

Water problems solved, Acton step closer to adding 3,000 people

Plans to allow Acton to grow by 3,000 more people are back on the rails.

After years of work to straighten out sewage problems which were preventing growth, the region and Halton Hills was shocked recently to discover the province had thrown up some new roadblocks to growth, namely water supply and water quality conditions which weren't anticipated or mentioned to municipal officials in the past.

Monday Acton regional councillor Dave Whiting and Mayor Peter Pomeroy met with region and town planning and works staff, health department staff, and officials of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority.

The result was that the province will allow the Prospect Park water well to be used as a primary source of water, not just as a back-up supply as had been suggested recently by Queen's Park.

Whiting explained in an interview this week that

existing wells are supplying .7 million gallons a day for 7,000 people.

The problem plagued Prospect Park well, which in the past produced yellow-brown water, will produce one million gallons a day when it is fully operational. The Prospect Park well won't be a problem as far as quality is concerned either once a small treatment plant is built on site. This treatment plant is expected to cost about \$1.3 million and the region last week approved \$400,000 being placed in the 1983 budget to pay for phase one of the treatment plant project, Pomeroy noted. He added completion of this plant in 1984 should coincide with the solving of all barriers to growth here.

The existing wells do leave Acton a little short of water, but only in an extreme emergency, Whiting observed. If there was a major fire at a substantial facility, such as Beardmore, in the middle of an exceptionally dry summer then Acton would have a problem. Whiting said trying to cover this scenario is "judicious."

While the province would be happy if Acton had a water supply of three million gallons a day to cover any and every possible eventuality, they will be content with a capacity of 1.7 million gallons a day for 10,000 people. All the wells currently in use and the Prospect Park well would have to break down at the same time for Acton to have a real problem, Whiting observed.

He noted there had been a breakdown in communication between the municipal staffs and the Ministry of the Environment which resulted in confusion and misunderstandings and led to the most recent roadblocks to growth. The province thought there might be plans to put in another Prospect Park well which would deplete the aquifer, but the Town and Region never have intended to build a second Prospect Park well.

Whiting said the province is now "satisfied" with municipal water supply and water quality plans. Pomeroy observed while there is verbal agreement, they'll still be waiting for written ap-

proval from the province. Whiting added the province will want to go over the consultant's report on the Prospect Park well. The Prospect Park well study has been on for about a year now and should be presented to the region later this month, Pomeroy noted.

Credit Valley Conservation Authority concerns have also been satisfied, Whiting said. CVCA is concerned about the quality of effluent going into the Black Creek from the sewage plant because of possible damage to the fish population, he noted. However, CVCA has said twice a month testing of the water and averaging of the samples over an entire year will satisfy their worries.

The politicians and bureaucrats have also agreed to put the question of how to handle the planned partially serviced (water only) industrial area for Acton on the "back burner" until all problems surrounding residential growth have been solved. Whiting said the region health department will take soil samples at the property on the north-

west side of town which will be used for industrial development in the future to determine which type of septic system will be needed. He observed there is no hurry to provide more industrial land for Acton since all of the fully serviced industrial land hasn't been sold and developed yet.

Two housing projects planned for around Acton High School and the Acton Curling Club have moved a step closer now to getting a green light. One is completely outside the existing Acton urban boundary, (the areas of town where development can take place because there is water and sewer service) while the other project is only partially outside the urban boundary. When the expanded urban boundary is finally approved both projects will be inside the boundary and these developments will go ahead before other planned residential development east of Churchill Rd. and on Mill St. West. Halton Hills gave draft approval to these projects a couple of years ago, regional approval

(Continued on page 7)

The Acton Free Press



A Metroland Community Newspaper

One Hundred and Eighth Year—Issue 27

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1983

36 Pages—Thirty Cents.

Town may buy Stone School

The Town is going to look into the costs of buying the Stone School as well as examine possible community uses for the old building.

Monday night Halton Hills council approved three staff recommendations dealing with the building Halton Board of Education declared surplus in October of last year.

Staff suggested the board be advised of the municipality's "interest" in the building and "requested not to offer the facility for sale by public tender until the municipality makes a review of the various alternatives relative to the site."

Also staff will meet with "interested groups" in the community to discuss the Stone School and staff will prepare a report on the building, "including recommendations as to municipal acquisition, including financial and community use."

Councillor Ross Knechtel suggested in conjunction with the staff review, some consideration be made to the closeness of the school to the Acton Library, and the possibility it may need to be ex-

panded sometime in the future.

Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson asked if staff had any idea what price the school board may charge for the building and clerk-administrator Ken Richardson said a price had been discussed but negotiations hadn't progressed to the point where he felt it could be revealed.

In a surprising remark, considering his past comments about another old Acton building, the town hall, Councillor Mike Armstrong said he thinks the Stone School is an "excellent building."

The staff report noted council received a letter from former Halton Hills Councillor Pat McKenzie over a year ago suggesting once St. Joseph's School moved to its new building the Town consider acquiring the Stone School.

At that time council passed a resolution directing staff to contact the public school board, which was renting the building to the Halton Separate School Board, about its plans for the Stone School.

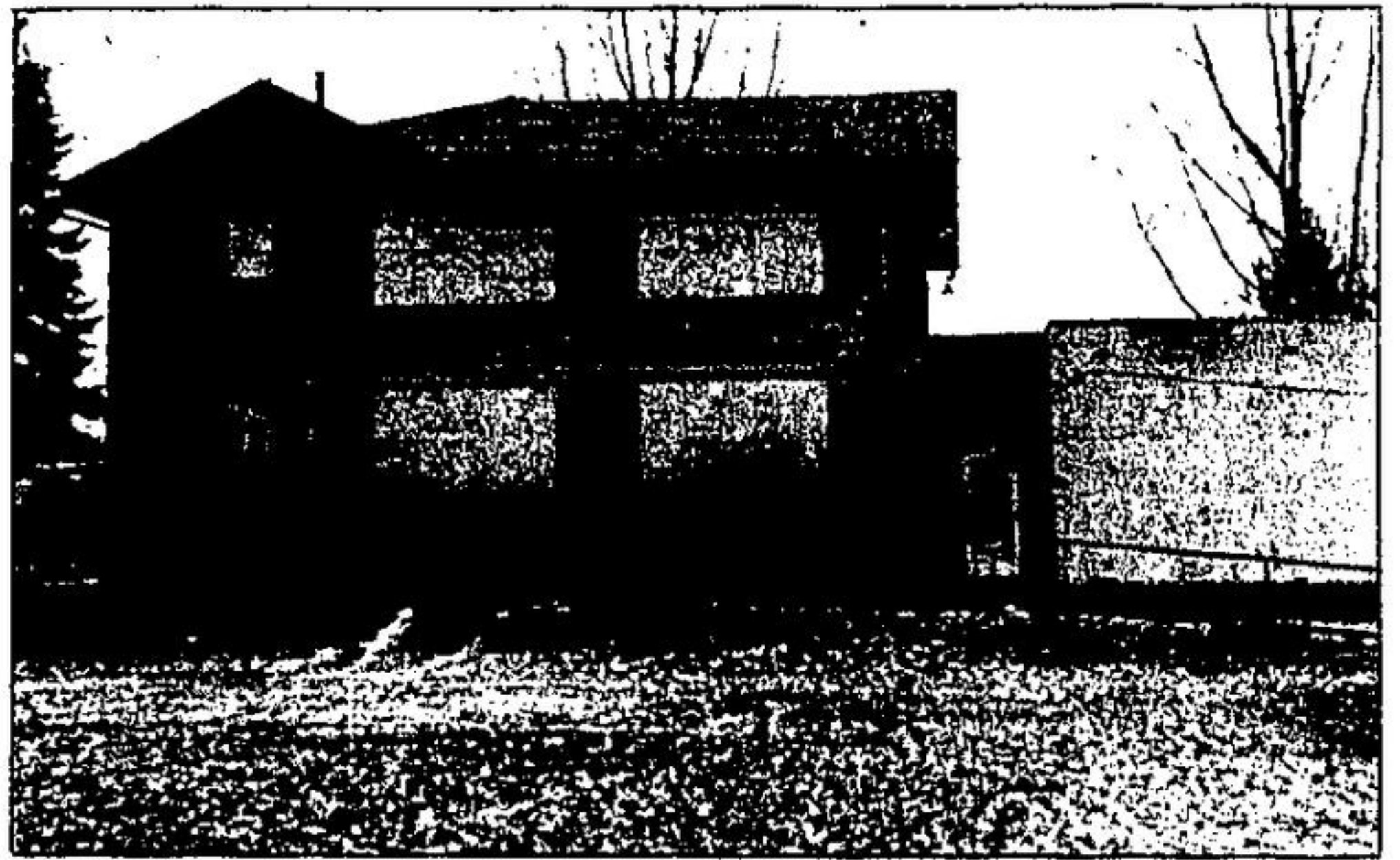
Richardson and recreation director Tom Shepard met with the board's Superintendent of

Business, Barb Moore, about the Stone School and reviewed "the procedure which the board must follow once the building is declared surplus to their needs."

