

# Neighbors need each other to prevent crime

need each other to prevent crime. Acton residents learned last week at the first Neighborhood Watch meeting...

## Neighborhood Watch meeting April 26 at the arena hall

Special Notice: The next Neighborhood Watch meeting won't be held April 26 at Acton High School as announced at last week's meeting, but at Acton Community Centre (the arena) Hall on April 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Letting your neighbor know when you aren't home, and looking after each other's homes during vacations can go a long way to reduce crime also, he said.

ister from Alabama. He spoke to over 300 crime prevention experts about his poor church in the south and how they were in need of funds. The policemen all dug into their pockets and raised over \$800 for the minister and his church.

Neighborhood Watch does work, Drennan stressed. He cited the case of three young Toronto residents who decided Oakville was a prime target. In a daring daylight heist, the three robbed four homes.

Neighborhood Watch has already started to work in Milton, especially in a high juvenile liquor crime related area, the officer said.

When someone from Neighborhood Watch does call the police, the officer on the telephone is going to know the person knows what they are talking about, he said.

"The police do not catch criminals, the public catches criminals, and they use the police to do it."

In many cases, Drennan said, the homeowner thinks the suspect has a perfect right to be wherever they are and do not call the



Councillor Rick Bonnette chats with J. Soros, Constable Jim Drennan and M. Saad about the Neighborhood Watch program following the first of a series of meetings last week.

police. But he said, "The police would rather be coming to you to check out if a person is okay, rather than if you saw something after a break in."

In an affluent area of east Oakville, Drennan recalled, there were four break and entries out of 36 homes. The residents called the police, irate that they were not receiving enough police protection. Drennan said a meeting was called with the homeowners to discuss how to safeguard themselves and their houses.

However, that afternoon, he and another officer took his personal car, and dressed in blue jeans, drove around the neighborhood. They pulled into every driveway where the garage door was open, entered the garages, tried the doors, (and found some unlocked) etc. They spent four hours on the street, saw opportunities to steal barbecues, bicycles, and other paraphernalia in a garage. During that time, people walked past them on the street, one person pulled into the driveway

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# Acton Free Press



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g for cancer is the occasion people come from all over the area. Acton residents joined Georgetown folk on Monday morning to enjoy Egg McMuffins and help the Cancer Society. Here Harry Levy and Debra Hall wait on table as Reia, Bernadette, Dolores, Chad and Scott Rowsell sample the Egg McMuffins.

## On eve of Alan Pope's visit to Acton, Sheldon warns:

# New aggregates policy devastating

The much touted new aggregate policy from Minister of Natural Resources (M.N.R.) Alan Pope is just as "devastating" as the old policy, according to Halton Hills Councillor Pam Sheldon.

Sheldon heads up a committee of Halton Hills council called the Aggregate Task Force and has been at the forefront of the aggregate issue battle since joining council, as well as before entering politics when she fought the aggregate threat as a Speyside area resident.

She's one of many people who are going to tomorrow night's (Thursday) public meeting on the aggregate issue looking for lots of answers from Pope as well as Assistant Deputy Minister for Municipal Affairs and Housing Milt Farrow.

The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at Acton High School and Jim Kenzie, who has been involved with the Speyside Ratepayers Association and their long-running investigation of the entire aggregate issue and its history, will be the chairman.

Kenzie will open the meeting and then Saskia van Tetering, an official of the Ontario Young Progressive Conservatives who worked with Pope's office to arrange his visit to north Halton, will speak briefly explaining how the public meeting came to take place.

Both Pope and Farrow will make remarks and the question and answer period will begin about 8:15 and run to 9:15 or 9:30 p.m. After that the two provincial officials are expected to mingle and chat with resident in attendance before departing around 10 p.m. Residents will be able to continue discussing what they have heard until the meeting closes at 10:30 p.m.

A huge crowd is expected, especially since the Halton Escarpment Heritage (HEH) group is distributing 500 flyers in the north encouraging attendance at the meeting.

"We urge you to continue your support in this grave matter. It is imperative that large numbers of concerned citizens attend this meeting."

Cy Jenkins, head of HEH, noted 500 concerned citizens signed petitions which were submitted to the "appropriate political bodies on your behalf" over the aggregate issue after it erupted with a fury late last fall.

He said his group plans to sit back and listen to what Pope has to say and then they will meet to discuss how they will counter the new provincial approach. Jenkins said he understands citizens will hear about "sweeping changes" in the provincial aggregate policy.

Mayor Peter Pomeroy of Halton Hills said he will be looking for a "clear explanation," which everyone can understand, regarding the MNR's recommendations to the government about how to deal with the whole aggregate issue. There is controversy over the effect of the replacement of the old 10 point aggregate policy with a new policy designed to protect aggregate based on "provincial" priorities.

