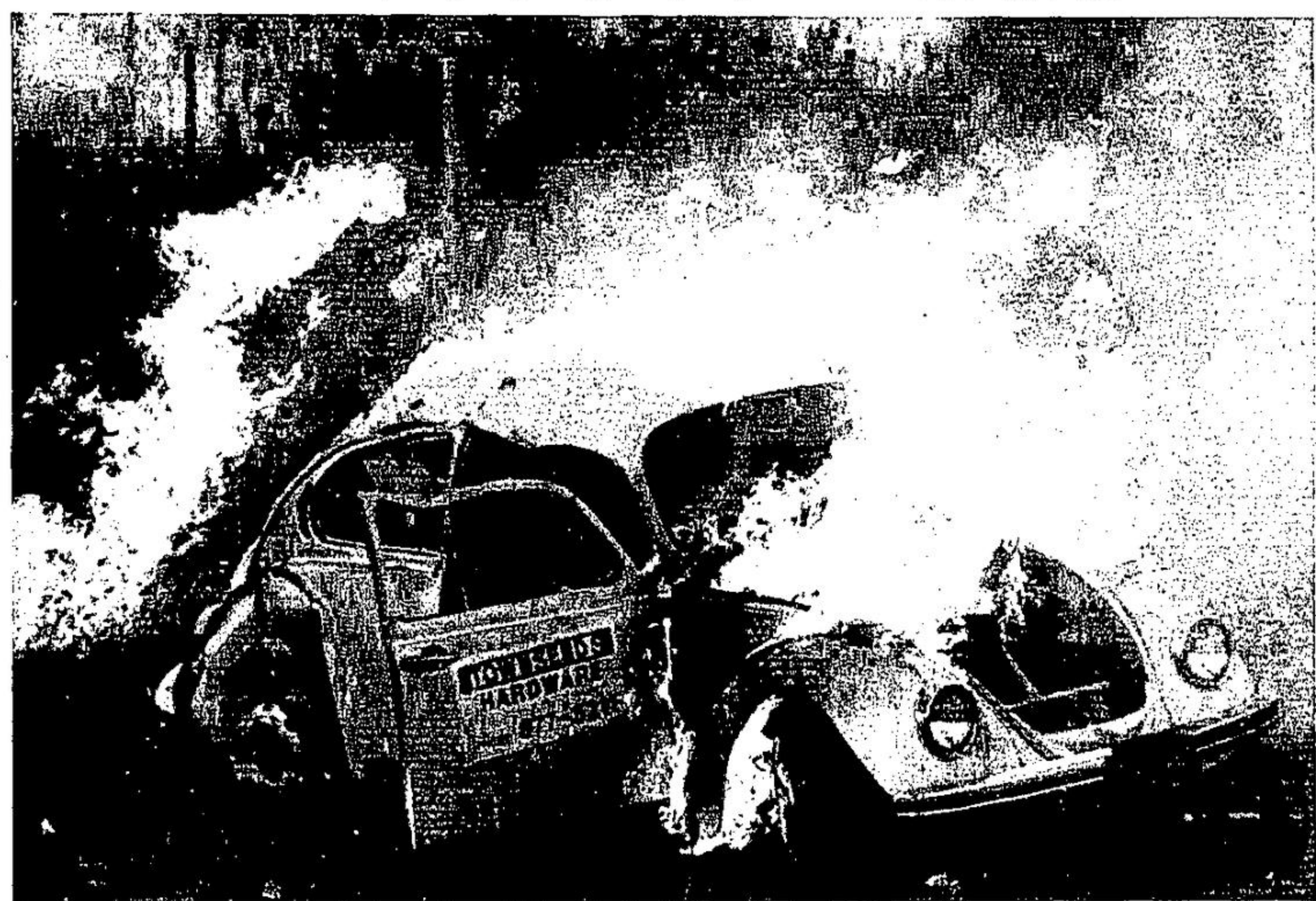


Residents accused of electioneering

Pilutti sweetens Glen homes proposal



MERCHANT 'DIES' IN FIERY FINALE

A bumpy roll down the valley slope near Glen Williams' paper mill dam Thursday, followed by a spectacular explosion and fire, brought a cinematic end to the life of John Townsend, a Madison hardware merchant in the movie *Never Trust an Honest Thief*. Townsend, as portrayed at different times by stunt drivers Pat Green, R.A. Rondell and Roy "Snuffy" Harrison, led New York state troopers on a merry, high-speed car chase through Georgetown before bolting across the

River Road bridge, transformed for the film into an international boundary bridge complete with customs gate, and plunging down the slope in a Volkswagen loaded with explosives. Production ended this week on *Honest Thief*, with the movie crew packing up Tuesday for more location work in Toronto and Las Vegas. Lots more inside.

