

Won't go to OMB

Council rejects Croatian Centre appeal



KIDS GET HIS GOAT

Children of Maple Nursery School visited Bronte Creek Provincial Park last week, where they were able to make friends with many different animals, including the goat, who doesn't seem to mind being the centre of attention. Making the acquaintance of the goat are, left to right, Billy McNally, Mark

Walraven, Tommy Ponomi, Cory Wickham and Greg Dobbin, while Jason Stacey seems more interested in his shoes than his new friend.

(Herald photo by Linda Stadelman)

By PAUL DORSEY
 Herald staff writer

Despite assurances that the concerns of neighbors would be resolved and warnings that Halton Hills may find itself with a reputation for opposing progress, town council has reaffirmed its month-old decision preventing the development of the Croatian Franciscan Custody near Norval as a major social and recreational centre.

A plea on behalf of the estimated 400 to 500 Croatian-Canadian families residing in

Halton Hills failed to change council's mind Monday night about the rezoning application which would see a 160-site on Winston Churchill Boulevard just south of Norval developed with elaborate swimming, tennis, soccer, picnic and public meeting facilities.

REJECTION VOTE

Council voted 7-5 to reject the application by Metro-area Croatian-Canadians after the matter was re-opened for consideration at the request of the custody's co-ordinator, Reverend Leon Galic.

Although advised of his right to appeal council's decision before the Ontario Municipal Board, Father Galic assured council that he and his colleagues will not do so, commenting that he considers it "unfair to fight city council".

Father Galic added that the applicants will continue to hold open-air social activities at the site, including four major picnics planned for the summer months. All who wish to attend the events will be welcome, he said.

The applicants may again ask council to reconsider their proposal next year, Father Galic said.

Council's decision Monday night came after lengthy debate over last-ditch pro and con appeals presented by four speakers. The appeals included a petition circulated among landowners in the area of the custody, a reiteration of the concerns shared by other landowners who oppose the project and an impassioned plea by farmer Peter Branch, who urged council to have an "open mind" and stop standing in the way of progress.

Rest home conversion is OK for school

Conditional municipal approval has been granted for conversion of the old Chapel Street Public School in Georgetown into a 100-bed rest home.

Town council Monday night accepted a planning board recommendation authorizing "general approval" of the application for a zoning bylaw amendment filed by the owners of the school building and property, Chateau Behair Developments Ltd. and Reid Cooper Ltd. The approval is subject to several conditions being met.

explained in detail for council.

Last week, several planning board members expressed serious reservations about the owners' current plans and opposed the application in its present state. Councillors Harry Levy, Walter Biehn and Marilyn Serjeantson voted to withhold preliminary approval until plans could be revised and all concerns resolved.

BOARD MEMBERS

A majority of board members, including councillors Mike Armstrong, George Maltby, John McDonald, Roy Booth, Ross Knechtel and Ed Wood, supported the proposal after being assured that those conditions would be met before final approval is sought.

Council members were assured Monday night by Ab Tennant of the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital Board that there is no real conflict between the rest home proposal and the board's own application for a licence to establish a nursing home.

In accordance with a concern shared by the hospital board and council, however, one of the conditions of approval stipulated by council, will require written assurance from the provincial ministry of health that the rest home approval will in no way hamper the board's chances of acquiring a nursing home licence.

Mr. Tennant conceded that the rest home, once established, could help alleviate the over-crowding of hospital and nursing home facilities in the area. He asked council, though, to "work backwards" on the rest home proposal so that municipal approval would be granted at approximately the same time as the hospital board anticipates approval of its nursing home licence.

The reluctance shared by some members stemmed from concerns expressed by a number of municipal and provincial agencies among which the rest home plan was circulated for review.

Also under consideration was a petition containing the signatures of some 96 residents of the area surrounding Chapel Street school, who asked council to purchase the lower-level open space portion of the school grounds and to preserve it as public parkland.

The residents' spokesman, Ralph Fletcher, reminded

Continued on page two

This Week Summerfest fun

Action was hopping on Saturday as Halton Hills residents swarmed to Summerfest activities at the town's high school. The Herald takes a photo look at the fun.

Page 11



AMANDA HUMPHREYS
Olympic winner

Georgetown's Amanda Humphreys won a gold medal at the Special Olympics held at Etobicoke Centennial Park Sunday. Amanda won her gold in 100 metres breaststroke swimming event. It was a great birthday present for Amanda who turned 19 years old yesterday.

Page 32

Athlete finalists

Kris Barber, Ian Clark and Kevin Parker are the three finalists for the Halton Hills Athlete of the Year Award. The winner will receive the Royal Bank Trophy at a dinner to be held at St. George's Hall on June 18.

