

International Peace Camp approval, if given, won't come maybe until fall NEC planners say

International Peace Camp likely won't receive permission, if at all, to develop a multi-ethnic cultural and recreation centre on property south of Speyside between Highway 25 and the Town Line from the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) until the end of June at the earliest. And if there are any appeals, it could be the fall before the matter is resolved.

International Peace Camp's development application will likely be circulated to Halton Hills; the region; provincial ministries of the environment, natural resources and tourism and recreation; health unit; the region's ecological environment advisory committee; and Halton Region Conservation Authority; this week if final details of the project are submitted to the NEC quickly enough.

The circulation process takes about four to six weeks before all comments are reviewed by NEC staff. Then they formulate their own recommendations and the application goes to the Commission.

After a decision is handed down by the Commission the applicant, neighbors, or any circulating agency, can appeal the decision and a hearing will be held in Halton Hills council chambers. After a decision is handed down by the Commission all property owners within 400 feet of the outside perimeter of the 260 acre site will receive notification and they have 14 days to appeal. At a hearing all neighbors, not just those living within 400 feet, could testify. Then the hearing officer would review the evidence and forward a recommendation to the minister of housing.

No development or building on the site can take place until after the NEC makes a decision and not until the minister of housing makes a decision if there is an appeal.

NEC planners Pat Boeckner and Keith Anderson and Landscape Technician Dave Wells, reviewed the process the International Peace Camp application will follow, as well as the appeal process in an interview Friday.

They explained under the section of the proposed Niagara Escarpment Plan governing most of this property, a recreation centre is allowed. Three-quarters of the property is classed as Escarpment Rural while the balance on the east side of the site is Escarpment Natural. Development could only take place on the Escarpment Rural portion.

However, just because the International Peace Camp appears to be a permitted use doesn't mean "there can't be problems," Anderson said.

Scale or size of a development is considered, along with other development criteria they said.

Halton Hills has no zoning restrictions on the International Peace Camp property, according to Town planner Ian Keith, because it is in the Niagara Escarpment Commission jurisdiction. Control in entirety through the NEC, he noted.

The NEC can take direction from Halton Hills planning policies, but isn't bound by the Town view. "We are in the hands of the NEC on this," Keith explained.

The Esqueping Official Plan designated this land as Special Policy Area Two, which means NEC control. In the new Halton Hills plan, which isn't approved yet, the International Peace Camp property is designated NEC complimentary area, and public and private parks and recreation areas are permitted. So, summing up, Keith noted the Esqueping and Halton Hills plans say this development is permitted and so does the NEC proposed plan, and the NEC has development control.

One impact Keith sees coming from this development if it is approved is heavy traffic on two rural roads, 15 Sideroad, west of Speyside, and the Town Line.

He said he can't see, outside of the NEC wanting Town comments, any reason for the International Peace Camp to have to deal with the Town.

Councillor Pam Sheldon suggests Halton Hills can have a stronger role in the application process for this development then Keith envisions now.

She says a zoning amendment passed in 1982 because of problems with other major recreational uses in the rural area says no more major recreations uses will be allowed.

Sheldon also noted in an interview that the NEC proposed plan says where a municipality's restrictions are more severe than the NEC, then the municipal controls take precedence.

The NEC planners backed her view to an extent. They agreed that where municipal policies are more restrictive than the NEC tries to follow the municipality's wishes.

They acknowledged there is the zoning amendment, which is an indication of municipal wishes, but the amendment isn't as strong a point as if the Esqueping or proposed Halton Hills Official Plans didn't permit a recreation centre. The planners noted that will be something Halton Hills must clarify, should the zoning or Official Plan policies be followed.

Also the planners believe Halton Hills can be given site plan control of the International Peace Camp development, if the Town requests it the NEC could make reaching a site plan agreement with the

Town a condition of approval.

International Peace Camp plans a small amphitheatre in one of the picnic areas and there are several fields designated for picnics. The International Peace Camp officials who have been in touch with the NEC have been made aware of community concerns about entertainment noise by the planners. The picnic areas are several hundred feet from the Town Line, but the planners pointed out noise does travel great distances and that may not be far enough into the interior to avoid problems.

The main building, a seminar-convention

centre, isn't near the old Twin Lakes' building's foundation, so it isn't simply a case of restoring the old facilities. The planners couldn't reveal at this time the size of this building.

As for restoration of the old cement pool or ponds on the property, they'd need a permit if they want to deepen it or enlarge it. But the International Peace Camp members have been allowed to do some clean-up work in the pool.

They are allowed to maintain their existing road system, but they can't build new roads without permission.

They will also need permits for the serviced trailer camping area and semi and unserviced tent camping areas.

A sports field is planned on the property adjacent to the Town Line, but International Peace Camp plans burning and tree screening.

Most of the activities will take place around the main building and main picnic area. Washrooms are slated for a number of spots on the property.

International Peace Camp officials didn't know they needed a permit for the trailer placed on the property last week, so as a

first offense they are being allowed to keep the trailer there until the Commission makes a ruling, possibly later this month.

International Peace Camp first approached the NEC near the end of 1982 and began making its application in February, continually updating it as more information was requested. Father Alberto Cunha also made general inquiries at the Town planning office a few months ago.

