

Little Sara struggles along with Cystic Fibrosis

by Anne Redfean
Sara Murray, bouncing, blonde and five-years old, puts her favorite record on the stereo, dons her roller skates and scoots happily around the kitchen carrying a picture of singer Kevin Denbok.
"When I grow up, I'm going to marry Kevin Denbok," she says teasingly to her mother Pam.
If she grows up, her mother's face says as she stands by the door watching her. And even if she does, Kevin himself might not be around to propose.
Sara and the 17-year-old rock singer have something in common, Cystic Fibrosis. It's an hereditary disease which usually proves fatal anywhere from birth to young adulthood, for those afflicted.
Sara, youngest of three children in the family of Walter and Pam Murray of Acton Blvd. was the healthiest of infants at birth. Two months later, how-

ever, she was losing her bloom of health, Pam recalls. That's when Cystic Fibrosis was finally diagnosed.
"She wasn't gaining any weight," Mrs. Murray recalled. "We took her to our doctor and they began testing for the problem at Peel Memorial Hospital."
When nothing could be pinned down, baby Sara was transferred to Toronto Hospital for Sick Children. They had the diagnosis within 24 hours, but Pam suspected beforehand when she heard the term from a nurse and looked it up in a medical dictionary.
The good news was, Pam and Walter could bring their daughter home and start her therapy right away. "We had been preparing ourselves for a lot worse," Pam said.
What she wasn't prepared for though, following her meeting with specialists at Sick Children's, was walking into the next room and seeing her seven-pound baby daughter

turned over a therapists knee and being hit in the back.
Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is a disease affecting lungs, digestive system, mucus, saliva and sweat glands. Lungs and stomach become coated with mucus causing respiration problems and preventing proper digestion.
The disease, discovered in the early 1950s, is carried in the genes, although no genetic test is available to prove its presence in parents. The only way a person can know he or she is a carrier is to have a case known in the family.
"We went through both our families as far back as we could, trying to recall whether anyone had lost a baby in infancy. There were none we could discover," Pam said. Yet, she and her husband are both carriers of the disease, and their other two children Norm, 11 and Kristen, 10, have a 50-50 chance of being carriers as well.
Therapy began on Sara right away.

She began receiving extra vitamins to make up for her early nutritional loss due to poor digestion. She was given a respiration vapor mask treatment twice a day, and was patted firmly on the back to help loosen the mucus in her chest. She was fed antibiotics to ward off infection. And she also received regular doses of Cotazyme, a drug derived from a pig's pancreas to aid digestion. Her special baby formula cost at that time \$125 per case.
"If I had known 10 years ago that I'd be going through all this, I'd never have thought I could handle it," Pam said with a smile. "But I've coped so far."
About a year ago, Sara began taking her medication in capsule form. Up until then, the medicine had been available in liquids or powder which could be mixed with applesauce. The taste was not pleasant. The capsules aren't that great either; they're big.
(Continued on page 12)



Five-year-old Cystic Fibrosis victim Sara Murray shows how respiration therapy works. Twice a day she breathes special vapor to help cut down the mucus which collects in her lungs as a result of the disease.

The Acton Free Press



A METROLAND COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

One Hundred and Eighth Year—Issue 42.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1983

54 Pages—Thirty Cents.



This is one of the funny scenes from the AHS production of *Done to Death* which will be staged Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. The show is a two act mystery comedy starring members of the school drama club under the direction of Suzi Beber and numerous talented helpers. It should be a great night's entertainment. See more photos on page 3.

