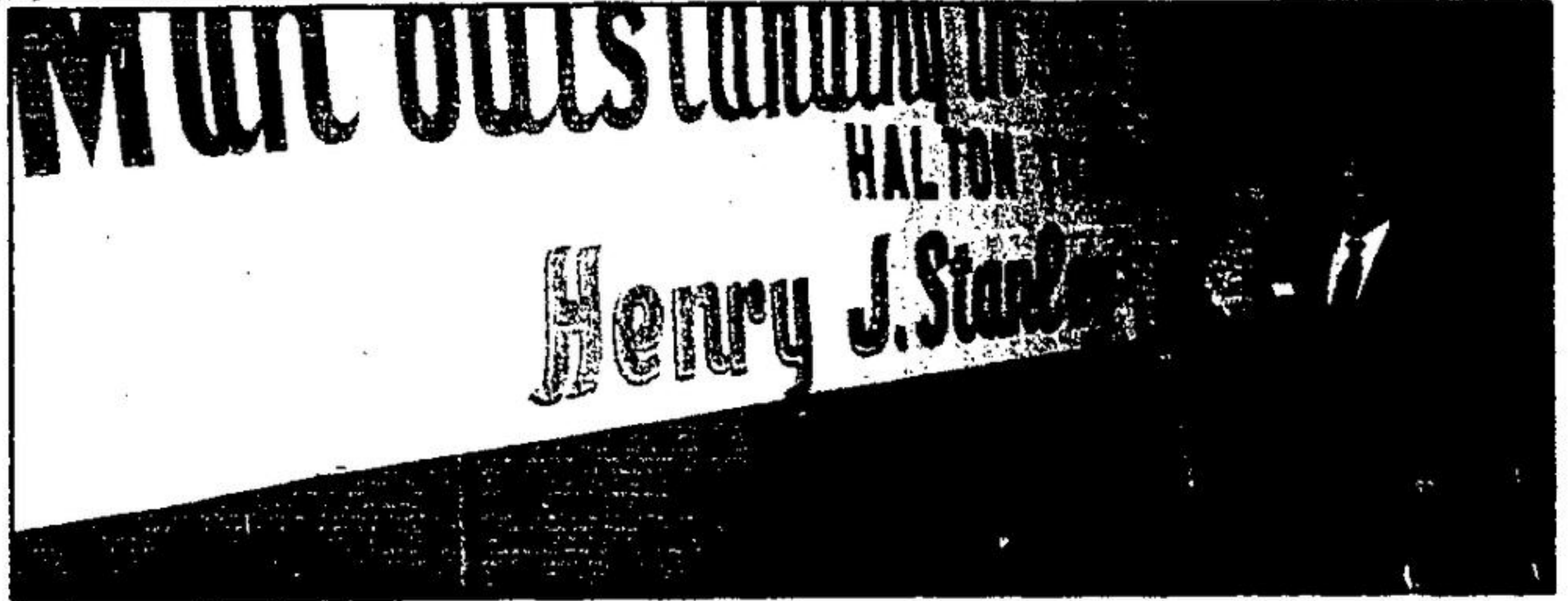


# Boxing Day Special



Halton Ag. Rep. Henry Stanley congratulates his successor Phyllis McMaster at the banquet honouring him last Monday. A graduate of the University of Guelph, Ms. McMaster will assume the Ag. Rep's position Jan. 3.



Halton Ag. Rep. and Mrs. Henry Stanley were honored at a banquet and social evening at the Acton Legion hall last Monday. He served as agricultural representative in Halton for 20 years and is moving back to his former home in Carleton County.

## Stanleys honored at dinner and social evening

After serving the County of Halton as Agricultural Representative for the past 20 years, Henry Stanley was honored at a dinner and social evening at the Acton Legion, on Monday night.

More than 20 farm organizations from the Halton-Peel-Wentworth areas collaborated in organizing the appreciation dinner, attended by 445 people.

Former Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Gordon Bennett, was Master of Ceremonies, and recalled 60 years of Ag-Reps

in the area. He went on to reminisce about the day he hired Henry and added a number of colorful anecdotes about his past.

A number of speakers then followed representing different groups in the county.

Rev. Charles Masters, from St. John's Anglican Church, Nassagaweya, spoke of the Stanley family's affiliation with the church and how much they would be missed. Words of appreciation and praise were also given by Norman Bird, Reford

Gardhouse, Norm Biggar, and Ed Segworth, all representing different factions of the agricultural community of Halton.

