

BMX race track being built just west of Acton

Two Milton men building a BMX racing track west of Acton in North Nassagaweya hope to have it open and in operation by early next month.

In an interview last week, Gary Morrison and Roy Haigh revealed their plans to build a track near Acton, as well as details of the project. However, they declined to be more specific about the exact location, beyond

saying it is in North Nassagaweya. The BMX track is being built on private property and is an open air recreation, and the developers of this attraction say they don't need much in the way of government approvals.

There is already a BMX track in Milton near Drumquin and the Niagara Escarpment Commission doesn't have jurisdiction

over much of North Nassagaweya. The track will cover about an acre and be a quarter mile long. BMX racing bikes are just special bicycles, they aren't motorized. The track will be owned and operated by a non-profit organization called Acton Club, run by Morrison and Haigh. Haigh will be in charge of the Acton track. The season will run from May to October

with organized races most, if not all, Saturdays. They expect the races will draw people from all over Ontario and the upper United States. Crowds of 200 to 400 people are expected.

There will be bleachers built and a concession stand. There will also be parking areas and a picnic ground. Young trees on the mystery site will be

uprooted and replanted nearby. The Acton club will be affiliated with the one in Drumquin. Opening race date is June 9 and construction was to be underway this week, with completion a couple of weeks later. For more on this development and BMX racing, see Sports.

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One Hundred and Ninth Year — Issue 45

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"Grease" was an instant success with the audience last week as the musical production had everyone laughing and tapping their toes. For more about "Grease" see page five for stories and photos.

Dr. van der Bent Citizen of Year

Dr. David van der Bent has been chosen Acton's 27th Citizen of the Year.

After reviewing ballots and letters of nomination from the community, the Chamber of Commerce selection committee picked the popular local physician.

Dr. van der Bent will be honored at a dinner June 23 at the Acton Curling Club.

Forty-six years ago David van der Bent was born on his parents' dairy farm near Thornhill. He went to the University of Toronto medical school, graduating at the early age of 23.

A rotating internship and surgery experience at Toronto East General followed his medical education.

Next Dr. van der Bent went to Frobisher Bay and worked with the federal health department before going to Algeria for 27 months as a volunteer with the Mennonite Central Committee, a relief agency.

Upon his return to Canada, the young general practitioner came to Acton to launch a practise with two former classmates, Dr. Craig Hutchison and Dr. Brian Moore. Over the years the faces, save Dr. van der Bent and Dr. Moore, have changed in the group. Today Dr. van der Bent and Dr. Moore are in partnership with Dr. George McWilliam and Dr. Stephen Pan.

Explaining his extraordinary popularity with his patients, Dr. van der Bent said "I really enjoy what I'm doing here in terms of medicine." He admits he gets pretty involved with his patients, and a rarity these days, he still makes lots of house calls.

His community involvement though goes much beyond his role as a doctor.

For the past four years he has chaired the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal in Halton Hills.

His support, particularly financial, of the North Halton Association for the Retarded, isn't well known. Dr. van der Bent recalls that 15 years ago very little was being done for the retarded up here, but the association has "come a long way" since then.

The swans of Fairy Lake were donated by Dr. van der Bent and he has, with help from others, cared for them since. He has quietly been buying feed, catching and pinning the young birds, annually. This past winter he donated a pump to keep some water unfrozen for the birds.

