

The most popular record on the juke box in one bar and grill is a "novelty" number, playing only the sound of typewriters working. It is played every time one of the regulars please home to say he's working late at the office.

The full-size paper reaching more than 12,900 homes in Halton Hills

# Focal seeks citizen support, 'fairness' for proposal

A developer seeking to build 1,840 housing units south of Georgetown's Silver Creek has called on Halton Hills citizens to demonstrate "basic fairness" and support for the proposal.

Laughlin says in an open letter published in The Herald today. The proposal has been placed before the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) for approval, and the developer has filed suit in the Ontario Supreme Court for past agreements to be honored.

Focal Properties which acquired Delrex Developments in 1966 argues that an agreement between Delrex and the former town of Georgetown gives it right to develop lands in the Silver Creek area ahead of developments proposed for other areas of Georgetown.

The agreement, which Mr. McLaughlin quotes in part in his letter, calls for, he says, approval of the Focal plan because conditions set down for the developer were met. He says Georgetown council approved transfer of the agreement in 1965 protecting his company's rights.

Without coming to any conclusions on municipal morality or good faith, it must be apparent to the reader that this gross injustice can no longer be tolerated by the company," Mr. McLaughlin says.

During the period that Focal Properties "stood waiting empty-handed," council permitted approval of other development plans within Georgetown. "The children who were enrolled in Grade 1 in January 1966, will be entering university next year and still we wait."

An official of the firm said earlier last week in a telephone interview that high density infilling is a major point not being recognized by many Halton Hills citizens. He said this type of development would increase traffic in the core areas and that by the time approval were made, there would be little choice left for residents living near these developments.

Mr. McLaughlin says his company has "no intention of building a high density development, but we do intend to add much to the quality of life in Halton Hills."

Choosing at prices not arbitrarily increased by artificial shortages of housing forced on the citizenry by the political process.

## NO DECISION ON HERITAGE GRANT

# Acton hall project needs town funds

The fate of the old Acton town hall has been thrown back into the hands of Halton Hills council, it was learned on Monday.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation announced it will make no decision on grants for the preservation of the building before council commits funds to the project.

Doug Freed, a member of the Save The Town Hall Committee, said the Ontario Heritage Foundation "has deferred the decision on its grant for the Acton town hall until such time as the municipal council demonstrates its willingness to make a much more reasonable financial contribution to the implementation of this project and to its subsequent management."

The announcement has caught the Save the Town Hall Committee unprepared, according to Yvonne Rosenquist.

"Two or three of us in the group were pessimistic enough that we didn't make plans on what to do next. We probably won't meet until we get a letter from the foundation giving us more specific details of what they want from us."

Mrs. Rosenquist said the committee would be looking, among other things, for an indication of how long a deferral on its decision the Foundation is offering. The Toronto mail strike is blamed for holding up written notification of the decision and it may also hold up the committee's meeting until after Christmas, she says.

Since the foundation expects council to become involved in the project she feels that it is probable that the committee will be approaching council in some way.

The committee has not yet applied for a Wintario grant, it was learned, although the members have discussed going door-to-door seeking pledges from residents after Christmas.

It was also learned that in its brief to the foundation the committee said Halton Hills council might possibly contribute \$10,000 to the project. Mrs. Rosenquist said that Patrick Cole prepared the bulk of the brief with a few minor revisions from committee members.

Ward 1 Coun. Les Dudy feels he wants to hear reaction from Acton residents and other councillors before he offers any comment on the foundation's decision or the possibility of council supporting the project financially.

Although Ward 1 Coun. G.W. (Pat) McKenzie wants to hear discussion among councillors and reaction from residents before he offers any opinion on council's possible action, he said his own opinion of the project has not changed since it was discussed earlier this year. There has been nothing concrete presented to him to change his opinion.

"Their next step should probably be to come before council and put in a formal request for help," he said. "I think I know how council felt this summer and if they were sincere in their opinion then I know their reaction now."

Mayor Tom Hill feels he can not make any comment until he has heard from the committee or the foundation, but he reminded The Herald that he voted against the third reading of the bylaw designating the hall as a historic site.

Ward 2 Coun. C.F. Patterson said, "The Acton group have until the end of December to come up with the money. As I recall when they came before council they said they would fund it with grants from Wintario and the Ontario Heritage Foundation and private pledges. As far as I'm personally concerned, Halton Hills has no money to spend in that direction. Taxes are already far too high" in my opinion.

Committee chairman George Elliott said members are awaiting the arrival of a letter from the foundation because they expect it to contain grant money towards the cost of the feasibility study which the committee had prepared earlier this fall.