(Herald photo by Paul Dorsey)

By **PAUL DORSEY**
 Herald staff writer

Apparently hoping to alter what he expects to be a negative verdict, Chateau Belair developer Al Pilutti is dangling another plum before council's eyes offering to dedicate twice the required amount of parkland to the town as part of his new subdivision proposal for Glen Williams, but one councillor called the property being offered "nothing but swampland".

There were weary and angry reactions from some members of the town's general committee Monday night to the hour-long "debate" between Mr. Pilutti and two representatives of the Concerned Citizens of Glen Williams Committee.

While Coun. Russ Miller accused the developer of offer-

ing the town a ten-foot deep swamp as potential "parkland", Coun. Mike Armstrong wished Chateau Belair Developments Ltd. "all the luck in the world" with their projects while chastising Glen residents John Minns and Dave Smallwood for electioneering a year too early.

FRUSTRATION

The frustration expressed by some committee members stemmed from the fact that Chateau Belair's proposal to build 61 "estate" homes on Regional Road 32 just west of the Glen was referred a week earlier to the planning department for a report. The general committee heard submissions by Mr. Pilutti, Mr. Minns and Mr. Smallwood despite the agreement among members that planning board would be a more appropriate forum for

the discussion.

The concerns of all three speakers had, in fact, been partially discussed by the planning board the week previous in relation to the new Glen Williams Secondary Plan, which is now being revised for final approval.

Mr. Pilutti expressed concern, however, that the board's reaction to his firm's subdivision proposal was "not very enthusiastic", despite his belief that the proposal's "pluses outweigh the minuses by 100 to one".

Contending that his "Wildwood" development would be "the best thing that will happen to the Glen for the next ten to 15 years", Mr. Pilutti attempted to sweeten the proposal by offering the town 10 per cent of the subdivision area for use as parkland, instead of the five per cent required by law. In addition, he said, for every subdivision developed by Chateau Belair in Halton Hills, the town can have another 10 per cent of the 45-acre open area adjacent to the Wildwood subdivision site.

ULTIMATE CONTROL

Theoretically, he said, the town could ultimately control the entire 45-acre parcel, currently zoned Open Space by the new Glen Secondary Plan. Chateau Belair needs municipal approval to have its 55-acre subdivision site next door redesignated from Open Space to Residential.

"You must be aware that this town's not in the habit of accepting parkland that's in 10 feet of swamp," an angry Coun. Miller told Mr. Pilutti.

The developer replied that his firm's plans to include a small lake within its proposed subdivision would drain the swamp area, leaving it useable as a park area.

Speaking on behalf of the Concerned Citizens Committee in the Glen, Mr. Minns stressed that residents who have petitioned the town to make extensive alterations to the Secondary Plan are not opposed to residential development. They merely seek regulated growth, he said.

Mr. Minns and Mr. Smallwood cited numerous policies contained in the Esquing official plan, the Halton Hills official plan which will soon replace it and in the Secondary Plan itself which preclude any development like Chateau Belair's.

VACANT LANDS

The residential in-filling of the Glen's vacant but residentially-zoned lands alone will see the hamlet's population pass the 1,500 level which the

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Doris Jones is 'insane', acquitted

By **JOHN BOTTOMLEY**
 Herald Special

Agreeing with Justice Lawrence Pannell that Doris Jones "drew an unlucky card in the lottery of life," an Ontario Supreme Court jury in Milton Wednesday acquitted the Acton woman on two counts of second degree murder on the grounds of insanity.

Mrs. Jones had been accused of causing the deaths of her mother-in-law, 82 year-old Mary Jones, and her son, Brian Jones, 10, in a fire April 13, Good Friday. The fire destroyed the family dwelling on Highway 15 just south of Acton.

While both crown attorney James Treleaven and defense counsel Brian Greenspan agreed Mrs. Jones had set the fire, both urged the jury return the verdict it did.

The fire, they said, was set in a suicide attempt on Mrs. Jones' part. She wrote several letters to friends on the evening of the fire telling about her intent to kill herself, and two others, Mr. Treleaven told the court.