Page 36 and 37

Lawyers wrap up arguments as Superior Glove hearing ends

By ALICE KLEIN
 Herald special

Lawyers presented sharply different interpretations of the events leading to layoffs of at least 14 workers at Superior Glove in Acton as they summarized their cases before the Ontario Labor Relations Board last Thursday in Toronto.

The plant, which employs almost 100, mostly female, workers, is currently embroiled

in a certification bid by the Canadian Union of United Brewery, Flour, Cereal, Soft Drink and Distillery Workers. Union members says the re-

UNION TESTIMONY
 Page three

cent layoffs were related to the union drive.

Management lawyer William Phelps argued that the layoffs occurred for business reasons alone. He said that none of those laid off were known by management to be active in the union since they were newly hired employees who had only been with the company a few weeks.

MPP Reed tells rally 'stop nuclear plant'

By MICHAEL HOLLETT
 Herald editor

Halton Hills MPP Julian Reed added his voice to the thousands raised in protest across the province this week-end against the planned Darlington nuclear power plant near Bowmanville, Ontario.

Mr. Reed spoke to close to 400 protesters gathered in front of Queen's Park demonstrating against the planned Darlington plant while, at the same time over 1000 protesters gathered at the site of the yet to be constructed plant.



JULIAN REED

"My reasons for considering Darlington unnecessary may be different than yours but, as far back as a year ago I said Darlington was an unnecessary exercise and three months ago, on radio after hydro brought in its revised forecast, I said, that the building of Darlington, according to Hydro's schedule, was insane.

"Darlington is surplus to our energy needs and will be until

for some time. He asked why they had decided suddenly on layoffs, one day before the company now acknowledges they found out about the union.

One new employee was hired the day before the first layoffs took place, he said. He alleged that either plant owner Frank Geng had found out about the union before he says he planned the layoffs or he planned the layoffs later than he claimed.

INHIBIT DRIVE

According to union representative lawyer John McNamee the company laid-off workers at the plant to inhibit the union's organizing drive. He said the company had been aware of the economic factors they claim caused the layoffs

Mr. Phelps said Mr. Geng was worried that rather than scare them away, layoffs would frighten people into joining the union since he had heard the union was promising job security. If the layoffs

were intended as a scare tactic he said, they would have occurred all at once he said rather than scattered over several weeks as each employee finished her particular line of work.

NO QUESTIONS

Mr. McNamee said there was no question that there was strong anti-union feeling on the part of the management. The company had acknowledged anti-union preference during the hearing. The union claims that part of the expression of this anti-union feeling were several closed office door discussions with union members in the plant initiated by Mr. Geng.

Mr. Phelps said that Mr. Geng had made a point of speaking to employees he believed to be members of the union in his office because he wanted them to understand his company's financial position and to keep them from getting their hopes about the union too high.

Mr. Phelps said Mr. Geng had mentioned another textile plant which had closed after it had unionized during one of these discussions to "show what could happen with the union". But he had not implied that Superior Glove would also close if the union was certified according to Mr. Phelps. He said Mr. Geng said "I'm a damn better manager than they were".

STILL WORKING

Mr. Phelps argued that the union had not shown any discrimination against the laid-off employees since all their evidence referred to other employees still working at the plant.

Mr. McNamee said anti-union reasons need only be one of the reasons for laying-off employees for it to constitute unfair labor practice. So even if layoffs had not been for union activities alone compensation should still be given to the laid-off employees, he said.

A ruling is expected from the labor relations board in approximately two weeks. At the same time the certification drive at the plant continues.

the end of the century."

HAS A ROLE

In a statement that separated him from most of the day's speakers, Mr. Reed said, "In the past our party has stated consistently that while nuclear power has a role to play in the energy mosaic of Ontario it should never be allowed to become Ontario's sole energy destiny."

But, in a comment warmly received by the crowd, Mr. Reed said, "The problem of permanent storage of irradiated fuel and radioactive waste has not been resolved and the issue of the safety of nuclear engines is currently under review by a select committee of this legislature. The issue of warm water discharge (from nuclear plants) into our Great Lakes system also prompts deep concern."

