

Remembering 1983

(Continued from page 6)

Toronto teenager say they risked their lives early Sunday morning to help occupants of 18 Willow St. escape their flame-engulfed house. Police say the "probable cause of the fire was improper disposal of smoking materials", in the fire which claimed the lives of Gene Miller and a 14-year-old friend of his daughter, Kathy Wears.

International Peace Camp is preparing a new, down sized plan, for development of the old Twin Lakes property just south of Speyside, but the ethnic-cultural organization is still being taken to court by the Niagara Escarpment Commission for building a road without a development permit.

A bid by Halton Hills Hydro Commissioner for Acton, Doug Mason, to settle the Acton billing office issue Friday didn't get off the ground. Mason presented a motion to his colleagues calling for the office to remain open "indefinitely" to serve Acton and rural area customers and assignment of a "hydro knowledgeable" clerk to work in the office.

The first mayor of Halton Hills, Thomas J. Hill died Saturday morning in Georgetown Hospital at age 63.

Over \$2,000 was raised for the restoration of the town Hall and about \$1,600 was raised for cancer during a fun-filled, action packed, weekend. The Leatherdown Market and Ciderfest attracted an estimated 4,000 on Saturday to Acton's downtown as market-goers browsed through 70 booths, looking and buying everything from ceramics to clothing to produce and wooden lawn furniture.

September

Municipal staff, the Town solicitor's office and Halton Regional Police are all investigating a mysterious rock music festival apparently planned for this Saturday night on property in the area of Highway 7 and the Fifth Line. In the end the Town obtained an injunction to prevent the festival being held there, but it was simply moved to another Acton area farm.

Halton Hills has offered Halton Board of Education \$52,500 for the Stone School. If the deal firms up, it wouldn't close until next June. However, the offer was later rejected by the board.

Hydro customers in Acton and Esquesing can continue to pay their bills in the Acton office on Alice St. In a recorded vote Friday morning, Halton Hills Hydro commissioners voted three to two to continue the service, even though only a small percentage of the customers pay their bills with cash.

Milton town council will enforce their bylaw which they feel prohibits a Nassagaweya motocross track even if it means going to court to uphold that law. This was revealed after about 50 people turned up at a special council meeting to either defend or protest the development of a motocross track on property owned by Mansell Nellis on the Sixth Line of Nassagaweya, between Highway 7 and 25 Sideroad, commonly known as the Ponderosa.

Halton Hills council voted 9-3 to offer \$600,000 for the Stevens' estate as a future home for a municipal complex.

The heavens must have been looking down on Acton on the weekend as storm clouds seemed to part at the most appropriate times for the 70th annual Acton Fall Fair.

The third annual Terry Fox Run has brought in an estimated \$11,300, a big increase over last year's plus \$10,000 total.

The Indusmin land south of Acton is one of the potential sites for a Halton dump contained in phase two of the mammoth region study into what will be done with the region's garbage.

October

After almost 18 years of devoting her life to others, Joan Waddie is closing the doors of Maple View Lodge to spend time with her family.

The field is set and the race is on for the Esquesing seat in the upcoming municipal by-election. Candidates are Tony Taylor, Peter Norton, Jim France, Jake Kulken, Dolly Moulden and Bob Heaton. The election became necessary after the death of Tom Hill.

Acton is only three cents away from being in the \$2 per capita club with the Canadian Cancer Society according to local campaign chairperson Gloria Coats. Not including September's Terry Fox Run, which is expected to take in more than \$11,000 for cancer research, the Acton Unit of the Cancer Society raised a total of \$17,797.12.

The chairman of the Niagara Escarpment Commission will be ordering the International Peace Camp to totally restore the Twin Lakes property near Speyside to the condition it was in before the organization started developing the property without any approvals.

An infusion of new blood is expected to revive the nearly dormant Acton Chamber of Commerce. Steve Dawkins is the new interim president; Ted Tyler, interim second vice-president; and interim director is Larry Greaves.