UNHAPPY MARRIAGE

According to Dr. Robert Hill, director of Forensic Services at the Clarke Institute where Mrs. Jones has been since May 22, she felt psychologically trapped in an unhappy marriage.

She had lost 40 pounds in the previous year, had consulted local physicians, and was taking medication for her depression, he added.

"She became increasingly rigid in thinking her only escape was through suicide."

Dr. Hill felt at the time of the fire Mrs. Jones was incapable of appreciating the moral nature and quality of her actions, and because of her "unrealistic attitude to life," could be considered insane.

Dr. Paul Gaffield, director of

the Forensic Unit at St. Thomas' psychiatric hospital, agreed. Mrs. Jones spent 30 days there after which he concluded she was mentally ill, based on a series of observations, tests and reports.

"She felt justified," he said. She also would insist nothing was wrong, he added.

Dr. Hill pointed out Mrs. Jones has had a great deal of trouble coming to grips with the events surrounding the fire, and has no memory of setting it.

"She is abhorred by the thought she could have been the person who set the fire."

BOUGHT CONTAINERS

In the first week in April she bought gas containers from both Canadian Tire and Home Hardware stores in Acton, according to Halton Regional Police Constable Bruce Richards. On April 6 she had her last will and testament made out, leaving her estate to her 18 year old son Allen.

April 12 she bought three carnations from Robertson's Flower shop. She told Sheila Wallace, daughter of the own-

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Town decides Monday on future of Glen dam

By **PAUL DORSEY**
 Herald staff writer

Conflicting opinions about the advantages and disadvantages of removing the historic paper mill dam above Glen Williams have been presented to the town's general committee, both of them forecasting serious flooding.

Officials of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) brought a representative of the consulting firm Totten, Sims and Hubicki Associates Ltd. with them to the committee's Monday night meeting to explain the circumstances leading them to recommend the dam should be removed.

No sooner had Brian Plazek predicted that failure to remove or at least repair the dam will result in its eventual collapse and then serious flooding, however, than long-time Glen resident Roy Norton rose from the gallery to warn that the dam's removal would itself cause more flooding.

MONETARY DECISION

In the end, though, Mayor Pete Pomeroy described the dilemma facing the town as "a monetary decision," which must be made by council next Monday night. The fate of the dam rests in the town's and Halton region's hands.

Mr. Plazek informed the committee the cost of removing the dam has been estimated at \$32,500, while the alternative, an extensive rehabilitation of the dilapidated structure, would cost about \$137,500.

The CVCA sanctioned the dam's removal last month after Totten, Sims and Hubicki had studied the feasibility of installing an adaptable sluice gate into the dam itself to control water flow, a modification recommended by another consulting firm, Cryslor and Latham Ltd.

The feasibility study determined, however, that extensive repairs would be needed to make the sluice gate concept viable, repairs which would cost about \$105,000 more than simply removing the dam altogether.

Mr. Plazek explained that the dam's superstructure is "in fairly bad shape", two of the three bays are no longer resting on firm bedrock, and the wingwall on the dam's eastern side has cracked from top to bottom, has shifted once already and will eventually collapse into the river.

In addition, he reported, the "deck" on top of the dam, which served as part of the highway until the construction of the new river valley bridge

several years ago, now has large holes which pose safety hazards to pedestrians, particularly to the many youngsters who find the old dam a popular playground.

DAMS FOUNDATION

The dam's foundation, Mr. Plazek stressed, is the chief concern. With ever-widening gaps separating two of the bays from bedrock, there is every possibility that the dam will overturn, he warned.

"The dam's aesthetic qualities have greatly diminished over the years," Mr. Plazek commented. "It's outlived its purpose both as a road crossing and a source of power, and now represents a barrier to fish migration."

Some confusion arose over the misconception that either modifications to, or removal of the dam are necessary if the CVCA is to alleviate annual spring flooding in the Glen area, since the dam has at times prevented ice floes from moving downstream. Mr. Plazek explained, though, that while some action must be taken to allow the CVCA to dredge the riverbed, the dam itself plays only a "marginal" role in the flooding.

With dredging considered essential to flood control efforts, CVCA chairman Grant

Clarkson added, action must be taken to lower the river level in the dam area and thus create a steeper downstream grade toward the Glen. Either removing the dam or installing a sluice gate is necessary so the CVCA can create a deeper channel for ice floes to move along, he said.

