



Last year, Anita Ockenden of Churchill Road in Acton won an Actario ticket for having the best decorated front door in the community during the Acton Beautification Committee's first Christmas contest. The competition has returned, and residents of the Acton urban area have a few days left to get their decorations up in time for judging this weekend. ABC members will tour the community selecting finely-decorated homes and the final prize winners will be chosen by a special committee. (Herald photo)

Decorating your house easy as ABC

Seeking to encourage community-wide participation in its annual Christmas house decorating contest, the Acton Beautification Committee (ABC) has dispensed with entry forms this year in favor of something less formal.

ABC members will divide Acton's urban area into different sections, surveying each for the most creative house decorations. Members' selections will be handed over to a judging committee which will visit the choices before declaring prize winners.

"Everyone is eligible," ABC chairman Bill Coates told The Herald Friday. "I guess what we're looking for is creativity: the house

which has Christmas decorations with the most Christmas spirit."

Judges scrutinized 20 houses last year before reaching a decision and declaring a surprised Anita Ockenden of Churchill Road the winner of the Best Decorated Front Door award.

First prize in the competition this year is an Actario ticket valued at \$100 and Family Cleaners has provided a second prize voucher.

It's the second anniversary of the contest organized by the group which has gained more recognition this year for its work on a parkette near the newly constructed senior citizens' apartments on Elizabeth and other community-improvement projects.

Council Notes

Town wants roads sorted out

Coun. Russ Miller hopes a recommendation he presented to the town's general committee Monday night will help end the turbulent private-versus-public roads issue which plagues town planning, particularly in the rural area. Two requests were presented to the committee Monday night from residents asking the town to assume private roads, thereby assuring that the routes would be brought up to and maintained according to provincial guidelines. Coun. Miller asked that town staff find out how many private roads there are in town and whether or not these residents are receiving assessment reductions because they live on roads which are not maintained by the municipality. Turning the roads into public routes would benefit the residents living near them and the municipality, he argued, because the roads would be made more "passable" and the town would gain on the assessment.

Transit study set

Halton's planning and development staff will begin outlining terms of reference for a special study on the transportation needs for the handicapped, expected to be launched in 1982 if the study proposal is endorsed for next

year's budget. The province's transportation and communications ministry has indicated that subsidies for the study will likely be available and have asked that the region define those with special needs in the study as people who are unable to use regular public transit services. Burlington, Oakville and Halton Hills already have vans available to transport disabled residents, but the study will look at expanding services between towns and determine whether the region should financially assist a larger service in the future.

Gas rate go-ahead?

Union Gas' bid to raise rates next year isn't likely to face much official opposition from Halton Hills when the matter is brought before the Ontario Energy Board for a hearing Jan. 11. Despite disappointment expressed by council over the planned hike a month ago, members decided Monday that the task of researching Union's extensive evidence to organize an opposition would be too time-consuming for town staff. Union claims that unless the rates go up, it faces a \$38 million revenue deficiency next year. It is estimated that if the rates are approved by the board, homeowners will likely pay \$50 more per year for their gas. Thirty-eight other agencies have expressed displeasure with the proposed increase.

Two teachers are resigning from McKenzie-Smith Middle School in Acton as of the end of this month. Keitha Kirkham and Jane Ovenden had their resignations accepted by the Halton board of education Thursday night.



STUDENTS ONSTAGE

Stewarttown Senior Public School has a reputation to maintain, and over the past couple of weeks, its students have been busy rehearsing for their annual Christmas show, which will be performed in the John Elliott Theatre tomorrow (Thursday) beginning at 7 p.m. Meanwhile, these junior thespians will be busy getting down their lines for the drama portion of the show, an adaptation by Grades 7 and 8 teacher Mike Coates of Paul Theroux's "A Christmas Card". The actors are (left to right) Lori Haddon, David Deforest, Trish Kellington, Lisa Samson and Jeff McLaren. Another performer, Bruce Duby, is not shown. Call the school 877-9153 for ticket information.

Clockmaker makes rounds

Floral clocks and other fancy-design civic timepieces may be springing up around southern Ontario if Nicholas Smith of Derby, England, was successful during his recent visit to Georgetown.

Mr. Smith spent the past week visiting his mother-in-law at the John Armstrong Seniors Apartments on Durham Street, but a major reason behind his Canadian holiday was to drum up more business for his nevertheless much-in-demand clockmaking firm.

The Derby firm of which Mr. Smith is managing director, John Smith and Sons, recently restored "Little Ben", a 96-year old Gothic street clock which is slightly less famous in England than its big brother, Big Ben, part of the British Houses of Parliament.

It is floral clocks and modern feature clocks for town squares and halls that Mr. Smith's firm specializes in, however, and he spent the past week contacting munic-

ipal officials in the U.S. and Canada about potential business deals. Mr. Smith's handsome turret clock already adorns Stratford's city hall here in Ontario, and his floral clock is a popular tourist spot in Cypress Gardens, Florida.

Back in England, John Smith and Sons dates back to 1690 and continues to maintain more than 4,500 turret clocks, including those of Westminster Abbey and St. James and Kensington pal-

aces. The firm installed the Great Tom clock of St. Paul's Cathedral in 1823 and, in the 1950s, restored the timepiece in Salisbury Cathedral, the oldest working clock in the world, dating to 1386.

