

# Legal battles to dominate 1979: psychics

By MAGGIE HANNAH  
Herald staff writer

1979 will be known as the year of the legal battles according to a local psychic.

Jessie Zuest of rural Milton is affiliated with the New Age Centre in Burlington and appeared New Year's Day on CFTO's Canada A.M. making predictions for the country as a whole. Mrs. Zuest previously made predictions for Halton Hills in 1978 and an overview of them appears on page two.

Mrs. Zuest says that 1979 will be one long series of legal tangles for Halton Hills as one matter after another winds up in the law courts. The reporter's reaction was to remind her that such had seemed to be the pattern in 1977.

Well, this is going to be even worse," she joked. "It should be an interesting time for you people in the news media."

Mrs. Zuest and Brampton-based psychic Robert Lemmon both predict temporary growth ahead in Halton Hills but feel it won't bring any lasting security for the area since the next few years have a bleak outlook internationally.

## ECONOMIC SLUMP

Mr. Lemmon of ISLS in Brampton foresees a national economic slump occurring around the end of the first quarter being felt in Halton Hills by July or so.

"There'll be a lot of worry and concern because everything will be very slow," he

said, "but I think it'll be because of the national economy. That will start to pick up again by summer and you'll feel the effects by September in Halton Hills."

Mrs. Zuest also sees moderate growth for the area but feels things will start to go down by the end of the year.

"The Canadian economy will rise from April through August," Mrs. Zuest said, "but there will be a sharp downswing beginning in late 1979 and continuing through 1983. It will be a sort of mini-depression but nothing like 1929."

"The coming time will be hard for everyone. There'll be a lot of uneasiness and upsurge of terrorist activities around the world beginning in late 1979 and continuing

through to 1981 or 1982."

"The only positive thing I can say about this is that when it ends in 1983 people will have got their heads together and a lot of things will be cleared up. It's going to be a bad four years but in the end it will settle a lot of things and the world can go ahead."

Mr. Lemmon apparently saw a similar general picture because he was reluctant to discuss it saying he didn't like to spread gloom and uneasiness.

In order to give the psychics some direction for their thinking The Herald offered a list of questions for them to ponder and give their reactions on each.

## FOCAL QUESTION

On the question of Focal Property's

proposed housing development south of Georgetown Mr. Lemmon saw no definite work beginning this year because of the company and the town. It will however be underway by mid-1980. The law suit he said would proceed but nothing will come of it financially. He expects it will settle out of court by around November of this year.

Mrs. Zuest sees a compromise situation being reached between the town and Focal. The development will go ahead she said but not necessarily this year.

"Strangely enough I see the development eventually bringing in industry," she said. "Industry is seriously looking at the number of people in the area to determine if the work force will be large enough to supply it."

Mrs. Lemmon's first reaction to what would be happening with the Georgetown library was to chuckle over a picture of wet books.

"I see wet books. I don't know what it is. Maybe they'll get a new roof if the old one is leaking or something," he said.

The town won't get a library this year, however, he said. All it will get is more plans.

"There have been plans on it and there'll be more," he said.

Mrs. Zuest sees a new building in the old part of town but not until September or so.

"It will take a while yet," she said.

When asked to predict the election time

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## YOUR MORNING SMILE

**Losing On Security**  
It doesn't sound right but it is possible: the stock market offers people a chance to lose a life's savings on something called a security.

# the HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1979 Home Newspaper of Halton Hills THIRTY-FOUR PAGES

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## This Week

### Acton award winner

Denny Andrews of Acton will be presented with Canada's second highest citation for civilians for his part in the rescue of two people from the icy waters of Notre Dame Bay in Newfoundland in December, 1977.

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### A look at day care

People bemoan the shortage of good day care facilities, but Georgetown has a day care center which hasn't been full since June.

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### McGibbon sold

One of the keys to revitalizing downtown Georgetown could be the introduction of a good restaurant and beverage room in the McGibbon Hotel says new owner Nick Markou. Mr. Markou and brother George bought the local landmark last week.

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### GDHS's 'lucky guy'

Georgetown and District High School's band leader, Harry Hamilton describes himself as a lucky guy. He discusses his life in music this week with Herald staff writer Maggie Hannah.

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### On the beat

Few people were in a better position to evaluate local events in 1978 than The Herald staff. This week reporters Lori Taylor and Paul Dorsey discuss the news and its meaning as they saw it on their "beats" this year. Taylor discusses the education beat on Page 10 while Dorsey looks at the year on regional and town council on Page 18.