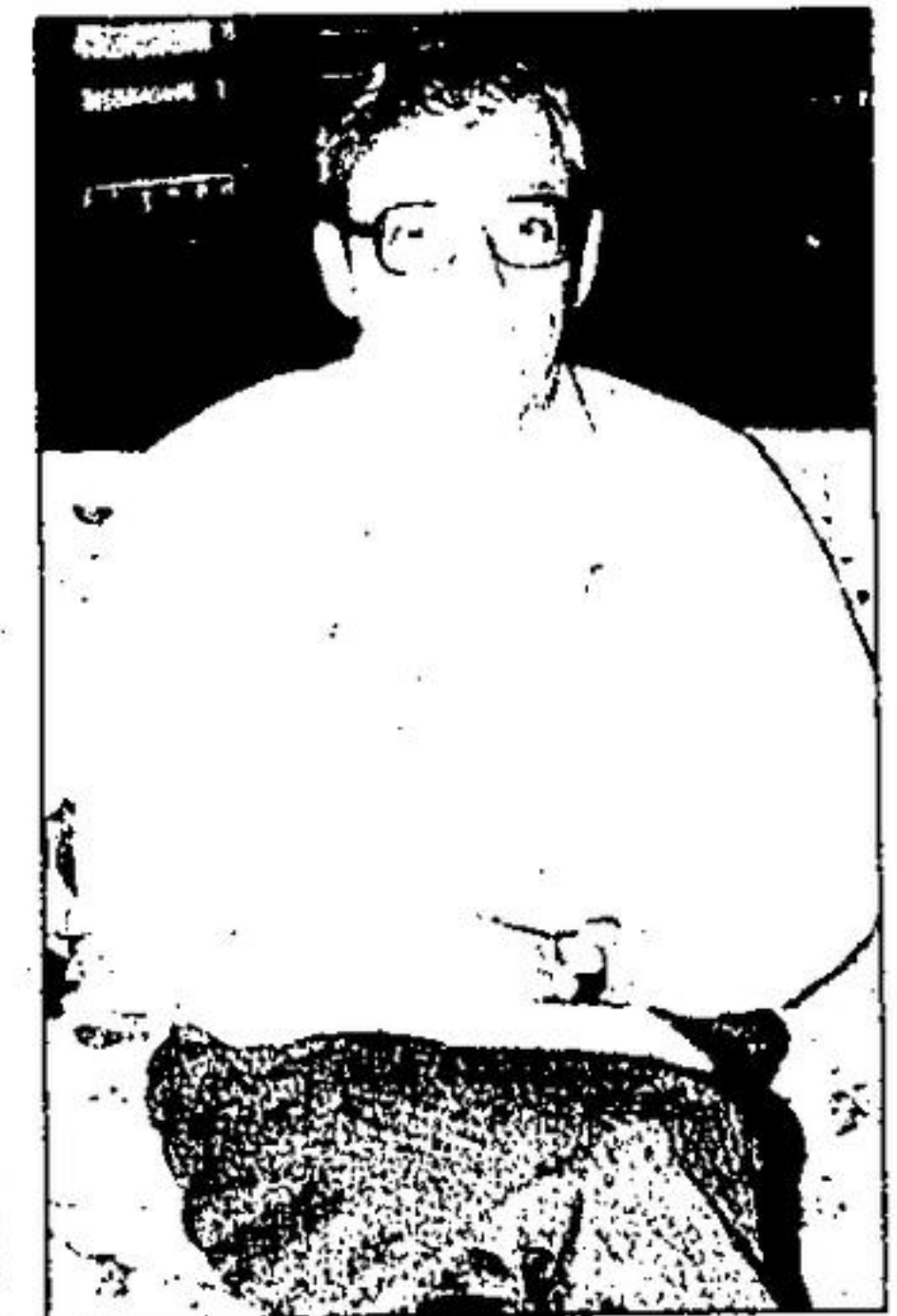
A Sabre sponsor over the years, Dr. van der Bent serves as the club doctor.

As for his other community involvement, Dr. van der Bent modestly shrugged that it amounts to "the usual community supports I feel responsible for."

When he first learned he'd been selected, Dr. van der Bent said he was "numb", though he wasn't completely surprised because people have been kidding him for years that his number would come up and he'd be Citizen of the Year. He has been a perennial favorite for the award.

Now, a few days after learning he's the Citizen of the Year, he feels "appreciative", and allows that it is "quite an honor."

Beyond his service to the community, Dr. van der Bent has many and varied interests: He's an avid fisherman, breeds ornamental pheasants, gardens quite a bit, collects cutters and buggies and raises Tall Bearded Irises.



Dr. David van der Bent

Organist dies in crash

Limehouse residents are this week quietly attempting to cope with the loss of one of the village's most active and respected citizens in a tragic car accident Friday.

Ada Roughley, 73, died at Peel Memorial Hospital shortly after the car in which she was riding collided with a motorcycle at the

intersection of Winston Churchill Blvd. and 17 Sideroad.

Motorcycle driver Edward Pellegrini, 36, of RR 3 Georgetown is in stable condition with internal injuries in Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital.

Margaret (Jean) Anderson, 61, of RR 1 Georgetown was admitted to Georgetown hospital for observation and released Sunday. She was driving the car carrying four passengers to a rehearsal for her son's wedding at an Inglewood church that evening.

Passengers Blanche Brigham, 80, of Limehouse, Mrs. Roughley's sister, and Amanda Harlow, 8, of Raylawn Cres. in Georgetown, were taken to Peel hospital with minimal injuries and released the same evening.

Police say the Anderson car had pulled up for the stop sign at the intersection, which features a yellow flashing light, before proceeding also northbound on Winston Churchill Blvd.

The driver "apparently failed to observe" the westbound motorcyclist approaching the intersection on 17 Sideroad, police reported.

An investigation is still underway. No decision has yet been made as to whether charges will be laid.

The accident took place at 7:05 p.m. after Anderson and her Limehouse passengers picked up Amanda girl at the wedding of Maurice Anderson, son of Neil and Jean Anderson.

Mrs. Roughley and her sister were accompanying Mrs. Anderson as friends of the family.

A combined funeral and memorial service for Mrs. Roughley was held yesterday afternoon at Limehouse Presbyterian Church, where she had served as organist for the past 25 years.

Mrs. Roughley is survived by her sister and two sons, Robert and David. Her husband Jack, who worked as a jewellery repairman in Georgetown, died in 1976.