It was during a previous working visit to Canada that Mr. Smith met his wife, the former Gretchen Margaret Bradley. Her mother, Aileen Bradley, still lives in Georgetown. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three children, a daughter who works as a secretary

in Toronto and two sons who are still in school.

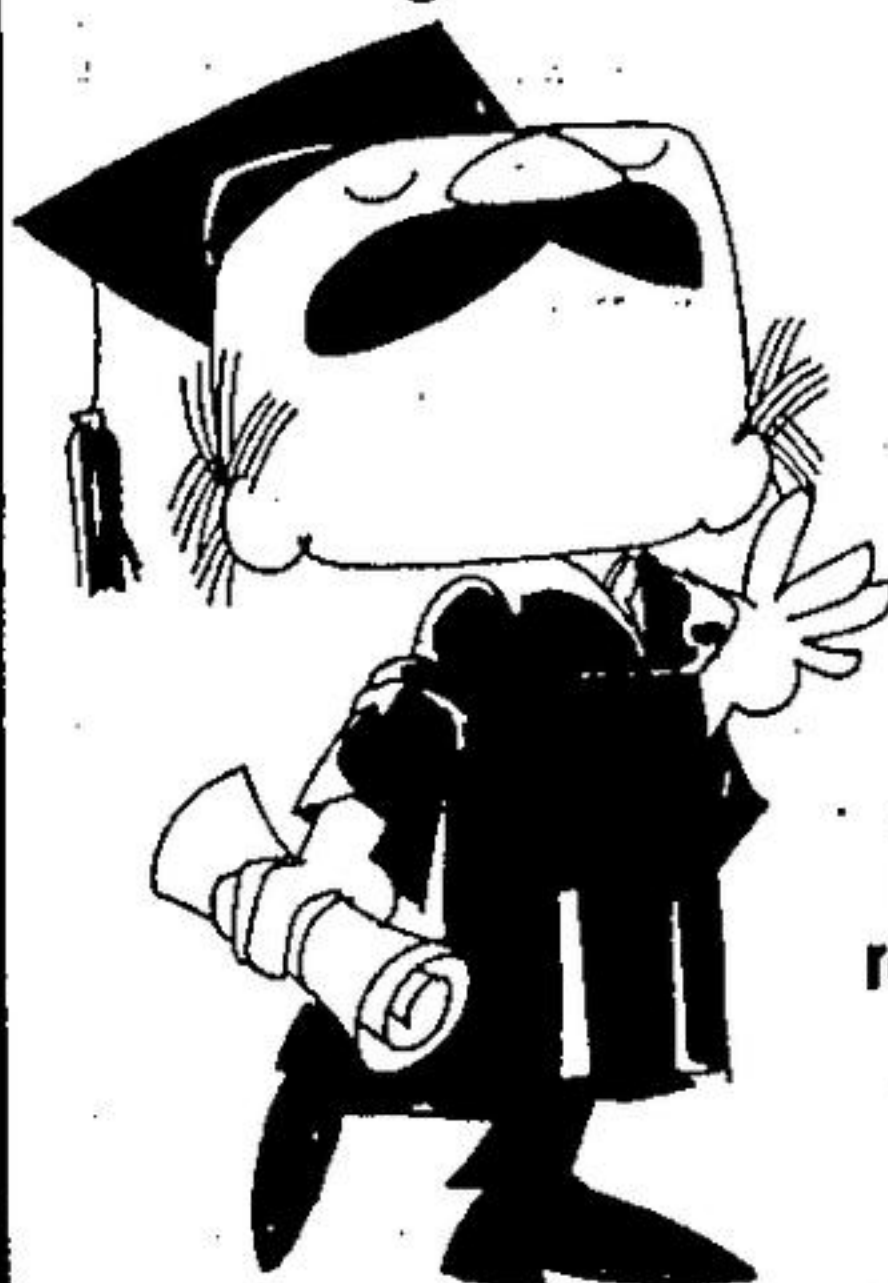
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Georgetown District High School



GRADS DAY

Monday
December 21st
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

All 1981 Graduates are invited to the school to renew acquaintances and share experiences.

Refreshments will be served...

GEORGETOWN LIONS ARE SEEKING Citizen of the Year

The Georgetown Lions Club is again looking for the "Citizen Of The Year"; someone who has given unselfishly to the community.

This will be the 10th year that the Lions have carried out the search for our top citizens. Mrs. Vi Halmes was honoured with the award for 1980.

The Lions Club would like help in selecting our most deserving citizen or group by receiving nominations from you, the deadline for nominations is January 24th, 1982. A committee chaired by Carl Hansen 86 Mountainview Road S. 877-8547 and Stan Callaghan 51 Greystone Cres., 877-6392 or any of the committee members: Ray Harlow, Earl Merrill, Ron Lacey and Elmer Lloyd can be contacted.

The recipient's name for the Georgetown Lions Citizen Of The Year Award will be announced in February followed by a dinner dance on February 26th for the presentations.

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On New Years Eve

Graffiti Music featuring Guest Stars "BANANAS," Sponsored by Georgetown Intermediate Hockey Club.

Norval Junction

Norval, Ontario. (Formerly the Way Jay Club)

Tickets: \$15⁰⁰ per person

Includes Hot Meal (Kentners Catering) and Prizes. Tickets available at Bass Outlets (Chargex) or at North Halton Sports. Listen to CFGM for further details.

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