.

He'd also love to be able to drive his own car and so be more independent, but cost of insurance is prohibitive for hand-controlled vehicles.

Fortunately Ron's many friends pick him up for activities so he has little trouble with transportation other than relying on other people.

Ron's gratitude to a town that has given him complete acceptance and a chance to live a normal life, is shown in his community service.

"My mother says I'm on the gym more than people with good legs" he says.

His room is full of plaques, photos and tributes, the accumulation of 13 years.

What does the future hold for Ron McKnight? I'd like to do whatever I can to benefit seniors and the physically disabled. This community has been good to me. I'm trying to help as many people as I can."



Ron McKnight

Halton Hills Hydro Commission

Effective March 1st, 1981 the following energy rates will apply

MONTHLY RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
First 250 K.W.H. at 5.9¢ per K.W.H.
Additional K.W.H. at 3.35¢ per K.W.H.
Minimum Bill \$4.00

MONTHLY GENERAL SERVICE
Billing Demand
First 50 K.W. at No Charge
Balance K.W. at \$2.50 per K.W.H.
Energy Charge
First 250 K.W.H. at 5.9¢ per K.W.H.
Next 9750 K.W.H. at 3.85¢ per K.W.H.
All Additional K.W.H. at 2.6¢ per K.W.H.
Minimum Bill \$4.00

THE ABOVE RATE ADJUSTMENT HAS BEEN PROPOSED AND APPROVED BY ONTARIO HYDRO AND WILL BE APPLIED TO ALL CUSTOMER BILLING IN HALTON HILLS.

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—Premier William Davis

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- ABILITY
- VISION

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brown 'n serve chops	lb.	1.79	
fresh meaty side spare ribs	lb.	1.49	
sweet & sour ribs	lb.	1.79	
sweet pickled peameal back bacon	lb.	2.19	
counter served lean sliced cooked ham	lb.	1.99	
Devon 500 g pkg. sliced side bacon		1.79	
Swift's Premium 1 lb. pkg. wieners		1.69	
Weston pkg. of 12 brown 'n serve rolls		.69	(SAVE 26¢)
Weston pkg. of 6 apple snack buns		.99	(SAVE 20¢)
Weston pkg. of 4 raspberry swiss rolls		.89	(SAVE 20¢)
Old South frozen Florida unsweetened 12.5 oz. orange juice		.89	
Hills Bros. regular grind 1 lb. tin ground coffee		2.99	
Kraft 16 singles 500 g. Canadian process cheese slices		2.39	
Betterlite 2 bulb pkg. (Save 60¢) light bulbs		.69	
General Mills Golden Grahams 425 g.		1.49	
DiDe 3 oz. bathroom refill cups 100s		1.29	
Ragu plain 28 oz. spaghetti sauce		1.29	
Chef Boy Ar Dee beef or mini bites ravioli 15 oz. 425 g.		.79	
Arctic Garden frozen Italian mixed vegetables 2 lb.		1.69	
Snowcap frozen choice cauliflower 2 lb.		1.89	
Heinz in tomato sauce spaghetti 14 oz.		.49	
Treebest frozen grapefruit or orange juice 48 oz.		1.29	
Bye The Sea in water solid light tuna 7 oz.		1.29	
Heinz in tom. sauce or oven baked with pork baked beans 14 oz.		.59	
Kraft plain Cheez Whiz 1 kg.		4.29	
Allen's 3' x 3' apple flavour drink crystals 3's		1.29	
Lipton chicken or ring noodle dry soup 2's		.68	
Tobay tea bags 72's		1.99	

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