

# Make people aware of ADD speaker urges

It took a personal tragedy to make John Grey aware of the national problem of drunk driving in Canada and he hopes that through his campaign he'll be able to make other people aware of the problem before suffering an untimely death in the family.

Grey's son Neil, 14, was fixing the chain on his bicycle on a wide, well lit street a year ago when he was killed instantly by a drunk driver who didn't stop.

Grey, his wife and another son were shocked by Neil's death and for months withdrew from society. For several weeks following the tragedy the Grey family received condolences from people all over Canada who had had the same terrible thing happen to them and as a result Grey began one of the fastest growing campaigns in Canada called Against Drunk Driving.

Speaking at a gathering of about 20 people at St. Joseph's Hall last Tuesday, Grey,

president of Against Drunk Driving (ADD), pointed out that every 20 minutes someone, somewhere in Canada falls victim to a drunk driver and that new laws and public awareness must be instituted to effectively deal with the problem.

"We are far too lenient with drunk drivers," emphasized Grey, "a first offense means a fine of \$300 to \$500 and a suspended licence. Further repeated offenders can get a good lawyer and through plea bargaining they are tried as a first time offender for their second, third or fourth offense."

"Right now if an impaired driver is involved in an accident all he has to do is say nothing and he'll not be subjected to a breathalyzer and no charges will be laid," Grey claimed.

Grey also said that loopholes in section 43 of the Liquor Licence Act don't distinguish between an impaired and an intoxicated

person so that giving impaired people more alcohol will be illegal.

"We have to make the public more aware of the potential danger of allowing drunks to drive," added Grey. "Did you know that between 1978 and 1981 there was a 28 per cent increase in fatal accidents involving drunk drivers," asked Grey, "and those numbers are growing."

Grey said he has had a positive reaction from the federal government for stronger laws but a total revenue of \$555,000,000 from the sale of alcohol is making many politicians hesitate on possible measure that may cut into that revenue.

If Grey has his way he'd like to see a mandatory jail sentence for first time offenders, lifestyle advertising on alcohol on television should be abolished and mandatory rehabilitation for convicted drunk drivers should be instituted.

"Raising the drinking age won't help," stated Grey because the average drunk driver is 24-32 years old and licence suspensions are useless because people drive without licences all the time without being caught.

As well as campaigning all over Canada Grey has also started Madiera House to help rehabilitate people convicted of impaired driving and a teen ADD program to reach people before they reach the age where they are allowed to drink said Grey.

Grey concluded saying that citizens have the same rights as the police when it comes to keeping impaired drivers off the road.

"So next time you see a man or woman, obviously impaired, getting ready to drive, take their keys from them and you'll be doing everyone a favor," Grey concluded.