### Year in review

1978 in Halton Hills was highlighted by a municipal election night, but a look at The Herald's year-end wrap up shows local residents were busy on the other 364 days of the year. This week The Herald reviews the year in words and photographs and names the newsmaker of the year.

Pages 9, 19

### Meet the coach

Meet this week's coach, Harold Gilmer, of the Georgetown Firefighters and McNally Construction Major Atoms.

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### Geminis fumble lead

The play-off hopes of the Georgetown Geminis were dampened when they lost to Milton, 7 to 6. At one time, the Gems had a three-goal lead.

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## Hydro seeking final corridor approval as OMB settles in for lengthy session



### GEORGETOWN'S NEW YEAR'S BABY

Georgetown's first baby for 1979 is 8 lb. 7 oz. Teresa Emily Mercer who checked in at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital at 12:53 p.m. Tuesday. Teresa is the first child of Sandy and Larry Mercer, 16 MacKenzie Dr., Georgetown. She is also the first grandchild for the Albert Axefords and the Carl Mercers, both of Georgetown as well as a first great, great grandchild

for Emily Stantial of Willowdale. Halton Hills' first baby for 1979 however, was a 7 lb. 7 oz. daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. David Barclay-Smith of Acton. The young lady was born at 4:17 a.m. in Guelph General Hospital.

(Herald photo by Maggie Hannah)

By PAUL DORSEY  
Herald staff writer

The Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing into a proposed 500,000-volt hydro transmission corridor that began yesterday (Tuesday) in Georgetown could well mark the end of a controversy that has raged intermittently for the past six years amid allegations of political favoritism and subsequent cover-ups.

What began as part of Ontario Hydro's long-range objective for creating a grid system of connecting transmission corridors to carry electric power to each corner of the province has, since 1972, turned into a highly-contentious battle over conflicting appraisals of hydro needs and consumption that has brought the provincial government into fierce confrontation with a large number of voters from Bruce County to Halton Region.

At stake at this week's OMB hearing at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena is Hydro's application for an amendment to the Halton Hills zoning bylaw that would permit the crown corporation to add the final link to its 100-mile long Bruce to Milton corridor. Solicitors for the town and the region are defending the municipalities' refusal of that amendment, one that has become a major obstacle to Hydro's plans.

Also playing a major role in the hearing will be representatives of the Interested Citizens Group (ICG), a widely-based organization that claims some 4,000 members who have been opposing the Bruce to Milton corridor since plans were first unveiled nearly six years ago. The ICG's thoroughly-researched opposition to the project won the admiration of former Ontario Ombudsman Arthur Maloney, who was prevented from investigating the group's allegations two years ago by the provincial Cabinet.

The ICG has repeatedly said over the years that the corridor route now under consideration is the result of a political decision on the part of Darcy McKeough and the Cabinet, who in 1974 yielded to pressure being exerted by what the ICG has termed "a small but organized resistance group" of landowners. According to Hydro documents publicized by the ICG as the controversy grew, these landowners opposed Hydro's original route choice which would have carried power from the Bruce nuclear generating station on

Lake Huron to the Kitchener area, where power was clearly needed.

Because of Mr. McKeough's decision as energy minister, however, the proposed Bruce to Kitchener route was abandoned in favor of an alternative selected by the government between Bruce and Milton, where a switching station would be built near Highway 401. As well as crossing valuable agricultural land, the ICG has noted, the new route will bring power to a location never before regarded by Hydro as a "load centre" where high-voltage power was needed. Extra distance—and extra expense—is also a factor.

VARIOUS SECTIONS  
The various sections of the government's corridor route have been the subject of a long series of hearings, those conducted by the Environmental Hearing Board and several expropriation officers among them. Despite the government's contention that all environmental aspects of the selected route through Halton Hills were considered by the 1973 Solandt Commission, though, the ICG maintains that the Bruce to Milton corridor, and particularly the section through Halton Hills, have yet to be adequately studied by an agency working independently of the government and Ontario Hydro.

The ICG's requests for an independent study of the corridor route, coupled with endorsements by municipal government in Halton and Erin, have been at the heart of much of the publicity given the Bruce to Milton line since 1975. Mr. McKeough and Premier William Davis set the precedent for a series of energy ministers at Queen's Park by refusing to grant the independent study and, in most cases, refusing to meet with ICG officials.