The Town recently received a letter from the board noting the Stone School has been declared surplus and Richardson suggested council answer it, pointing out its interest in the building and give Halton Hills time to "investigate the site in relationship to possible purchase versus needs, and for possible community use including maintenance costs. Staff have received an expressed interest from one organization (Acton Chamber of Commerce) who should be approached to have formalized their interests."

A letter from the board states if there is no interest in the property indicated by Halton Hills by March 1 the board will "proceed to dispose of it by public tender."

The size of the site to be sold is "to be negotiated" and the two storey, block and stone building contains 7,500 square feet. There are two classrooms and washrooms upstairs as well as three classrooms, washrooms and a small office on the ground floor.



Halton Hills will study the cost of acquiring the boarded up Stone School. Also possible community uses for the building will be examined. The Town

has asked the board of education to delay selling the building.

Cheryle Greenly is chosen for exchange



Cheryle Greenly

Cheryle Greenly has waited four years to be a Rotary exchange student, and last week the Acton Rotary Club made the wait worthwhile.

Cheryle was chosen over nine other applicants to spend a year in a foreign country. She will leave sometime next August, about the same time two other Acton teenagers return from 12 months abroad, Alanna Bowen, and Stephen Sojka. She is the daughter of Darrel and Jeannette Greenly, RR 1, Acton.

It will be a few months before Cheryle knows exactly where she is going, but her first choice is France with Italy a close second. Holland is her third choice.

By living in a European country, Cheryle figures she will have more opportunity to travel and see more countries than if she were staying in an isolated area. By the time she leaves, she will have had four years of high school French, so if France is her destination, she will be able to communicate a bit right from the start. This is a definite advantage over other exchange students.

The decision to spend a year away from home was not sudden, Cheryle emphasizes. While in grade 9 she first heard about the program, and has been thinking about all the advantages and disadvantages since then. But, her desire to enjoy new experiences, learn new cultures and meet new people has overridden anything negative she might have felt.

Two people have played a major part in her decision to apply.

Peter Wetklo, an exchange student from Germany, a few years ago, made her want to go. However, the minimum age is 16, and she was too young.

And then Jodie McFarlane, from Australia convinced her she just had to be an exchange student. Jodie returned home last week after spending a year in Acton, and the two became very good friends.

Jodie told Cheryle the worse day was the very first one, when she was full of doubts as to whether she was doing the right thing. Cheryle says she has had enough time to think about that aspect, but as sure as she is that she wants to go, she'll also know when these doubts crop up that the feelings are perfectly natural.

When she returns after her year abroad, Cheryle plans to obtain her grade 13, and then be a stewardess for a while. After that she

(Continued on page 12)

Air raid siren was deliberately tripped

The air raid siren in Acton was deliberately set off by pranksters on January 1.

The siren was set off late on New Year's Day and waited for several hours into Sunday morning.

Captain Ian Thomson, public affairs Toronto for the Department of National Defence, revealed Thursday morning an investigation showed the siren was deliberately set off in Acton.

The siren went off around 10 p.m. and sounded steadily until about 1.30 the next morning.

One or more people climbed up the tower leading to the siren, going through a hatch onto the platform around the siren.

Once on the platform, Capt. Thomson said, they tampered with the "control box." They removed four bolts which hold the plate cover on the control box and then flipped the switch inside from automatic to manual, setting off the siren.

That's why when Bell Canada, the commercial carrier of the signals to the siren, flipped its master switch the siren didn't go off. The only way to turn the siren off then, besides going up and flipping the switch again, was to shut the power off, which Halton Hills Hydro did.

Capt. Thomson said the power was restored last Wednesday and the siren is again active.

He explained sirens can be turned on manually

so that authorized personnel can test them. There is a rotation schedule of testing for all sirens.