"Ada will be greatly missed," Limehouse minister Rev. Peter Borrow commented Monday. "She was always there and always available to whomsoever needed her help. Limehouse is just a small church, with about 60 members, so everyone must pull his weight. Ada Roughley was one of those people who pull their weight and a half."

Doris Brown, a fellow member of the Limehouse congregation and a long-time friend of Mrs. Roughley, recalled that Ada was a registered nurse in her native Brandon, Manitoba. The Roughleys moved to Limehouse about 1944. In the years before Georgetown hospital was built, Mrs. Roughley tended to the health needs of villagers.

"There's a definite closeness between the choir members and Ada," Brown commented. "She was always ready to help out when anyone needed her. She was a very warm person."

Mrs. Roughley was a lifetime member of both the Limehouse Women's Institute and the now-disbanded Women's Missionary Society.

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The new Legion executive were elected and installed at the Acton Legion Monday night. The newly elected executive are from left to right, back row: Harry Norton, executive; Alex Waldie, executive; Earl Walker, executive; Gord James, executive and James Milne Sergeant at Arms. Front row are: Ab Irwin, secretary; Bob Doxye, first vice-president; Len Shone, president; Fred Allen, second vice president and Jim Higgins, the past president. Missing from the photo is Gord McCutcheon the treasurer.

Vandals overturn, damage 15 tombstones at Fairview

Town councillors were shaking their heads in shock and dismay Monday night as snapshots of the damage done last week in Fairview Cemetery were passed around.

Police have no leads on the identity of vandals who overturned 11 headstones at the cemetery and damaged four others, some irreparably, late last Wednesday night or early Thursday morning.

Mayor Russ Miller told councillors the Town had just finished repairing damage caused at the same cemetery about 18

months earlier. The courts sentenced a young man to two years in prison for causing that damage, he said.

While Miller and town engineer Bob Austin, who surveyed the damage Monday morning with Acton works staffer Alf Duby, had to estimate of the damage cost, councillors noted that the headstones are owned by private citizens whose insurance will hopefully cover the cost of replacing or repairing the stones.

Video store charged, Peel police back off

Charges against Halton Hills' twin H and H Video outlets took another step toward becoming a weekly event Sunday.

While police in neighboring Peel region have been ordered to stop charging the owners of video stores under the provincial Retail Business Holidays Act, their Halton counterparts made their second visit in as many weeks to H and H.

Owners of the Acton and Georgetown outlets will be summoned to appear in court June 16, charged with keeping the stores open Sundays in contravention of provincial legislation and municipal bylaw.

H and H co-owner Randy Humeniski told this newspaper last week that the stores will continue ignoring the law until the courts decide on their validity.

Peel regional council came to the rescue of video store owners in its jurisdiction last week, citing an exemption clause in the Retail Business Holiday Act that was immediately endorsed by Peel's head Crown attorney.

Peel regional solicitor Jim Dundas advised his council that since the video outlets' primary intent is amusement and since they rent products rather than sell them, they should be exempt according to section 3, subsection 6 of the Act.

Head Crown attorney Leo MacGuigan agreed with the interpretation and issued orders to police to stop laying charges

against video outlets and to withdraw charges now before the courts.

Peel officials expressed hope that forthcoming decisions by the Ontario Court of Appeals will clarify the intent of the Act.

GREAT CANADIAN PARTICIPATION CHALLENGE

Wednesday
May 16, 1984

Fitness hotline set for Challenge

With the citizens of Red Deer, Alberta, trying their best to outdo us, Halton Hills is being urged to get out and get active for at least 15 minutes May 16 and phone in the results to the "Neilson's Challenge Hotline".

Eva Carney of the town's recreation department brought council up to date Monday night on plans for the Great Canadian Participation Challenge to be held during National Physical Fitness Week May 13 through 21.

With the William Neilson Company donating funds to finance a Challenge hotline (873-1691) that will be manned by Georgetown Jayettes, Carney reported, the town is hoping everyone in Halton Hills will set aside time May 16 to partake in some form of physical activity, not necessarily formal exercises.

Watching carefully from Alberta will be the city of Red Deer, which has been "twinning" with Halton Hills in the Canada-wide challenge to see which municipality raises the most interest and participation among its citizens.

Between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. May 16, Carney said, "we hope the phones will be ringing off the hook" with reports from citizens who have gone for a walk, done a few sit-ups, mowed the lawn or participated in one of three adult swims set for that day.

Residents who just can't tear themselves away from their televisions that day might like to tune in to Halton Cable to follow along with fitness instructors in a broadcast arranged by the town, Carney said.

Inside

Y's Menettes from all over the province came to Acton Saturday. Story and photo on page 2.

The Town's municipal property committee is considering four options for development of the Stevens' land. Turn to page B1.

Halton Hills Street Machines are planning a big car show for next month in aid of Big Brothers. See page B7.

The new Bishop for this area will be installed next month. More on page B1.

RR2

The only pleasure I get holding hands is when I'm playing crib.