

The Acton Free Press

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Business and Editorial Office

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Nuke vote may be costly

We won't rap Halton Hills councillors for backing the call for a nuclear disarmament referendum, politically they had no choice.

Thankfully they left themselves an escape clause which likely won't be closed. Legal opinions conflict on the question of an international referendum being a municipal ballot and invalidating the entire election results. We share Ross Knechtel's view that Queen's Park will shy away from this hot potato and not rule on the legality of the referendum. Likely a court decision won't be sought or a decision rendered on the legal question in time for the election either.

So, we figure councillors backed this motherhood type issue confident it will never come to a vote.

We're all for nuclear arms reductions, even world disarmament and peace. We fear nuclear war and its terrifying results for mankind as much as anyone.

However, holding a referendum here or in any number of Canadian municipalities will produce dubious results at best in solving the nuclear problem.

In addition the referendum could cost all taxpayers extra dollars. If there is any ward where all candidates are acclaimed, as happened in one ward in the last election, then we'll all foot the bill for renting polling centres, staffing them and printing ballots. This referendum isn't worth the extra money. We doubt many taxpayers can afford it, or would support it, if it is anything but a no-cost added proposition.

And that is the main reason we oppose this referendum, possible waste of money.

This referendum is supposed to be a prelude to a world-wide UN sponsored referendum on the question. Not for a minute do we believe that people living behind the Iron Curtain, or under a fascist regime or a military dictatorship anywhere will be given the true facts about the issue by their governments or even be permitted to vote their true feelings freely.

The results of the vote in Canadian municipalities is supposed to prompt Ottawa to push other governments to disarm or at least end the nuclear proliferation. Will world leaders in Washington, the Kremlin, Peking or any other capital with nuclear capability, or heading for achieving nuclear capability, listen to Ottawa armed with a low voter turnout produced referendum taken in only part of the country? It's absurd and laughable to think so.

If the anti-nuke weapons supporters really want the Canadian voice to mean anything, the question belongs on the ballot for the next national election in two or three years. Don't worry about waiting until 1984 or '85 to make yourself heard on this issue. Nuclear arms haven't been reduced despite talks, talks and more talks in almost 40 years and the threat won't disappear next year because of a referendum in Halton Hills.

Lastly this referendum is supposed to produce a dialogue here. We'll believe it when we see it, especially since reader reaction to last week's story has generally been ho-hum or a good laugh. We wonder how many of the few who vote in a municipal election will bother with the referendum question, or will have given it much thought before entering the booth.

Our readers write

Urge study Greenore semis

The following letter to Halton Hills Councillor, Bruce McLean was filed with us for publication.

Dear Mr. MacLean,
Following our telephone conversation today concerning proposed semi-detached units on Greenore Crescent in Acton, I am forwarding this letter to your department.

The site in mind has a few interesting characteristics which I feel should be studied before any development permit is granted. Directly to the west, a marsh partly bordered by trees, gives

shelter to many forms of wildlife. Ducks, geese, jack rabbits, etc., thrive in their habitat. I believe too many of our marshes are being destroyed today because of housing developments and their stresses on the environment.

I would strongly suggest that the planning department and the Town of Halton Hills study the benefits and detriments thoroughly before any decision is reached.

Sincerely,
Marc Trotter,
Acton.

Need park, not more homes

The following letter was filed with the Free Press for publication.

Mayor Peter Pomeroy

Dear Sir:

After reading a letter to the editor of The Acton Free Press in April 28th's edition, talking to some of the neighbors in our street and now, stuck back on page seven of this week's paper: "Can't stop Greenore semis"; I feel compelled to make yet another voice heard.

What I don't understand, Mayor Pomeroy, is why is there a sign on the questioned land site for the "proposal" of construction of five semi-detached houses, when members of your council have already accepted defeat; noting, "their hands are tied"? Why would any town council in their right mind, instead of going to bat for the people who elected them to their present position, try to snuff out our cries of "No" by giving us an answer of "Can't"?

I feel there are a few things that should be pointed out on this issue:
1. Already on Greenore, we have four empty houses, all of which are victims of our country's high interest rates. In the townhouse development, at least twice as many more. The last thing we have in Acton is a housing shortage. The last thing we need on Greenore is more empty houses.