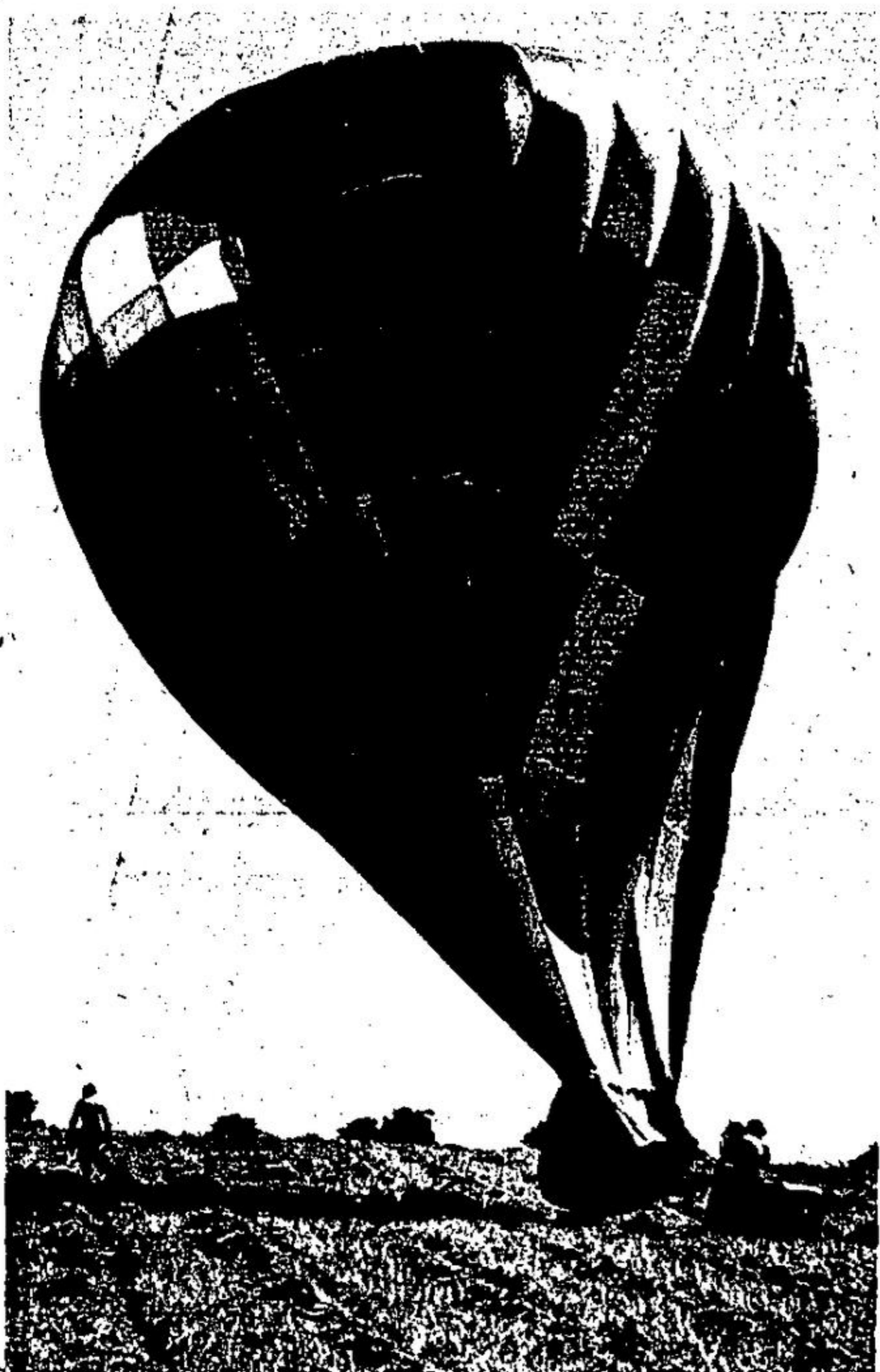


John Grey, president of A.D.D. (Against Drunk Driving), was at the St. Joseph's Hall last week to talk to local residents about his campaign.

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Balloonist and area resident Al Russell recently returned from participating in the making of a Paul Newman movie in Switzerland. His hot air balloon Rainbow is a familiar sight in Halton Hills as he skims the trees on a nice summer's day. Occasionally he touches down in farmers' fields as in this photo.

## Swiss scenery captivates man

by Helen Murray

A three and a half hour balloon ride over the Swiss Alps has spoiled a Halton Hills man for everything else.

Al Russell, who lives just outside Acton, recently returned from Switzerland where he not only had the ride of his life, but also took part in the filming of Paul Newman's latest, as yet unnamed, movie. All this because Al has discovered hot air.

Owner of The Balloonist, Al is the defending champion of the Canada Hot Air

## Plan small additions to St. Alban's Church

There will be a couple of small additions made to St. Alban's Anglican Church over the next few months.

Monday Rev. Art Tribe announced the alterations to the building and unveiled the architectural drawings.

Currently there is a small, grassed area facing onto Willow St. between the church and parish hall.

This area, about 10 by 29 feet, will be enclosed and become the new Narthex (a greeting area) of the church.

Rev. Tribe explained in this new Narthex there will be a spot where coats are hung up, a bulletin board, a church library. This area will feature a new entrance to the church and mean access from the back of the church to the parish hall in the future.

The Narthex will be accessible for visitors in wheelchairs, Rev. Tribe noted. Coffee hours will also be held in this new room.

The sanctuary, the area behind the altar railing at St. Alban's will be enlarged too. The present walls will be moved back.

The pipes for the organ will be removed from the vestry room and placed in banks in the walls at the front of the church where false organ pipes are now located. The false pipes will be removed.

All of the alterations are going to cost around \$100,000 and the work, which should start fairly soon, is expected to take about four months.

William Parker Construction of Guelph is handling the work.

## Average tax up \$28 for Town

The average tax bill for Town (Halton Hills) purposes only is going up about \$28 in Acton and Georgetown and \$20 in the rural area.