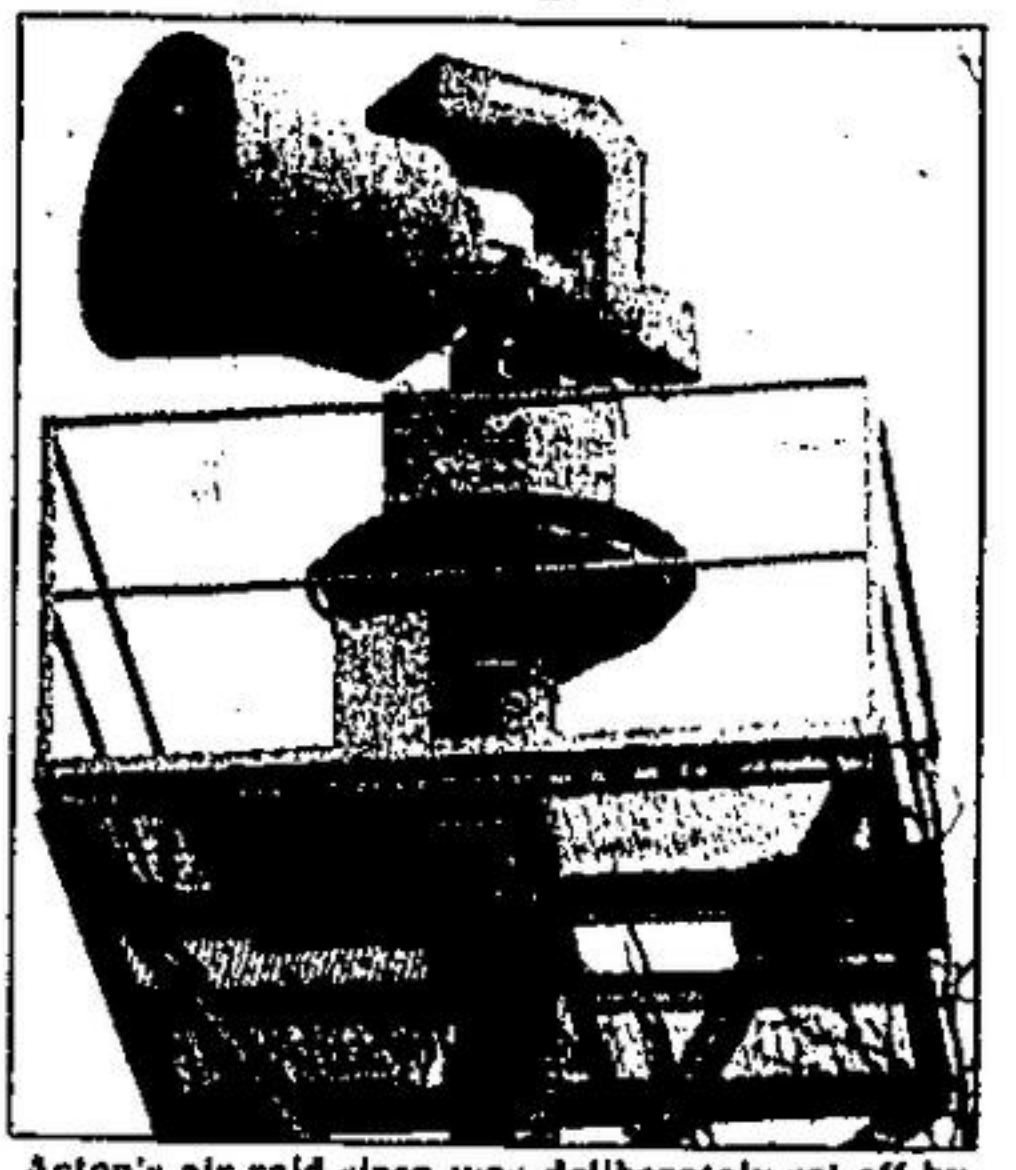
The Department of National Defence is looking at ways to chain and lock the hatch cover on the platform so only authorized personnel can get to the switch.

Capt. Thomson noted this is the first time the Acton siren, located in the Hide House parking lot, has been tampered with and sirens aren't set off often by pranksters.

Major Ron Lang, of the Provincial Warning Centre for the Regional Emergency Government Headquarters at Base Borden, said they feel it isn't likely the person or persons responsible for setting off the sirens knew exactly what they were doing or had special knowledge. Likely it was just a prank and it was sheer luck they went up and found a way to turn it on.

Anyone climbing up to the siren and fooling around with the control box was "inviting disaster." They were taking a chance because there are high voltages.

Major Lang is responsible for setting off the over 500 sirens in Ontario in the event of an emergency and noted there were only eight accidental siren soundings last year.



Acton's air raid siren was deliberately set off by pranksters.