Angry citizens blast Alan Pope Government won't listen to the people

by Gord Murray
Citizens in Halton Hills and Milton are mad as hell—and they don't want to take it any more, but they don't seem to know how to stop it because the conventional method of public participation in the system and protest doesn't seem to work because the Ontario government just won't listen.
Certainly the aggregate issue is of deep concern to citizens of north Halton, but the real overriding message of Thursday night's public meeting with Minister of Natural Resources Alan Pope was that the many, many people no longer have any faith in the democratic system and public participation process.
Speaker after speaker, from local residents and politicians to officials of groups like the Foundation for Aggregate Studies and MPP Julian Reed, told Pope the system isn't working and it isn't much use pleading your case to the provincial government on aggregate or much else because the powers that be have already made up their minds and aren't listening.
The message came through not just in words, but also in the mood and atmosphere of the audience of nearly 300 people at Acton High School. There was no shouting, you could have heard a pin drop while questions were posed and answered. Many sat stony faced, others shook their heads in disgust at answers, others muttered incredulously.
Possibly the clearest indication of peoples' feeling was the applause. Reserved at best for Pope and Assistant Deputy Minister for Municipal Affairs Milt Farrow, hearty and prolonged for remarks reflecting their feelings of frustration, the uselessness of fighting big government, the feeling of being fed up the futility of the situation etc. There was a fear permeating the room that motivates people to drastic action.
It's difficult to say if Pope got the message. He said he would take into consideration what he'd heard both about the aggregate issue and people's feeling about the system.
However, both in his responses to remarks and his comments after the meeting, he indicated he wasn't convinced people really have given up, he took their attendance at the meeting to mean they still do believe in the system. Pope said he would have to review what he'd heard, he couldn't promise there'd be many or even any changes based on peoples' complaints.
When the system doesn't produce the results people want they become frustrated and the people of North Halton are no different, Pope said. The attitude of the crowd was what he expected and had been warned he'd find here.

Halton Hills Councillor Pam Sheldon, who has been fighting the aggregate issue for years, long before she entered public life, said she had always believed in the democratic process and public participation, but not anymore because it just doesn't work. She has "lost faith" and wished the provincial government would quit "patronizing" people. Sheldon told Pope the people aren't stupid, they may not know exactly how to fight the government, but they knew they were saying things to the government and Queen's Park just wasn't listening.
A Speyside resident, Boris Mokrytaki, said he too, like many in the audience, had lost faith in the system and urged Pope take that message back to Queen's Park. Public input meant nothing at the Niagara Escarpment plan hearings. He was one of about 40 people who took off work to testify and found themselves up against expert lawyers at the hearing who could cross-examine them.
It wasn't a case of the people simply disagreeing with the government or not liking losing political battles, people were really

(Continued on page 2)
More aggregate stories and photos on page B1 and B2.

Acton may soon have its own car compound

The accident car compound issue still hasn't been settled, but some progress was made at a meeting involving auto body and tow truck operators in the area, local politicians and Halton Regional Police officials Friday.

Earlier this year, Councillor Rick Bonnette

Council rejects '83 pay boost

Halton Hills councillors decided not to give themselves any raise at Monday's general committee meeting.
A report from Treasurer Ray King indicated the Ontario public sector wage guidelines apply to councillors, so they could vote themselves an increase of only up to five per cent.
Councillors opted for no increase so the mayor will continue to earn \$17,490 a year and councillors \$6,922.
Had councillors voted themselves a raise the mayor's pay would have gone up \$874 a year to \$18,364 and councillors would have seen their wage jump \$346 to \$7,268.
The five Halton Hills representatives on regional council earn an additional \$12,966 a year.
Mayor Peter Pomeroy's total council pay is \$30,396 while councillors Russ Miller, John McDonald, Mike Armstrong and Dave Whiting earn \$19,918.
Last year, before the province had brought in public sector wage guidelines, council followed the federal government wage restraint program, even though they didn't have to, and gave themselves just a six per cent raise. Council was entitled to give themselves a raise of about 10 per cent in 1982 under a complicated formula adopted previously, based on several price indexes.
The suggestion not to increase councillors' pay this year was made by Whiting. He suggested Halton Hills councillors follow the regional councillors' lead and vote themselves no pay hike.
It was noted at the meeting that a report is pending from staff examining possible improvements to councillors and the mayor's benefit package.

brought a complaint about the lack of a car compound in Acton to council's attention, pointing out vehicles were being towed to Georgetown by the police approved tow truck operator in Halton Hills and most were then being fixed there, hurting local businesses.