Art Bennett, former Director of Extension for the Dept. of Agriculture, also gave his best wishes to the Stanleys. He was joined by his wife, Jean, who added a few well-chosen words.

After the speeches, Doris McNabb, an active Women's Institute member presented Mrs. Stanley with a string of pearls, and Harold Middlebrook, from the

Halton Federation of Agriculture, presented Henry with a painting of the stone farmhouse in Nassagaweya, which the Stanleys have called home for the last 15 years.

In his reply, Mr. Stanley thanked members of his office staff and other individuals with whom he had worked closely for the last 20 years, for their help and co-operation throughout the years. He went on to add his feelings of the achievements of the county, and his few disappointments as well.

At the conclusion of his speech, he took the opportunity to introduce his successor to the position of Ag Rep. Phyllis McMaster, a native of Glengarry County, will be taking over on Jan. 1. She will be the first lady Ag. Rep. in Ontario.

Following the formal part of the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley met with many of the friends they had made over the years, all wishing them luck on their new endeavors as they re-locate in Carleton County, and thanking the Stanleys for their contributions of the past.

## The Acton Free Press

A METROLAND COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

## THE Independent

A METROLAND COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

BOXING DAY SPECIAL

ACTON/GEORGETOWN, MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1983

FOURTEEN PAGES



This painting, called "Going Fishing", won an award in the Arts Etobicoke's annual show. Here artist Eunice Melton shows it at her exhibition held recently in her Limehouse home.

## Anti-vandalism push paid off in October

After only two months in operation the anti-vandalism campaign of the Halton Regional Police force seems to be paying some big dividends for property owners in North Halton.

There were 45 reported incidents of vandalism in Halton during the month of October, traditionally a high month, and this is down 60 per cent from last year's total of 113.

Where the drop is really paying off is in the pocket book. This October \$9,993 in dam-

age was wrecked by vandals, while last year the total was \$20,530.

"That's doesn't mean the project is a total success but it indicates it could be," said Sgt. Richard Kivell of the project.

Kivell said police are pleased with the response to the campaign and noted there has not been one case where police have had to take juveniles home for loitering after the 10 p.m. curfew.

"We're very happy and the citizens should be happy too," said Kivell.

Officers have made visits to all local schools as part of the campaign to raise awareness and the police have also used the media to get their message across to parents.

Kivell suggested that parents are being more strict with their children about their whereabouts, especially after dark when most vandalism occurs.

## Past is crumbling

### Halton museum said falling apart

By STEVE ARNOLD

Priceless links with Halton's past are slowly crumbling to dust because the regional museum, located in Milton, cannot properly care for them.

That's the reality members of the region's administration and finance committee were forced to face last week when Halton Region Museum curator Ernie Buchner tabled his first report on the current problems and future prospects of the facility.

Since 1962 the Halton Region Museum has been housed in a 130 year-old barn, located at the Kelso Conservation Area.

The barn lacks adequate climate controls, according to Mr. Buchner, and because of the excessive heat, cold and humidity some of the artifacts are suffering.

Solving these problems, the curator told committee members, may be expensive, but the federal government has a grant program which will pay for up to 75 per cent of the study needed to find solutions to the problems.

"We're not facing a litany of horrors in this report," he said. "It outlines some serious concerns and things which should be done to bring the museum up to the standards which will be proclaimed Jan. 1."

The provincial Ministry of Citizenship and Culture will begin to enforce a new set of

standards of the community museums it funds, he said, adding the standards are reasonable "if it is remembered that the goal is to raise the standard of museums across the province."

Committee members approved submitting an application for the special federal study grant to look at ways of either improving the facilities of the museum at the current location, or of moving it within the region.

"If the current location can be saved and it still allows for growth then I would be the first to recommend that," Mr. Buchner told the committee members, although looking at a new site for the museum "in my mind is something to be seriously considered."



Corporal Al Smouter



Sergeant Al McPhail

## OPP shuffle

Milton OPP will have a new detachment commander in the new year.

Corporal Al Smouter will be promoted to the rank of Sergeant and will take over the top post in Milton from Sergeant Ed McPhail. McPhail has been promoted to Staff Sergeant and will be detachment commander at Peterborough.