How this policy will be implemented has never been properly explained, Pomeroy noted.

He also is looking for Pope to re-confirm what he told a delegation of Halton politicians at a meeting in February about how land use documents dealing with aggregate will be handled in the Official Plan and the process aggregate producers will have to follow to receive permission to open quarries. Pomeroy recalled what he heard at the meeting with Pope in February was that aggregate producers will have to apply to the local council and have a hearing

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# New industrial park is proposed north of Acton

200 acres could be added to industrial land if technical studies and Halton Hills approval of the existing industrial park running from the northern Town boundary.

A lawyer representing the developer Ken Bruce is expressing interest in the industrial park plan for the area.

They have no firm commitments to move to Acton and no municipal approvals have been obtained with the municipality expressing interest.

They also aren't in a position to say how many acres would be built each year and how many factories locating in their area if it does receive a green light.

Paul Nielsen of Acton, who was on hand for the unveiling of this new proposal, said afterwards this plan would help solve storm drainage problems which have held up his Danville housing development at the corner of Main St. North and Commerce Crt. He noted all the drainage from the north of his planned development winds up on his property and that's why the housing development has been stalled, despite having approvals because the drainage problem is so mammoth to solve.

Bruce showed the councillors photos of other industrial parks they have developed in rural areas, noting they work, exist and are attractive. The Acton project would have a lot to offer because it will be beside Highway 25, have rail service. It's a good

Councillors were told the syndicate has been working with land owners in the adjacent existing industrial park as well as CNR so the new park will be linked with the old and serviced by rail. Bruce reported they have spent about \$200,000 so far buying property and easements for rail service and to link the two parks.

By establishing two storm water retention areas in the new industrial park and then allowing the water to escape gradually the consultants working on this project feel they can reduce the amount of drainage from this area by 71 per cent which would normally go into the present Acton storm drainage system.

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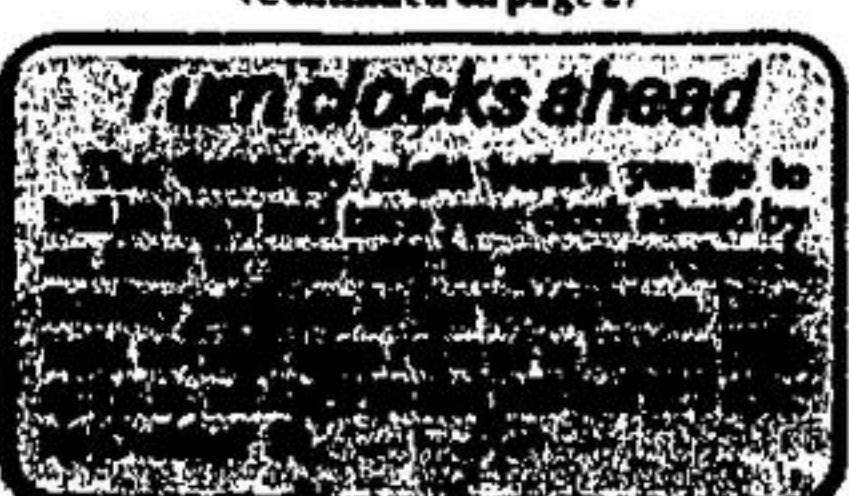
site and is adjacent to an existing industrial park.

This development would not only create jobs, but give the Town new assessment.

Consultant Bill Morrison estimated there are 800,000 gallons a day of well water available on the property, but pump tests still need to be conducted. He predicted there would be little or no impact from the industrial park wells on water levels of Fairy Lake or the Black Creek. They expect the water from the wells will be hard and there may be some iron content problems, but that can be solved.

Councillor Mike Armstrong questioned the economic viability of the project considering there are 200 acres of serviced industrial land vacant now in Acton. Bruce countered this property would be different because it will offer rail service.

Bruce asked council to give the project approval in principle or conditional approval (Continued on page 2)



**inside**

Burglars hit the rink twice on the weekend. Details of these and more crimes on page 6.

The Citizens' Band will entertain Sunday. See page 3.

The Rockmoss Centre controversy rages on. Turn to page 11 for two stories.

Curlers were honored recently and there are award photos on pages 14 and 15.

RR2  
New! I want to live long enough to be a problem to my kids.



No they're not convicts working on a rock pile, they're Acton High School environmental science students who labored all day last Wednesday moving these rocks into the creek in front of the library. They are making a new channel for the creek so it won't become an unsightly mess of weeds in future summers. See story and more photos on page 2.