"Until these matters are resolved, nuclear power will not get a clean bill of health. We have accepted it as a part of the energy picture but

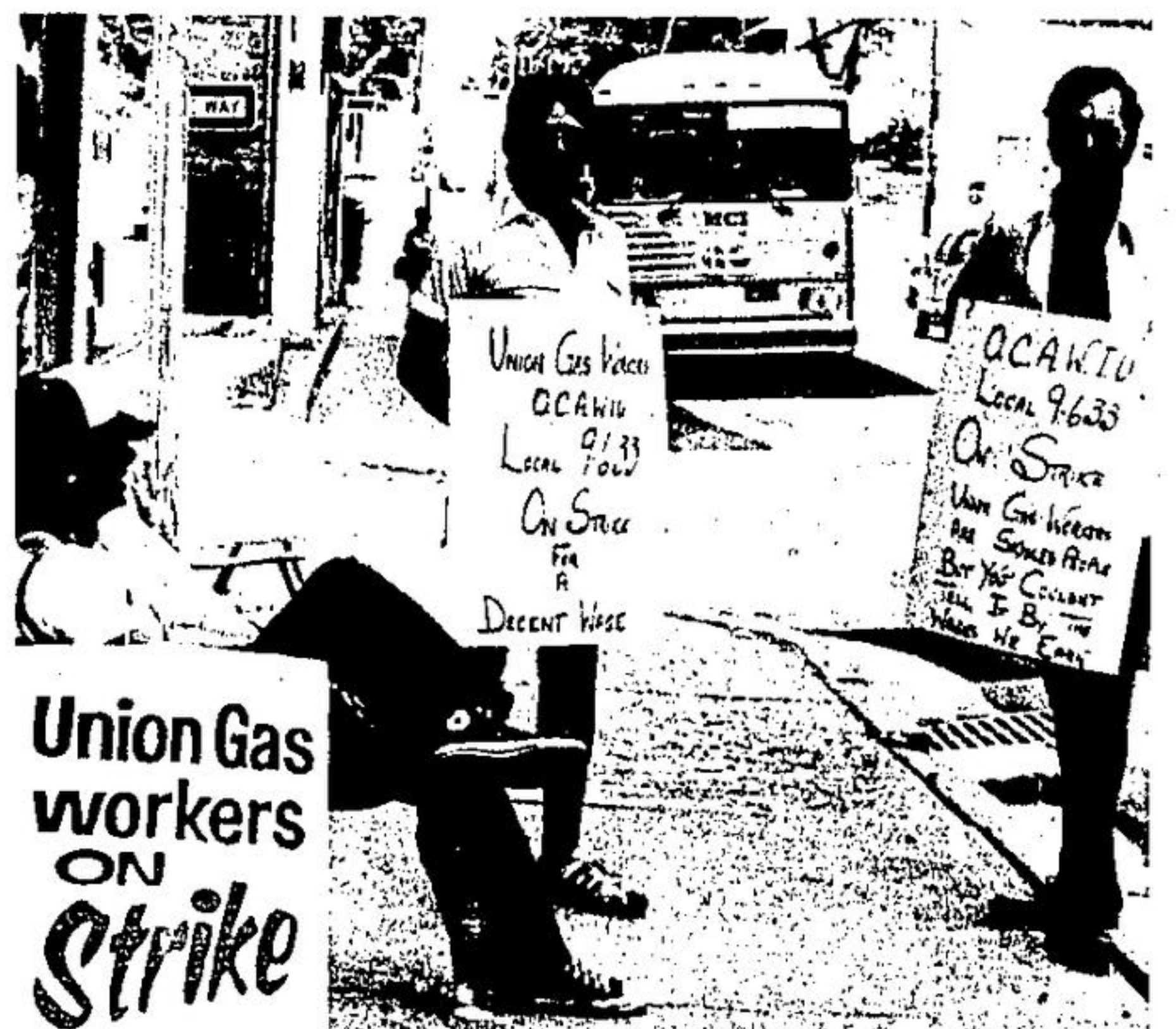
Continued on page two

POLICE SEARCH FOR HIT AND RUN DRIVER

Police are looking for a car, possibly a 1967 or 1968 Dodge which was involved in a hit and run on Guelph Street near Sinclair Avenue Saturday.

A Georgetown man reported that while he was walking on Guelph Street just east of Sinclair, a vehicle sideswiped him and continued travelling west at a high rate of speed.

The victim suffered bruises and scrapes to his left arm and leg, and a possible fracture to his leg.



Union Gas workers ON Strike

UNION GAS STRIKE

Joe Wygergangs, left, Jim McBride and Keith Thompson picketed in front of the Union Gas office on Main Street in Georgetown on Monday. The men are members of the Hamilton local of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union and Monday was their turn

to stage a day-long walkout as part of a series of rotating strikes which the union hopes will bring management back to the bargaining table. The Union has been without a contract since Dec. 31. See story on page three.

(Herald photo)