Corporal Smouter is a 20-year-veteran of the OPP and has served at the Port Credit and Downsview detachments. He is currently stationed in Burlington.

Sergeant McPhail has been in Milton since August, 1979, and has also served in Huntsville, Kincardine and Toronto detachments.

Until Nov. 30

## Permits up \$7.5 million

The value of building permits issued until the end of November is up \$7.5 million over the previous year. This year the total is \$13.07 million, while last year it was \$5.4 million.

House building accounted for a large part of the increase with housing permits reaching \$5.5 million this year compared to \$1.2 million last year, to the end of November.

The nursing home now under construction boosted the institutional permits to \$3.7 million and the additions to P. Graham Bell and Neilson's pushed the industrial permits to \$1.28 million.

In November, a traditionally slow building month, only one housing start was made, but in the first 11 months of the year 57 house permits were sold compared to 20 in the same time last year.

While 1982 was a poor year for building permits, 1981 was approximately the same as 1983, when the nursing home permit is discounted. In 1981 permits totalled \$9.98 million.

In the first 11 months of this year the Town collected \$57,875 in permit fees, \$14,047 in plumbing fees and \$64,718 in lot levies. Another \$45,138 was paid to Halton region in lot levies by anyone constructing residential properties.

### Inside this issue

Halton's 1983 Farmer of the Year selected. Page 3.

Rural schools celebrate Christmas. Page 7-8.

Glen Eden anticipates booming ski season. Page 12.

## Rural homes harm farms

Halton's \$60 million a year agriculture industry is suffering because regional council does not have the tough planning policies needed to protect it.

That's the conclusion of a package of studies presented to the region's planning and public works committee last week.

Consisting of eight separate study papers, the documents conclude past planning decisions by the region have harmed the

farm industry here, "but it is still strong and viable," according to planner Peter Langdon.

The greatest of the problems to be faced, he said, is that of residential development in the rural area.

Halton's current official plan restricts the building of houses in the rural area to established hamlets and rural clusters, other than for retirement lots for farmers and to fill in gaps between existing houses.

Allowing this development, Mr. Langdon said, is part of a process which weakens the rural community by fragmenting farms into inefficient sizes and taking land out of production.

"The traditional rural lifestyle is reduced and inhibited by a more urban oriented way of life," the planner said, "because political decisions are often made in the interest of the non-farm residents."

This growth of residential uses in the countryside, he said, has also led to an increase in conflict between the two uses, with complaints by farmers of running dogs, vandalism and resident complaints about noxious odors rising dramatically.

## Welfare fraud plan delayed

Welfare costs in Halton have soared more than 35 per cent over last year and regional council has been forced to delay a program aimed at cutting some of those costs.

The program to be delayed is the hiring of an eligibility review officer which social services director Debbie Oakley said would be helpful in reducing fraud on the welfare rolls.

In a report to councillors Miss Oakley said the provincial Ministry of Community and Social Services only agreed to finance its share of the cost of the scheme late in October.

Regional council's approval of the

plan scheduled it to start June 1 and run for 11 months before being evaluated for addition to the full time staff.

In her most recent report, Miss Oakley said she didn't expect recruiting for the temporary position to be completed until late in December.

In past reports when the review officer was first suggested, Miss Oakley said the local system could be losing as much as \$20,000 a year in fraudulent welfare payments, but the current number of caseworkers simply cannot meet the needs of their clients and review all of the

files. Hiring the review officer, she said, would allow cases to be built up properly and turned over to the regional police for prosecution.

In a statistical report to councillors, she noted to the end of September, the region has given away \$730,382 more than during the first nine months of 1982.

During the first three quarters, she said, more than \$2.4 million was handed out.

Total caseloads for the welfare department, she said, are increasing steadily, compared to earlier periods in 1983.

### CREATIVE FUND-RAISERS

Creative USC volunteers across Canada have raised hundreds of dollars by selling handmade quilts, jewellery and greeting cards. The proceeds go to support over 211 development and relief projects in six developing countries. USC Headquarters are located at 56 Sparks Street, Ottawa, K1P 5B1.

## Town seeks rezoning

In order to meet the terms of the offer of purchase the Town will seek a rezoning of its own land on Guelph Street, from industrial to commercial.

An offer of \$216,000 by Anscot Developments Ltd., has been accepted by the Town for 1.5 acres fronting on Guelph Street, beside the police station, but the offer is conditional on the rezoning of the land.