2. Agreeing with Jim Lepki and Don Robinson, we need a park for our children. Even in such urban fiascos as

Bramalea and Meadowvale, they have set aside some space for our future; besides the pavement of our street for which you seem to be prepared to leave them.

3. Ross Knechtel points out that it was a mistake to zone the land R3 Holding. If it was such a mistake, then rectify it! That's what we pay our taxes for.

4. You and your council are, or at least by now should be, aware of our position and yet it is thrown back at us that the owner of the land has rights too, and "he could force the issue." I think you, Mayor Pomeroy, should re-evaluate your position on this issue; when I went to school, 50 was greater than one, and in our democratic society in which we live, majority rules.

We as established homeowners, our children and even the wildlife; yes the wildlife, lest we forget they were here before we were and yet it means nothing to you to uproot them and shove them aside for an inflated figure of \$200,000; have rights also.

Instead of making all these council decisions from your Georgetown office, why don't you people come down here on a Saturday or Sunday and watch our ducks and geese nesting in their marsh. Oh, please drive slowly, there are children at play.

Concerned parent and Tax payer
James Waller Jr.



On the Leavell

With Helen

Get well wishes go out to two people in town who were recent patients at the Guelph General Hospital.

Mary Daigle, well known for her hard and dedicated work at the Legion, spent a few weeks in hospital following surgery. It's hoped she will be up and around in no time.

Wilf McEachern, former chairman of the now defunct Acton Hydro Commission and now a commissioner on the Halton Hills Hydro Commission returned home yesterday (Tuesday) after spending a long weekend in Guelph.

A speedy recovery is wished for both of them.

Saw Bob Hart on television Sunday afternoon in his Union Gas commercial. The commercial was filmed in his Orville Rd. home last March with Bob expounding the merits of gas heating.

Bob's message interrupted a movie on Channel 13. I wasn't really watching the movie, but from the sounds of it I think the commercial was more entertaining.

Birthday greetings go out to John McNabb, an ardent Acton fisher-person. "Nabber" turned 35 last week.

Like most of Acton, I was shocked to hear of the closing of the Toronto Dominion Bank in town, scheduled for June 11. It was only here for 11 years, having opened in 1971, according to its first manager, Don McDonald. Don went on to become publisher of the Free Press.

For only 11 years worth of business, it hardly seemed worth tearing down the beautiful old post office.

Eldon and Betty Comfort, RR4 Acton, recently returned from a holiday overseas. They spent one week in Holland, two in Scotland and Wales and half a week in England.

The weather wasn't exactly perfect, being cold and windy in Holland during tulip time, turning to sleet and snow in Scotland, but they managed to see everything they wanted to visit.

A recent outbreak in Measles in a school in Burlington has accentuated the importance of proper immunization, according to Dr. Peter N. Cole of the Medical Health Office. Red Measles is normally a very mild childhood disease, but complications have been known to set in. In 1980 there was actually a death in Halton related to Red Measles.

It is not uncommon to have measles outbreaks in the spring, Dr. Cole says, and with the immunization programs in the province in the past ten years, the disease has decreased dramatically. However, not enough children in Halton have been vaccinated to prevent an outbreak.

The measles vaccination is not compulsory, but it is expected the Ministry of Health will introduce legislation to do so on school entry. This would mean the child would receive the vaccine before entering school when he or she gets all the other shots.

To properly protect your family, it is recommended by Dr. Cole that you ensure they have been immunized adequately. Check with your family physician, or fail-

ing that, the Health Department conducts monthly immunization clinics. To find out the time and location of the clinic in your area, call 416-827-2151, extension 379.

Regional Public Works staffer Brent Marshall, of Longfield Rd., has been highly commended by the Region for his quick actions which saved the life of an Acton child last month.

Marshall, a volunteer firefighter, with help from his firefighting colleagues, saved the life of Andrew Coe, son of Rick and Linda Coe. Last week, Marshall was presented with an award from Halton Regional Council.

Brent told council he was accepting the award on behalf of all volunteer firefighters. "All anyone can hope to obtain by becoming part of a volunteer firefighting team is the personal satisfaction of having helped someone," Brent said.

