

Rural landowners blast town's new official plan

By PAUL DORSEY
Herald staff writer

Unless Halton regional planners agree to remove all "land freeze" policies from their new official plan, the plan's entire agriculture section should be replaced by rural land use standards in effect in Halton Hills, the South

Esqueing Landowners Association says.

Hoping to prompt some long-awaited action among regional and provincial officials, Association director Rod Pinkney of RR3 Georgetown wrote to the provincial ministry of housing recently to

ask that the region's first official plan, which is still awaiting ministry approval, be referred to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) for a public review.

In his letter Mr. Pinkney requested an audience with housing minister Claude Bennett, which he suggested should also be attended by representatives of Halton regional and Halton Hills councils.

wish to alter zoning designations and allow alternative uses.

Mr. Pinkney was among local farmers who strenuously objected to policies in the draft official plan last fall prior to the plan's adoption by regional council. Council refused to make any concessions.

While asking that the plan be referred to the OMB Mr. Pinkney expressed hope that such a hearing will not be necessary, noting that farmers already spend much time, money and effort to "try and protect their basic land rights".

The letter also referred to the Association's April 19 meeting in Stewarttown, at which a University of Guelph professor confirmed many suspicions about government-imposed land use policies.

With at least two region officials in attendance, Professor B.N. Richards told the Association that not only are blanket freezes on prime farmland unjustified, but much of the first-class land is falling prey to urban developers. Dr. Richards suggested that Halton should have rural planners as well as urban planners on its staff.

"From the tone of the meeting, it was obvious that there is serious dissatisfaction with the Halton regional plan," Mr. Pinkney commented in his letter.

Consultant hired by town council for urban study

Planning consultant Murray V. Jones has been hired by town council to conduct Phase One of a feasibility study aimed at re-defining Georgetown's urban boundary and guiding council's deliberations concerning future development proposals.

Mr. Jones' chief job will be to assess records on file with the municipality, specifically as they pertain to the history of the Georgetown urban envelope. The task is expected to take less than 30 days, culminating with a recommendation to council.

The feasibility study was launched in principle last February, largely in response to several current development proposals which, if approved, would alter the community's size and shape dramatically.

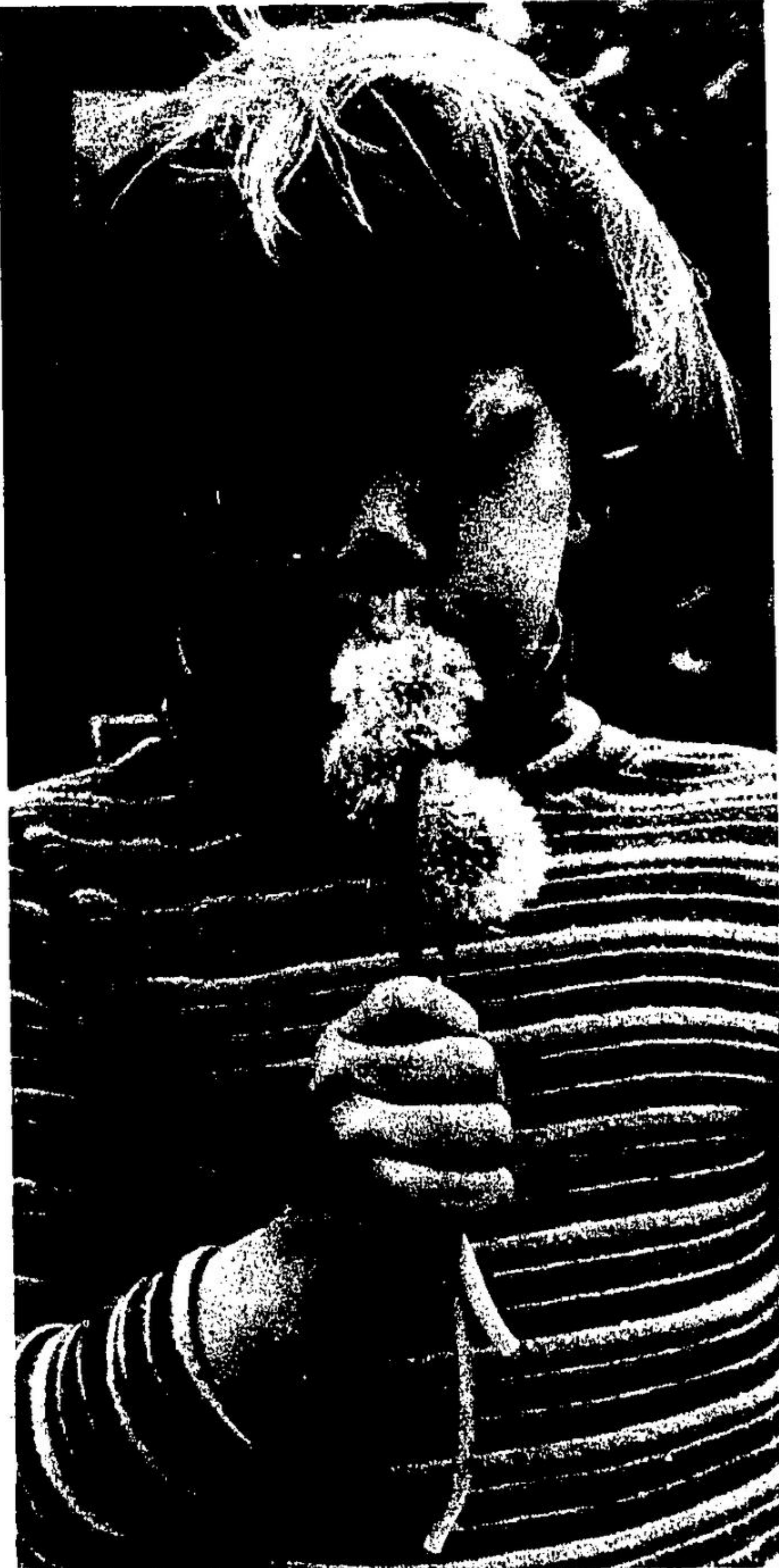
Mayor Pete Pomeroy appointed a steering committee made up of council members which has concentrated its efforts during several meetings on establishing the all-important terms of reference for the study.