Phase one and two Kingham townhouse



Volunteer firefighters honored nine retiring colleagues in 1983. They were, back row, left to right, Wilf Duval, Lloyd McIntyre, Chris Tennant, Grant Withers, Bert Fowler. Front row, Harold Townsley, Bern Van Fleet, Leo Synnot, Chief Bill Cunningham was on hand for the special evening. Absent from the photo was Ted Curtis.

corporations and their members are considering fighting the region's plan to make them pay for the new sewage system installed on the road last year.

A long-time resident of Acton, Robina Clark, celebrated her 95th birthday at the Elliot Home for the aged in Guelph.

Jake Kuiken was elected to fill the Esquesing seat in Halton Hills council which was left vacant upon the death of Tom Hill in August.

November

Over 187 years of firefighting service were recognized Saturday evening as nine retiring Acton volunteer firefighters were honored. They were Bern Van Fleet, Harold Townsley, Leo Synnot, Wilf Duval, Grant Withers, Bert Fowler, Lloyd McIntyre, Ted Curtis and Chris Tennant.

A Halton Hills wide citizens' protest of the town's acquisition of the Stevens' property in Georgetown and council's pursuit of a municipal complex is underway. Council also finalized its purchase of the property for \$600,000.

Regional chairman Jack Raftis announced his resignation Friday after months of speculation and with little delay five councillors indicated they will be in the running to fill his shoes.

Bearmore workers voted overwhelmingly for a new contract giving them a \$1 an hour raise over two years.

There are three industries currently looking at coming to Halton Hills. One firm is eyeing Acton while two others are interested in Georgetown locations, Mayor Peter Pomeroy said.

The annual Citizen of the Year dinner was more like a roast, but this year's honored recipient Ted Tyler took it all in stride, helping to make it one of the most colorful banquets the 106 guests had ever been to.

International Peace Camp will appeal their case to building a major multi-ethnic cultural-recreation centre on the old Twin Lakes property near Speyside. The Niagara Escarpment Commission rejected the plan at the request of Halton Hills and Milton. The NEC is holding off ordering restoration of the property.

The man who made it his lifelong project to restore the historic Rockwood Academy, Yosef Gertrudis Drenters, is dead at the age of 53.

Frank Heller and Company workers in Acton and Georgetown plants recently became a certified bargaining unit of the United Food and Commercial workers union, Ontario Council of Leather Workers.

Coming down to the wire in the race for the regional chairman's job, predictions see Mayor Pete Pomeroy and Oakville's Carol Gooding as top contenders.

Halton Hills has made a new offer of \$68,000 for the old Stone School.

The citizens' group protesting the Town's acquisition of land in Georgetown for a municipal complex has raised a number of new questions about the way council has handled this whole affair.

Russ Miller, Ross Knechtel and Ric Morrow are the only announced candidates for the mayor's job to date, but Morrow's bid may be thwarted if Halton Hills council opts for an appointment from within council. The mayor's seat will become vacant the moment Pete Pomeroy is sworn in as Halton Regional Chairman. He was elected regional chairman last Wednesday on the second ballot.

Betty Fisher became chairman of Halton Board of Education.

December

A citizens' group probing the municipal complex issue identified a great number of areas of concern regarding the council's



New Mayor Russ Miller is flanked by Esquesing's new Councillor Peter Norton, left, and new Regional Councillor for Ward Two Jake Kulken. All were appointed December.



Cheryl Greenly headed to Brazil as part of the Rotary exchange program.



Ronnie Braga arrived in September for a year in Acton from Brazil, as part of the Rotary exchange program.