The Coes made public their story of their infant choking and the fact the firefighters saved his life. They felt not enough people are aware of the life saving techniques they men know. If even one person learned this, it would be worth their traumatic experience.

Rick told me last week he had a telephone call from someone after the story was published in the Free Press saying they never knew what the fire department offered and were grateful for the Coes sharing their near tragedy.

Acton made the Indusmin Link again this month.

There's a picture and story on Glenn Reid, sales representative for limestone aggregates covering the Burlington to Ajax area. The story goes on to give a bit of Glenn's background.

Also in the Link, an in-house newspaper, was the results of the Indusmin/Fahramet Bonspiel held in Midland in March. John Knight, of Acton was on the second place team; Gerald Clarke, Acton was on the third place team; and Steve Hulme, also of Acton was on the fifth place team. Pictures of all them also appeared in the Link.

Seniors are returning to school.

"Seniors in Halton: An Agenda for the Eighties", a seminar sponsored by the Halton Seniors' Information Committee and the Halton District Health Council, will be held on Monday, June 28 at Sheridan College's Oakville campus.

The seminar is intended to familiarize seniors and those interested in seniors with the Province's objectives for policies and programs for senior citizens for the 1980s; to examine the current services available to them, discuss changes in lifestyles, attitudes and needs of our elderly and to indicate areas which require new and/or expanded community programs in Halton.

In order that their views and reactions may be solicited, it is hoped that the majority of the seminar participants will be senior citizens. There will be three workshops dealing with Transportation for Seniors, Independence for Seniors and Seniors' Rights.

For more information call Bill Leonard or Brenda Charters at the Halton District Health Council at 842-2120.

The Halton Board of Education's Summer School office staff is busy processing the registrations and finalizing arrangements for the elementary and secondary school programs.

Last summer, over 900 elementary and secondary students took advantage of the program and as more students and parents become aware of the success and benefits of such programs, enrolment is expected to increase.

For the 11th year, secondary school credit courses will be offered. Included are

the "core" subjects required by the Ministry of Education: grade 9 and 10 English, Math, Canadian History and Geography, Science, Grade 11 and 12 English. Other subjects include French, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and most grade 13 subjects.

An array of elementary subjects are also offered.

For further information call 878-8451.

MEANDERINGS by Mabel Barkman Chives

If you have chives in the garden, make sure you use lots of them in as many ways as you can think of.

They are great in cottage cheese, tossed salad, potato salad, egg salad sandwiches and added to any kind of soup.

Make an omelette and add cheese and chives. Toss them into a quiche, a bacon and tomato sandwich, even a salmon sandwich.

Now that I have your imagination working overtime, go out to the garden, pick a handful of chives, chop up and create!

Clergy Comment

by Rev. John Cooper

God's festival of renewal springs upon us. It happens so quickly that many say there is no Spring in Canada... suddenly Summer is upon us. And with the warm green hues, the bursting buds and blossoms, hope springs eternal. The long night of apparent death gives way to the dances of the leaves to the gentle breeze. Lo, the winter is passed and man's spirit is again renewed. The wonders of God in creation are certain evidences to all, no one who is witness to this grandeur can make excuses. All calls for adoration from all.

Yet adoration is not the order of the day. There is not even a promise of praise. But how about a take-over... from the Lord of the whole earth... to extinct animals and birds, to consume irreplaceable resources, to plunder landscapes and pollute lakes, to bend every effort to use and abuse one another for profit, to exult in disassembling the riddle of the atom only to assemble it again to rattle the whole earth. Three cheers for man who has externalized the mess that he is.

And the Lord of the whole earth does not just put up with this abuse and rebellion. The Lord God sustains and upholds the whole earth according to His Word and Promise. He also sent His Son to redeem the rebel, to renew man's heart, to forgive our sin and to bring us God.

God always confronts us with Himself and the reality of our position before Him. With man for himself there is the way of death, of separation from God. With God in Christ for man there is the way of life, of fellowship with Him now and forever. Every Spring is a sign of God's eternal Spring. How wonderful Spring is. Want to enjoy Spring with God forever? Believe Jesus Christ, the Lord of this Spring and of life in Him that springs eternal.