It was during Dennis Timbrell's stint as minister in 1976 that the conflict between the government and the landowners reached a climax. In May of that year, farmers and other landowners along the corridor's route through Con. township set up barricades outside their homes to try and prevent Hydro representatives from entering their land for expropriation negotiations and surveys. Tempers flared upon confrontation, and one of the more vocal corridor opponents, farmer Leonard Manion, was hit by a Hydro car and knocked to the ground as it hurriedly left the scene.

SAME TIME  
About the same time, sup-

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## Town council passes final hurdles, McNally apartments ready to go

Work is expected to begin within three months on the 209-unit apartment complex proposed for downtown Georgetown by William McNally Construction Ltd. following the receipt of final approvals for the project last week.

Following Halton regional council's eleventh-hour decision to open the way for a development agreement between McNally and Halton Hills the week previous, town council met briefly last Wednesday night in a special session to amend its zoning bylaw for the \$7 million Park Avenue project.

On Thursday, Halton Hills planning director Mario Venditti and clerk-administrator Ken Richardson placed documentation before the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) in Toronto showing that the town, region, developer and Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) had all sanctioned the project.

Yielding to the urgency of the situation, brought about by the need to obtain a building permit for the apartments prior to Dec. 31 in order to qualify for a federal grant, the OMB agreed to endorse the development proposal.

On the eve of the special OMB session, Mayor Pete Pomeroy commented that the McNally apartments, once completed, will not only provide the community with badly needed rental accommodations but ease the pressure that has been exerted upon the local housing market for the past several years.

"With the high cost of operating a home these days," he said, "getting an apartment is often the first step toward buying a house for a lot of people. It'll provide rental accommodations for young marrieds or single people and free up a lot of housing. We're also expecting revitalization for the (downtown) core area."

Mayor Pomeroy recalled that the town's 1976 survey of available rental accommodations turned up none whatsoever. Apartment buildings that have been built on Maple Avenue and John Street in Georgetown both have long waiting lists of prospective tenants.

Acknowledging that Coun. Marilyn Serjeanson and perhaps other council members had shown concern over plans for vehicle parking at the McNally apartment site, Mayor Pomeroy expressed confidence that the new complex will create no additional traffic problems for the community

There will be direct access to the site from the town's main thoroughfare (Highway 7), he noted primarily via Mill Street.

### SOME RESERVATIONS

Although there were some reservations among newer council members about pushing the apartment project ahead before they had enough time to properly study the site plan and financing proposals, Coun. Mike Armstrong pointed out that he, Coun. Roy Booth and Coun. Harry Levy were all familiar with the project from their days on the former town of Georgetown council, where plans were first unveiled.

"This council will never be accused of not trying to proceed with development after this," Coun. Armstrong said. "I certainly hope development will go ahead as quickly as this in the future."

Developer William McNally told The Herald Friday that he is "very happy" to see approvals for his project being finalized after seven years on the drawing boards.

Mr. McNally reported that the specific details of plans for the construction of two 10-story

apartment towers joined by a common foyer will be completed during the first days of the new year and a revised

Continued on page 3

## Local GO bus routes head back downtown

Go Transit and the Georgetown Business and Professional Association have come up with a proposal which will result in the re-routing of the GO bus through downtown Georgetown effective January 7.

Ed Shea, information officer for GO Transit, said the bus will now run from the Moore Park Plaza along Highway 7, and will continue down Main Street, stopping at Wesleyan Street. The bus will proceed to the intersection of Main and Mill Streets, and turn along Mill Street, back out to Highway 7.

This was a compromise solution worked out in meetings with representatives from GO Transit, Rick West, representing the association, Mayor Pete Pomeroy and town engineer Bob Auslin. The downtown merchants are happy with the solution because it brings the bus service back downtown, and GO Transit is happy because the bus is still close to the GO train station, and passengers are only a short walk away from the station.

The new route is on a six-month probationary basis, Mr. West said, and the traffic

situation in the downtown area will be monitored. Mr. Shea said if there are any traffic problems, there will be a review of the route.

Mr. West said GO Transit was extremely co-operative, and listening to each of their proposals on the re-routing of the buses. The association's concerns in getting the buses back downtown were to serve the senior citizens in the area, and to continue the re-vitalization of the downtown area.

"As far as the new association is concerned, we're very happy we were able to accomplish something so soon," Mr. West said.



### 1978 IN REVIEW

A fire in mid May destroyed an unused barn owned by Armando Mauti of Downsview on L4 Concession 9 of Halton Hills. The late afternoon fire did \$10,000

damage and was one of many fires that kept local fire departments busy throughout 1978. For a look at the news filled year in review, see page nine.