"Mr. Jones has suggested that the study would be undertaken in a two-stage process," clerk-administrator Ken Richardson explained in a report to council. "The initial

stage would be a serious review of the history and various reports and studies already completed and available.

"From this material, an assessment could be made...of definite terms of reference for

the balance of the study including time frame and costs. This stage was estimated to take one month with an objective of a complete report in four or five months."



FIELD FLUFF

It's that time of year again when the first crop of dandelions changes from a carpet of yellow to a field of fluff. Jodi Armstrong

demonstrates that it takes a certain amount of effort to separate the fluff from the stem. (Herald photo)

Agricultural News

4-H Horse Club meets in Acton

By Eartha May

The second meeting of the Halton 4-H Horse Club for 1979 was held on May 8th at Choicelea Farms in Acton. The meeting was opened with the 4-H Pledge and attendance was taken. The minutes of the last meeting were read and the meeting for June was discussed.

The meeting was then turned over to Al Chamberlain. He gave us a few points on what to look for in a carriage horse. We then judged a class of Gelderlands. Diana Royce gave her reasons before the

group. The other members then gave their reasons to the leaders. Don Heath gave the official placing and reasons.

Following the judging we were allowed the privilege of having a tour of the farm. First we were shown the tack and harness room. In this room we saw some 70 sets of coach harness, all different in purpose and style. At the end of this room were closets containing many different coats and hats to be worn by the coachmen. It was quite impressive and there were also hundreds

of coach lights on a rack in the room. Next he took us to the coach shed. It was fascinating! In it there were over 200 coaches varying from old racing sleds, horse drawn hearses stage coaches and even old taxis. All of the members were thrilled to see these lovely old vehicles, and to know that some of these are the ones they see on television.

After we had looked at the carriages, we thanked Mr. Chamberlain for allowing us to judge his horses and tour his farm.

Doug Miller, our new Assistant Agricultural Representative, said a few words. The meeting was closed.

By Henry J. Stanley

Cash in on Forage is the theme. And you can cash in at Forage Days '79. Come to the Elora Research Station - June 5 and 6. It'll be the biggest forage day ever held in Ontario.

You'll see cutting, raking, baling and forage harvest demonstrations. Specialists will

be there operating moisture testers and calibrating sprayers. You'll choose which tour to see - drainage, varieties, fertilizers and roughland pasture renovation.

Are you interested in a new place of equipment? This is your chance to see and compare machines. Demonstrations are scheduled as follows: June 5 - 10 a.m.; Cutting 1:00 - Forage Harvesting and June 6 - 10:00 a.m. - Forage Harvesting; 1:00 p.m. - Hayraking and Baling.

You don't have to take the salesman's word as gospel! See the difference. Examine the finished product. Hear the reactions of others. Talk to specialists. It's your opportunity to tell them a few things.

The Elora Research Station is two miles south of Elora. Follow the signs. Meals will be available on site.

These days are sponsored by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, government, industry and University of Guelph cooperating.

SAVE MONEY AT THE MOVIES!
Non-winning Wintario tickets from April to Sept. 1979 can save you up to \$2.00 (.50c Each) on admission price to all Canadian movies carrying this 'Half Back' symbol. All tickets must be endorsed on the

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Registration open for Y programs

Today (May 30) is registration day for the Georgetown Y's summer programs. The office will be open from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and again from 7 to 8 p.m. this evening to accept registrations but registrations will also be accepted by mail, says program co-ordinator Sheila Finn.

The office will remain open all summer for the first time and work will proceed on a Newcomers club which the Y plans to offer in the fall.

New programs the Y is offering this summer include French storytime for 4 to 6 year-olds, an early birds fitness club set for 6:45 a.m. three days a week and a senior citizens drop-in each Tuesday afternoon.

Two one time only events it will sponsor are a senior citizens picnic August 14 at Belfountain and a trip to Toronto on August 9 to watch the Blue Jays play the Kansas City Royals.

The familiar day camps will run this year as usual with one change. Kinder camp for 3 to 5 year-olds and Day camp for 6 to 11 year-olds will be offered in August as well as July and the Youth camp for 12 to 14-year-olds will run in August too if there is sufficient need for it.

The Y in co-operation with the Red Cross Youth Group will continue the bi-monthly

teenage dances which have been held in Knox Church Hall all winter and 13 to 17-year-olds are invited to come around and share the fun.