Monday night Halton Hills struck its 1984 budget which results in tax increases of 9.9 per cent in Acton and Georgetown and 8.9 per cent in Esquesing.

Based on an average assessed home of \$4,482 in Acton, the tax increase for general Town purposes is about \$20 with around another \$8 added for the urban service area charge (crossing guards, garbage collection and street lights). It's the same story in Georgetown, though the tax increases are based on an average assessed home of \$5,817.

Based on an average assessment in Esquesing of \$4,821, taxes will jump for

Halton Hills only about \$20. Esquesing resident's don't pay an urban service charge.

To these tax increases must still be added education and regional taxes when school board and the region budgets are struck.

**General government**

The tab for general government, or Town administration this year will be \$1.2 million. The purchase of the Stone School in Acton for \$68,000 and \$10,000 for a computer improvement are the big items in this area of the Town budget. The increase in this area of municipal spending will be 5.6 per cent.

**Protection to Persons and Property**

This area of the Town budget reflects the biggest increase in spending, 21.7 per cent and mainly covers the fire department. The total price tag for this area of municipal operations will be \$893,119. The major

## Stone School purchase okay

Halton Hills is buying the Stone School. Without a single comment about the \$68,000 building and land purchases, councillors approved the project as part of the 1984 budget Monday night.

Deputy-clerk Delmar French said there are still "certain conditions still to be satisfied" before the deal closes June 21.

The \$68,000 price tag was accepted by the seller, Halton Board of Education, some months earlier.

While there was no discussion of the purchase Monday at council, this project was reportedly the subject of spirited debate during budget meetings.

In the staff budget report it was noted buying the building will result in preservation of an historic building.

The purchase will also create a facility in Acton for use by community groups "based on a feasibility study" to be done later.

## Fund established to aid Hargraves

A fund has been started in aid of George and Marie Hargrave, whose home was badly damaged in a fire last week.

The fund raising efforts were launched by the Order of the Eastern Star, Worthy Matron Gail Manuel explained.

A donation fund has been established at the Bank of Nova Scotia and already by Monday about \$75 was in the account.

As another boost for raising funds, a benefit dance is planned for April 6 at the Acton Legion. Mrs. Manuel explained Branch 197 is donating the hall and a percentage of the bar sales to the cause. Also a light lunch will be sold at the dance with proceeds going towards the Hargraves. Ticket sales proceeds will also go to the couple.

Tickets for the dance are \$5 a person, she said, and should be available later this week from Legion members, firefighters, Masons and Eastern Star members.

Funds raised will be used by the Hargraves to cover the gap between what they receive from the insurance company and the replacement cost of their lost possessions as well as to help them meet expenses while they await their insurance settlement.

The Hargraves have been highly regarded here for their community service and Mrs. Manuel said they're appealing to those who know Marie and George to make donations and attend the dance.

## Purchase donut shop, demolish for parkette

The Canadian Style Donut Shop at the corner of Main and Mill streets, which is now vacant, will be coming down.

Halton Hills and the Acton BIA are combining forces to buy the building, demolish it, put in a parkette and make some road improvements at the corner this year.

The Town is going to own the land, Budget chairman Ross Knechtel noted in making the announcement Monday night.

Engineer Robert Austin, who declined to say exactly how much was paid for the building and land, said the cost of the entire project is over \$100,000.

He explained \$40,000 is coming from the 1984 Town budget while another \$15,000 in Town monies will go into adjustments to the curb radius and sidewalk and walk-don't-walk traffic signals for the intersection.

Some of the money for the Donut Shop building project was set aside by Halton Hills and the BIA in previous years.

Knechtel said the Town made an offer for the building and it was accepted. He called the project a modest improvement to downtown Acton.

**Inside this week**

A Moffatt woman received a St. John Ambulance Award. See Page 2.

Editor Gard is back with his popular From the editor's desk. Page 4.

East Presbyterian Church has a new minister. For story and pictures see Page 8.

Adults turn back the clock and return to school. It's all on Page 7.

**Blood clinic this Tuesday**

A blood donor clinic will be held this Tuesday afternoon (March 27) at the Acton Legion, from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

This clinic will be sponsored by Richard Telford Chiropractor. All types of blood are needed. What better gift to give than the gift of life.

For further information contact Alice Schreiber, 653-0881.