Committee investigates United Way

A United Way could be established in Halton Hills if a committee recommendation is favorable.

Monday night at Halton Hills council meeting Mayor Pete Pomeroy said he had been asked by those trying to coordinate a Halton Region United Way if he would support such a move.

He admitted it was a job he didn't have time for but thought a committee should be set up to investigate the possibility. He said he had information

and offers of help from Milton which has just set up a United Way.

Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson asked if the groups in Town had indicated they want a United Way.

The mayor replied that would be part of the examination of the whole question and existing agencies. He pointed out there are United Ways in every municipality in Halton except Halton Hills.

He stated there are tremendous pressures on the region grant structure to make the agencies more self supporting by becoming members of the United Way.

He predicted there would be opposition, but states there is a need. "There won't be total support from the community, but it deserves to be pursued."

Victoria Lenizky goes to the top

A former Miss Acton Fall Fair is making quite a name for herself in the Vancouver fashion modelling world.

Victoria Lenizky, who reigned over the 1978 fall fair has been featured on the cover and in fashion photo layouts of prominent western magazines in the past year, and has even tried her hand at acting.

At 21 years of age, Victoria has modelling assignments in Paris France, Milan Italy, Toronto, Edmonton and Vancouver to her credit.

Just months after being crowned Miss Acton, when only 17 years old, Victoria received a six month modelling contract in Paris. Her stay actually lasted eight months, with the RR 2 Rockwood resident making it home just in time to represent Acton at the CNE's Miss Sweetheart of the Fairs Competition.

A slow year in the Toronto area followed her return, her mother, Helen Lenizky says, but eventually the work started to flow in. Her face was a familiar sight in the city newspapers on fashion pages, and in advertisements. She even appeared in an Eaton's flyer. While with the Sherrida, Personnel Management Inc. she worked

with a few regular models for the large catalogue operations.

Last November, Victoria went to British Columbia to visit with her grandmother, Margaret Koleszar, and fell in love with Vancouver. She gave up her promising career in Toronto, and went out west with no agent, and no job prospects. She signed up with the Richards agency, and her telephone hasn't stopped ringing since. Unlike many models, the Acton High School graduate doesn't have to door knock. The jobs come to her.

Somewhere along the line, Victoria decided Lenizky was too complicated a name for the entertainment world, and changed her name to Upland. A program on a stage play she starred in has her billed as Victoria Upland. She hopes to someday go to the Banff School of Fine Arts, to perfect her acting, but that's in the future. She's too busy working to think too far ahead.

Mrs. Lenizky recently returned from a three week stay in Vancouver visiting her mother and eldest daughter. During one of her conversations with the owner of the modelling agency, Mrs. Lenizky learned Victoria was considered one of the top models in Vancouver.

And she must be one of the most popular. Failing that, she must have one of the most popular sidekicks. Victoria's grandmother has found herself at a "shoot" many times, so often in fact she is referred to by the other models as "Granny". The 85-year-old woman is even invited to many parties in the fashion world, and through her granddaughter's career, has discovered an entirely new world.

Mrs. Lenizky says she doesn't know where her daughter's future lies, and she doesn't think Victoria does either. Both realize however, that if she wants to carry on with her modelling she will eventually have to move on, out of Vancouver. But whether the move takes her back to France, Toronto, or New York, she just doesn't know.

At 21 years of age, her career could be half over, her mother points out. Models 16 year old are brought onto the scene as the upcoming stars. It's a predominantly young business.

But, Mrs. Lenizky says hopefully, while she was visiting Victoria last month, her daughter received the bad news that she was not chosen for a job because she was too young. That news is pretty encouraging in the modelling industry.

ashley

RE'S MORE:
C. BOLD.
TEST
13

Victoria Lenizky

inside

There was a police chase along Highway 7 from the Fourth Line to Trafalgar Rd. See page 2.

Acton Councillor Ross Knechtel is the Town's new budget chief. Turn to page 2.

The arena handicapped ramp wasn't built early last year because the planned location was changed. See page 10. Also turn to page 4 for the letter on the subject.

Five drivers were charged in Halton Hills during the holiday season spot checks. More on page 6.

Terms of reference for the municipal building study were approved this week. Turn to page B13.

There was a seven car crash on 22 Side-road. Details on page 5.

Ditches in the Holmesway Pl. area are too deep. See page 3.

RR2

The government is a group who can do nothing individually and decide collectively nothing can be done.