The NEC planners said the owner of the property International Peace Camp has leased for 25 years is a numbered Ontario company.

Eden Mills Art gallery opens soon

by Mrs. G. MacDougall

Opening in the village on the afternoon of Sunday, May 22 is the new Home and Native Land Canadian Wildlife Art Gallery. This writer's friendly neighbors, Ian Fairley and Debbie Nevin will welcome you to their place of business located at the rear of the big red brick house across from the side of Norm's Coffee Shop. Some of the works by artists, Robert Bateman; Glen Loates; Michael Dumas and J. Fenwick Lansdowne will be exhibited. These paintings are all wildlife and all Canadian. Twenty to 30 artists have been invited to attend this Grand Opening.

The UCW were hostesses for another successful noon luncheon on Wednesday.

The Friendly Seniors met in their cozy room on Wednesday, May 4 with 14 members present. A special guest was Mrs. Eida Jackson. Euchre and refreshments were enjoyed by all present.

The tornado was big news last week and is now a thing of the past but sympathetic thoughts are expressed to those who suffered property damage and are still cleaning up after Mother Nature's short but furious attack.

McCristall appeal soon

The Court of Appeals could be hearing Michael McCristall's case by September.

McCristall was convicted in April, 1982 of manslaughter after a six week murder trial into the death of Howard Gibbons in a fire which levelled the Dominion Hotel in August 1979.

Rochelle Appleby, of Greenspan/Arnup law firm in Toronto confirmed the transcripts of the trial have been completed. The 12 volumes have to be read, summarized and submitted to the Court of Appeals, probably by August, at the earliest, she explained. The Court of Appeals will sit down in September, possibly, and decide whether an appeal is warranted, whether to order a new trial, or whether to just acquit McCristall on the spot.

McCristall, meantime has been out on bail pending the Court of Appeal's decision, since shortly after he was found guilty and sentenced to two years less a day at Brampton's Ontario Correctional Institute.

Three men were charged with second degree murder. Leonard Cripps was acquitted half way through the trial due to lack of evidence. Cosimo Mercuri was found guilty of the charges and sentenced to life imprisonment, with no chance of parole for ten years. Bail was refused Mercuri when he applied for his appeal, and he has been in Hamilton-Wentworth Detention Centre since his conviction. Arthur Maloney's law firm will be looking after his appeal.

Rockwood Villagers ready for clean-up day

by Barbara Fuak

The Rock-a-long Women's Institute held their May meeting at the home of Mrs. Jack Glendenning. The club was taken for a tour of the Eramosa Mushroom Farm by Mrs. Glendenning.

After the tour the delegates were chosen to represent the club at the District Annual to be held at the Maryhill Columbus Hall. They will be Mrs. B. LeRoy, Mrs. C. Nellis and Mrs. G. Mitchell.

Mrs. Glendenning had a penny table of garden items and house plants set up for the club. After the meeting was adjourned the ladies enjoyed a social hour.

Rockwood spring clean-up will be on Saturday from 7 a.m. to noon. Residents are asked to put items at roadside, but keep them separate from regular garbage to help with the pick-up Saturday morning.

The controversial documentary "If you love this planet!" will be shown at Rockwood

Centennial School in the Music Room at 8 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday). The film is of a lecture given by Dr. Helen Coldicott, President of U.S. Physician for Social Responsibility and outspoken nuclear critic whose message is clear—disarmament cannot be postponed. A collection will be taken.

Don't forget fireworks on Sunday May 22

Liquid nitrogen spilled in ditch

Ministry of the Environment is keeping close tabs on an area north of Oustic after a toxic chemical spill Saturday.

Guelph OPP say between 300 and 500 gallons of liquid nitrogen were accidentally dumped on the 4-5 Concession of Eramosa about 7 p.m., draining into catch basins in farmers' fields, resulting in the possibility of contamination.

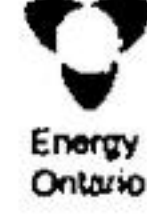
or Monday, May 23 depending on the weather. They will be at the Rockwood Centre again and the Lions have planned a full evening. The evening begins at 7.15 p.m. with the Guelph Gremlin Flying Club to be followed by the Rockwood Centennial School Band at approximately 8 p.m. Fireworks will begin at dusk. The Lionettes will have a booth at the back of the hall.

About 1,200 gallons of the chemical were being transported between farms in a 2,000 gallon steel tank on the rear of a farmer's dump truck. Police explain that while the truck was going up a grade, the weight of the tank and the substance tipped the dump (or box) back, allowing the tank to strike the pavement. When this happened, the tank valve was broken off, allowing the nitrogen to escape.



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Meanderings

by Mabel Barkman

If you happen to have some asparagus and have run out of ideas of how to serve it, why not make your favorite quiche and add the asparagus to it.

First, simmer the asparagus whole in a little salted water until tender. Then prepare the quiche according to directions. Then just before popping in the oven, arrange the asparagus in a fan-like way so that when the quiche is cut everyone will get a piece of the asparagus.

Sprinkle paprika, chopped parsley and even some fresh chopped chives over the top so that the quiche will look most attractive when served.

Not only will it look good, it will be most nutritious and make a good lunch or supper with a salad and roll.