Thursday is Ascension Day. Christ is seated on His throne. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He will return again to renew the earth, to bring His eternal Spring to establish a new heaven and new earth in which Righteousness dwells.

That means, believers will be made perfect. No more sin, sickness, or death; Christ will make it impossible to re-introduce evil and we will enjoy life with Him forever.

Back issues

10 years ago

May 17, 1972

An unusually large audience enjoyed the Music Festival competitions at the M.Z. Bennett school, Acton, Wednesday of last week. About 1500 children participated in this year's festival.

Over 500 people attended the gun show of the Halton Antique Arms Association at the Acton Community Centre Sunday including visitors from Le Grange, Illinois, U.S.A.

Lucky winner of a free week at Allen Stanley's Beehive Hockey Camp, was the youngest player in Acton Minor Hockey, Todd McIntyre.

Acton's Calvin Cadet Corps almost made a sweep of events at the Cadet-a-rama held in Fruitland, between 250 and 300 boys from 13 different cadet corps participated.

Young Chris Swetnam flew from his new home in Montreal to attend Saturday's Acton (OMHA) Minor Hockey banquet here.

20 years ago

May 17, 1962

About 250 guests brought their congratulations for Mr. and Mrs. Robert McEnery Sunday afternoon at their home north of Ballinacra when the couple marked their 50th wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. John Chapman, Rockwood, entertained several members of the Acton Friends' Bowling League following the banquet Saturday night.

Father V.J. Morgan marked his 21st anniversary of his appointment in Acton on Mother's Day. Another celebration is ahead—the observance of the 40th anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood in June.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Leishman, Drew and Allana, and Mrs. Mary Guy of Barrie spent Mothers Day with Mr. and Mrs. Cam Leishman.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry MacLeod and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur MacLeod and Harvey left April 30 on a trip to the west coast.

50 years ago

May 12, 1832

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Masales, of Toronto, spent Sunday at the home of Mrs. Robert Garvin.

Mr. E. Neville Harrop, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Harrop, Acton, who is a second year student at the Veterinary College in Guelph, took splendid standing in the examinations at the College this year. Neville came second in general proficiency, and won the special prize for Histology.

Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Eakins and Tommy, of Toronto, spent Mothers Day with Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Gamble.

Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Greer spent the weekend visiting in Bracebridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Burtland Conover and Miss Conover, of Erindale, visited on Sunday with Mrs. R. Bennett and Miss M.Z. Bennett.

75 years ago

May 18, 1907

Quarterly communion services were held in the Methodist church and the individual communion cups were used for the first time, enhancing the solemnity of the service. It is much more expeditious and the sanitary feature is one which appeals to communicants generally. The introduction of the cups was decided upon unanimously by the Trustees and congregation.

Capt. Gamble has issued orders for all officers and men of No. 6 Company, 20th Regiment, to parade at the Armouries, Acton, June 11, to entrain for Niagara for 12 days' training. The Company will drill at the drill shed three evenings a week until then. Recruits who desire to enlist should do so at once. The clothing has all been sent to Toronto to be renovated and disinfected.

Mr. M. Crewson, who is drilling for oil, is now at a depth of 100 feet. Should oil be struck, Crewson's Corners will spring a greater surprise on the public than Cobalt, Larder Lake or the Klondike.

100 years ago

May 18, 1882

Mr. G. Tolton, whose mill was destroyed by fire, will erect a flour mill at the G.T.R. depot, with a daily capacity of 100 barrels of new process flour, and a grain warehouse, provided Acton will loan them a reasonable sum at a fair rate of interest.

Since the adoption of the Scott Act, the sale of liquor has been confined to licensed druggists and is sold only for sacramental, medicinal and mechanical purposes. Some hotel keepers have closed their premises, refusing accommodation to travellers. A good hotel has been opened at Brookville, with the charge for meals 25 cents as usual. In general the Act has been a success. Acton hasn't had a drunken man on the streets since the Act came into force. The legality of the Act was argued before the Privy Council in London.

The village butchers are experiencing a shortage of beef. The finest cattle are being shipped to England for the European market.