



TIMELY PRIZE

Grant Goodfellow was the winner of the McDonald's coloring contest for the month of April. Grant was presented with a McDonald's watch Saturday by Sherry Smeaton. (Herald photo)

Early morning blaze closes Ballinafad store

Herald Special
Ballinafad General Store will be closed for at least a week for cleaning and repairs following an early morning fire Wednesday.
Owner Morley Shortill said last-week insurance adjusters had given no estimates on the cost of repairing several holes burned through the floor of the store or of repairing the smoke damage throughout the building.
Merchandise will also have to be cleaned up or thrown away depending on the item and the type of damage, he said.
Mr. Shortill had high praise for Halton Hills volunteer firefighters from area one (Acton) who were "there in 10 minutes" after the call was made.

The Shortills purchased the store 11 years ago and have since added a tack shop.
Mr. Shortill says they will probably hold a fire sale. The store will also have to be "washed and re-washed and then painted" to get rid of the smoke, he says.
"But we're a determined bunch," he says, "and we're going to open up again and have it going bigger and better than ever."
The loss was covered by insurance.

He credits smoke detectors with alerting his mother, Viola Shortill, to the fire in the basement, at 2:30 a.m. Mrs. Shortill and her daughter Penny live in an apartment over the store. A second daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Muir, and their eight-year-old daughter share another apartment above the store.
Halton Hills deputy fire chief Bob Hyde blames electric wiring in the basement for starting the blaze in the stone structure built in 1909.

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Brampton vetoes drive-in cinemas

Herald Special
Proponents of two separate drive-in theatres saw their applications to build cinemas near Highway 7 and Mississauga Road rejected by Brampton city council last week, although one of the applicants received offers of assistance in finding an alternate location.
Brampton planning committee voted 6-7 April 28 to reject the similar proposals by Premier Operating Corporation and by Brampton resident Gordon Guiry.
The decision all but ended

the possibility of backlash from area home-owners and farmers concerned with environmental problems if a drive-in is established.
Last Monday's vote, which came one week after residents living near the proposed sites at Mississauga Road and Highway 7 jammed the Civic Centre chambers to voice concern, must still be ratified by city council May 12.

1,249 vehicles.
The committee heard presentations from both applicants last night, each attempting to gain approval.
Solicitor Ron Webb representing Premier - a company that operates 18 drive-ins across Ontario - denied local residents would be plagued with concerns outlined at the public meeting.

forced the applicant to seek agricultural land.
The sites included two locations near Heart Lake Road, Dixie Road south of Steeles, Second Line West south of Highway 7 and the northeast corner of Derry and Kennedy Road.
Each either carried too high a price tag or was unsuitable for a drive-in, Mr. Ludlow said.

Ed Ludlow, speaking on behalf of Mr. Guiry, also played down problems that might be caused and instead attempted to bring out the facility's recreational value.
Referring to a plan by Chinguacousy-Gore Regional Councillor Peter Robertson who in the past month has found five alternate sites for a drive-in location, Mr. Ludlow said high property costs in the green belt and industrial areas

Survey surprises MP

Additional information concerning a survey on capital punishment conducted by Brampton-Georgetown Conservative MP John McDermid became available this week, indicating that results were drawn from some 5,000 responses to the riding-wide survey circulated last December. Mr. McDermid expressed surprise at the fact that 99 per cent of those who responded favor the return of the death penalty for some crimes, while 66 per cent believe it should be applied only in certain extreme circumstances. Only one per cent voiced outright opposition to capital punishment. Mr. McDermid said last week he has received about a dozen letters from constituents concerning the recent murder of Toronto police officer Michael Sweet. More recent Toronto murders would likely push the 66 per cent figure even higher, he commented.

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