Claiming to have personally witnessed the removal of four Credit River dams between Cheltenham and Glen Williams, another Glen resident, Roland Haines, predicted the paper mill dam's removal will have no effect whatsoever on the annual flooding problem.

Without the dam there to slow the river down somewhat, Mr. Norton warned, the next spring flood will see the residents of Norval, downstream from the dam, "shovelling out their main streets".

FEEL SORRY

"I feel sorry for the people in Norval if that's what you're going to do," he said, "and I think our member of Parliament is going to lose his dam too."

Mr. Clarkson admitted that there may be some harm done to the small dam adjacent to MPP Julian Reed's home in Norval if the paper mill dam is removed. Mr. Reed himself praised the CVCA's initial proposal to build a sluice gate into the Glen dam when plans were first announced early this year.

Asked where the ice floes will be carried if the paper mill dam is not in place to halt their movement, Mr. Clarkson explained that the CVCA expects the bulk of the ice to end up on the floodplain above Norval, most of which the Authority owns.

Mr. Plazek similarly challenged Mr. Norton's contention that Glen wells would be affected if the dam is removed, pointing out that homes in most of the area where groundwater levels are influenced by the dam are fully serviced with municipal water anyway. He admitted, though, that Glen homes relying on wells close to the river could be affected, but added that supplies in the area would still be replenished by springs.

This Week

Import dispute

Local chicken farmers are up in arms about Americans poultry imports. Friday they vented their anger at the Maple Lodge chicken processing plant in Norval. Local MP John McDermid says the pickets should have stayed home.

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NEVER TRUST AN HONEST THIEF

The cast and crew of *Never Trust an Honest Thief* packed up and left town this week, but not before talking with the Herald. The film's director George McGowan talks with reporter Paul Dorsey on page 6. Herald editor Michael Hollett reports on Orson Welles captivated press conference in Toronto and leading lady Michele Finney also chatted with the newspaper, both on page 13. For more crash scenes see pages 2 and 3.

Twenty-eight innings!

Glen Williams Way-Jays pitcher Jeff Haines pitched an incredible 28 innings of shutout ball last Tuesday night in the Glen against the Hespeler squad in semi-final fast-ball play. Unfortunately for Jeff and the Glen team, the game went 29 innings, and Hespeler left town with a 3-0 win, good enough to take the series 2-1.

Sports Week

CN's five-year lease saves old train station

The historic Georgetown train station has been granted a stay of execution for at least the next five years.

Public concern over Canadian National Railway's application to close the station and withdraw its agency designation was resolved last Tuesday when town council received a letter from CN vice-president A.R. Williams announcing a new lease has been signed.

"I am now pleased to advise you that CN has entered into a five-year lease agreement with the Toronto Area Transit

Operating Authority whereby TATO will utilize the waiting room area of the station for the convenience of GO commuter train passengers," Mr. Williams wrote. "The waiting room is used at present by inter-city train passengers and it is quite likely this arrangement will continue, although the decision in this respect rests with VIA Rail Canada, Incorporated."

Mr. Williams assured council that, regardless of the success or failure of CN's application to the Canadian Transit Commission, the

Georgetown station will remain "intact, well-maintained and in use, at least for the life of the agreement with TATO". He expressed hope that his announcement will "help set to rest any concerns that exist in the community about the immediate fate of the structure".

While no specific intentions for the historic station were discussed at the time, publicity surrounding CN's application early this year led to speculation that the building would be demolished.

NEW AUTO PARTS FIRM COMING HERE

From the Ottawa Bureau of The Herald

Georgetown is to become the home of a new manufacturing industry that has received approval by the federal government's Foreign Investments Review Agency, it was announced Friday.

Atos Berger, a resident of the Republic of Germany, has received approval to establish A. Berger Precision Ltd., a manufacturer of precision metal parts for the automobile industry, in the Georgetown area.

The Review Agency, in making the announcement, cited increased employment, new investment, increased resource processing, more export, enhanced technological development, improved product variety and innovation and compatible industrial and economic potential as factors which led to its approval.



SANDBOX SENSATIONS

After a long, hard summer with nothing to do but play, it's almost a relief to go back to school. These three children seem to be enjoying the start of a new year at Maple Nursery School. There are still openings for children in the afternoon class this fall. Those interested in joining the nursery school, which is a co-operative, can contact the registrar at 877-2165.

(Herald photo by Linda Stadelman)