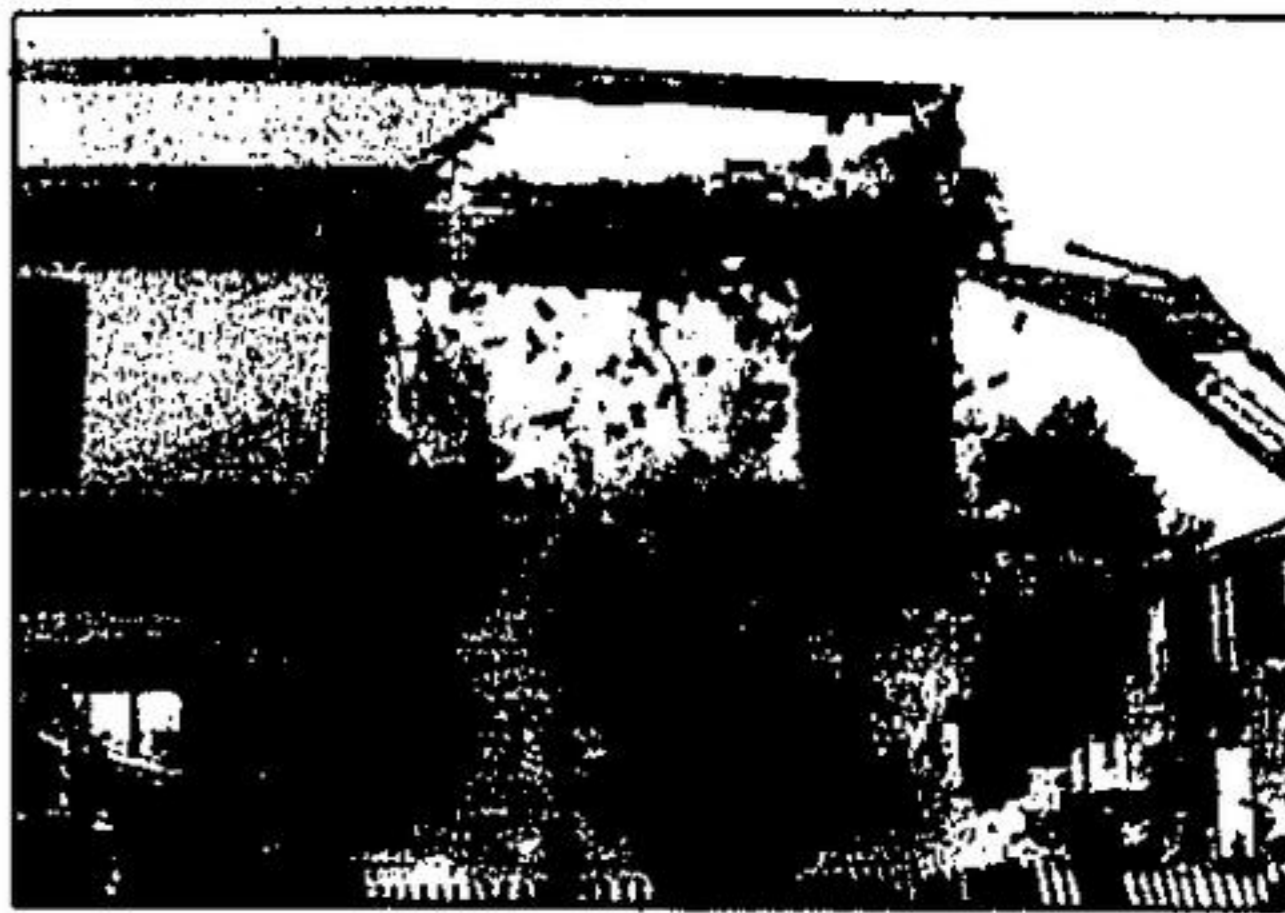
Halton Hills' first mayor and a member of the present council as an area councillor for Esquesing, Tom Hill died suddenly in late August.



Joan Waddie closed the doors to Maple View Lodge.



Councillor Rick Bonnetta and the Halton Regional Police got the local Neighborhood Watch program underway.



Acton Pharmacy was torn down and replaced with a spanking new building.



Anna Miller and Mary Wallace both celebrated their 90th birthdays in August.



Citizen of the Year for 1983 Ted Tyler took some goodhearted ribbing at the banquet in his honor.



New Halton Board of Education chairman Betty Fisher and vice chairman Anne Fairfield congratulate each other on their recent elections. Fisher was acclaimed to her top seat and Fairfield beat out two other candidates for her new job.



Rev. Gerald Renale left the leadership of Knox Presbyterian Church and Ted Hansen presented him with a huge going away card.



The brand new Salvation Army Citadel was officially opened in September. Captain Wilson Perris and Lieut.-Colonel William Kerr unveiled the plaque inside the building's foyer.