Since then the subject has been discussed at Halton Police Commission and the subject of meetings involving politicians and businessmen.

Mayor Peter Pomeroy, who has been working on this problem both as a Town official and a member of Halton Police Commission, revealed the tow truck operator who holds the police contract in Halton Hills, Fred Tolton in Georgetown, agreed at Friday's meeting to tow accident damaged vehicles to a compound in Acton if one is found.

Who in Acton will have the compound hasn't been determined yet, a car compound must meet certain specifications because of security.

The towing tender is another matter, the mayor said. Tolton's contract runs until August 1984 with a one year option after that if both he and the police agree to exercise the option.

Formerly there were two towing areas in

Halton Hills, one covered Acton and area, but when the contract was tendered last year the boundaries were redrawn dividing North Halton up differently.

Pomeroy said they are looking at changing the boundaries now if both Tolton and the Milton operator agree so there can be a third towing area in the north. However, for any change to be made before the contracts are up Steeles Ave. must be removed from the Milton area and put in the Georgetown towing area. Only then could there be two economically viable towing areas in Halton Hills.

The mayor said there are no guarantees that there will be any changes in towing areas before the contract expires next year.

He said Halton Regional Police Force administrator Robin Hale indicated he'll be looking at establishing two towing areas in Halton Hills when the contract next goes to tender.

Pomeroy concluded Halton Hills and businessmen here have made a good enough case to warrant favorable consideration of a separate towing area for Acton next time around.

Besides the mayor, Tolton, Hale, and Bonnette, businessmen Les Pelitis, Dan Kociuk, Milt Ball and Frank Toth attended the meeting Friday.

Objection goes to OMB over planned growth for Acton

An objection has been lodged with the Ontario Municipal Board over plans to expand Acton's size.

Halton Hills hasn't received official word yet, but Mayor Peter Pomeroy confirmed the Town has been told a group owning about 100 acres west of Fairy Lake behind Lakeview subdivision has appealed the region's Official Plan amendment to expand Acton's urban boundaries. The urban boundary is the limits to the area which can be serviced with water and sewers.

After lengthy study the region and Town announced late in 1981 that sewage problems had been solved which would permit growth of Acton. Residential development is to take place east of Churchill Rd. north and south of Highway 7 and on Mill Street West. Also, some industrial development is to take place on Main St. North.

Acton's population would swell to 10,000 people under the plan.

Pomeroy said the objection from the landowners on the west side of town is that their land should be within the new urban boundary and that there are "planing principles" favoring their property over, say, Acton east.

Pomeroy said, depending on when an OMB hearing is held for the objection, it could delay final approval for growth here up to a year.

Growth wasn't going to go ahead too soon anyway as the region, Town and province have been working to solve problems involving water supply and storm drainage from new lands to be developed.

Couple raised 45 kids in 27 years ... see page 7

Famed choir here Friday



This Friday night there will be a real musical treat in Acton when the Hamilton Orpheus male choir performs at Knox Presbyterian Church.

This famed choir's appearance here is thanks to the efforts of Walker Lodge 321 (Masons) and the Knox Presbyterian Choir.

Director Lyn Harry is shown here playing the Knox Church piano while Knox musical director Ted Hansen looks on. Harry is looking forward to organ both the piano and organ for their show Friday night, which starts at 8 p.m., and pronounced the Knox acoustics as great.
For more details of the show turn to story inside.

inside

A number of detectives have been transferred back to uniform by Halton Regional Police. Turn to page 2.
The Citizens' Band played a great concert Sunday. Story and photos on page 8.
A man who wounded his daughter with a pellet pistol didn't know it was loaded. More on page 9.
The senior of the year at Lakeview Villa has been named. Story and photo on page 11.
A boy was hit while riding his bicycle on the highway on Sunday. Details on page 12.

Today's paper carries a feature on the Rockwood Trail Riders. See page 12.
You'll find Outdoors on page C7.

Plastic surgeons are the ones that accept credit cards.