Even with the grant the committee is behind from \$600 to \$800 on the study. Sales of a print of the old town hall drawn by Daniel Warren are being sold by a telephone campaign in order to make up the deficit, and some Acton merchants have offered to sell prints without commission in an effort to raise the money to pay off the committee's debts, Mrs. Rosenquist says.

Rosenquist members responsible for maintaining a dialogue with council are: George Elliott, Doug Freed, Yvonne Rosenquist, Bert Davidson, Fred Allen, and Louis Charlebois.

Ward 2 Coun. Russ Miller who has been a strong opponent of the restoration project since its inception last spring, says that he would never support the donating of tax dollars to the project.

"Al Zeegan originally told us that it would cost about \$10,000 to tear down the townhall," he says and there has been a suggestion that we give the

money we would have used for demolition to the committee to help in preserving it instead. But what's \$10,000 out of \$250,000? With the municipal complex needing money and all the other projects we have, we have to figure out our priorities. They'd need a good solid argument to make me even go along with the \$10,000 contribution."

"Maybe it's too bad we didn't back off on building the firehall addition until the decision on the town hall was made," he adds. "If it does come down now we'll have to spend several thousand dollars on fixing up the front of it on Willow street."

"Tearing down the hall would save us money in the end because I'm sure it would give the firemen the parking space they need and it would save us having to buy other lands to make their parking lot."

## Defining town job role

Mayor Tom Hill has appointed four councillors to arrive at two job descriptions for the position vacated by clerk Administrator Doug Pritchard.

The councillors are Mike Armstrong, Les Dudy, C.F. (Pat) Patterson and Walter Blich.

The positions are for a clerk-administrator, which is Mr. Pritchard's title, and a management co-ordinator. The job descriptions are due from the committee by the end of December. It is not the intention, however, Mayor Hill told The Herald, that two persons be hired to replace Mr. Pritchard, who is going to a position in Pentelton, B.C.

## 11-year-old pedestrian injured

An 11-year-old boy received only minor injuries after being struck by a car on Dec. 5.

Ronald Green, of RR4, Georgetown was walking backwards along the side of 22 Sideroad going with the flow of the traffic when he was struck by a car driven by Kenneth Disley, 24, of Toronto.

Police said the car driven by Mr. Disley had been eastbound on 22 Sideroad, near the 10th line, trying to climb up a hill. Because of the poor road conditions resulting from the first major storm of the winter, the car couldn't make it up the hill.

The car reversed down the hill, backing on to the 10th line, the driver intending to return in the direction from which he had come. It was as he was returning along 22 Sideroad that the collision took place.



RELAXATION

Attendance was down for the United Senior Citizens Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic on Monday. Only 265 donors turned up this time whereas there were over 400 at the last clinic. Flu and colds caused most of the 20 rejections. The clinic attracted 25 new donors, 13 of those for their very

first time. A folk group from Holy Cross Church provided entertainment for donors during the evening and are seen here as Red Cross employees packed units of blood for shipment.

# Policeman appeals demotion

Sgt. Jason Field, who was convicted Friday of using excessive force, will appeal the verdict to the Halton Police Commission at its Dec. 22 meeting.

Field pleaded not guilty to a charge of using excessive force, which stemmed from an incident in May in which Gary Sparling, 20, of Acton, alleged that Field struck him in the face after a high-speed car chase through Georgetown. The charge laid, under the Police Act, was originally assault, but was later reduced.

Halton police chief Ken Skerrett heard the evidence in the first public hearing under the

## Teacher talks stalled

Contract talks between Halton separate school board and its teachers are at a standstill. The talks were adjourned after a brief meeting Wednesday and no date has been set for their resumption, says Harley Sherk, the Georgetown trustee who heads the salary negotiating committee.

Police Act in 32 years. As a result of the conviction, Field will be demoted from sergeant to first class constable, at a loss in pay of \$1,373. However, the demotion will not take effect until any appeals filed by Field or his lawyer have been concluded.

At the time of the incident Field was supervising a platoon of men. Sparling and a companion were apprehended by Constable Gordon Turner after a high-speed car chase and a subsequent foot chase. The two were returned to their car in Turner's cruiser.

Sparling testified that Field ordered him out of the car, and opened the door. Once he was out of the car, Sparling said, Field struck him across the side of the head.

At Reulens, president of the Halton Police Association, said the association stands behind Field and will continue to support him. Both Field and Reulens were in favor of having the hearing opened to the public, which is permissible under the Police Act if the accused agrees.

Field is an 18-year police veteran, with previous experience on forces in Campbellford and Deseronto. He joined the Georgetown Police Force in 1966, and became a member

of the Halton Regional Force with its inception in 1974. He has been a Georgetown resident for some years.

## DALE CARNEGIE COURSE ALMOST FILLED

Hil Evidokimoff, publisher of the Halton Hills Herald is pleased to announce that the world famous Dale Carnegie course sponsored by The Herald will soon be filled.

The class will start early in the new year, he said Monday. This is the third class in Halton Hills and the response, Mr. Evidokimoff said, has been higher than ever before.

The community seems to be aware of the need for improvement in the areas of personal development covered by the Dale Carnegie course. Completion of the course should make one able to meet the challenge of 1978.

The course is presented by K. D. Crone and Associates under the direction of Teresa Holland, district supervisor. She and her staff are conducting motivational meetings for local companies and clubs.

The Dale Carnegie organization will be holding a breakfast and lunch at the North Halton Golf and Country Club free to area businessmen.

The lunch will be held at noon Dec. 15 and the breakfast at 7:45 a.m. Dec. 19. Seating is limited and reservations can be made by calling The Herald at 877-2201 or the golf club at 877-9901.

## GDHS STUDENTS PETITION FOR PRIVACY

Students of Georgetown and district high school are circulating a petition in the school that they expect to present to principal Mike Furlong by Friday.

The petition asks the principal for assistance for those students who live more than two miles away from the school and must therefore pay about \$140 a year for bus transportation.

In addition, the petition asks that the school cafeteria be off limits for the principal and the teachers. "We consider this an invasion of privacy" says the copy permitted by The Herald. "You wouldn't like us in yours."

As well, the petition points out that teachers are permitted to smoke in the school and requests the same right for students. "If you would prefer not to have an indoor smoking area for the students, then allowing teachers to smoke in school should be banned. Teachers can start fires just as easily as students."

The petition calls upon the principal to have an assembly to tell the students what decision the administration has decided upon.

Principal Mike Furlong told The Herald in a telephone interview that he has no comment on the petition until he sees it and has a chance to talk with students.

# RBG, town study Acton wetlands

Works committee has recommended that council instruct the town engineer to work with Dr. Les Laking of the Royal Botanical Gardens to study wetlands in Acton's Fairview cemetery with a view to planting and maintaining the area as a beauty spot.

Dr. Laking informed committee members Monday that the Outreach program run by the Royal Botanical Gardens with provincial funding is a free service aimed at maintaining and upgrading natural sites as well as beautifying public property.

Gardens employees will advise governing bodies what sort of planting would be best in a particular situation and will assist in mapping out a program over a period of years which can be followed to produce a specific effect.

The program is restricted to public lands only, he said.

Although some committee members were interested in improving various sites throughout Halton Hills the committee decided to examine the pond area in the cemetery as a sort of pilot project to learn how the program works and its costs. Its committee is satisfied with the result, other areas may then be considered at a later time.

She said she would like to see a service for the infirm and better liaison between the library and the hospital.

In addition, she wants there to be better liaison between the schools and the library on the lending and access of resource material for students. She

feels the library should get into programs for children, especially boys, and learning disabilities, and provide better material for bright children.

Earlier this year Mrs. Fisher and John Ferguson filed an objection with the Ontario Municipal Board over the funding

of a new library building in expand the library but the costs need to be kept in mind. Her personal point of view is that if the existing site can be renovated and added onto at a reasonable cost, it is the best option.

But failing a renovation and

an addition, it would be better to find another site. "Cedar-Cedarvale Park. The objection was filed on the grounds that a \$400,000 debenture to renovate the present library could not be transferred to build a new library on the site. Mrs. Fisher is also a member of a group opposed to having the library

on two acres of parkland. She said there is a need to value its inadequate," she said. The library board must consider that if it owns the present site, an alternative, she added, is to take the debenture and build another library where the community wants it but keep the price down. "We can

spend a million dollars on a library."

After learning last week that its chairman is resigning the Halton Hills library board is faced with the loss of another long-time member this week as Halton separate school board appointee William A.

(Ben) Boyle announced that he also intends to retire.

Mr. Boyle feels that it is time for a change of faces on the board and he has decided against seeking re-appointment for another two-year term. He is also disappointed at the postponement of

the new Georgetown library.

During the seven years he has sat on the board Mr. Boyle was Georgetown's representative to the South Central Regional Library Board for three years and chairman of the Halton Hills board from 1974 to 1976.

Mail to the North Pole takes time. . .so letters to Santa arriving by Friday will be published next week