



Campbells now recovered from Glen fire last Christmas Day

Back on feet one year later

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

A disturbing anniversary aside, it will be Christmas as usual at Terry and Barbara Campbell's Glen Williams household this year.

The Campbells and their children, eleven-year old Julie and Wayne, 12, swept into The Herald's year-end headlines 12 months ago when a Christmas Day fire razed the family's woodframe home at 36 Confederation Street while they were visiting Mr. Campbell's parents in Parry Sound.

Although the memory of the smoldering rubble and the feeling of loss still lingers, the Campbells have, thanks to lots of kind-hearted neighbors and

friends and good old-fashioned family determination, rebuilt their household and will be spending Christmas, as always, at 36 Confederation St.

"I guess it was just bad luck," Mr. Campbell shrugged as he recalled last year's tragedy. "But everything's back to normal now."

Following the blaze, Mr. Campbell moved his family to his brother's Georgetown home. Six months later, the finishing touches were being made on an attractive three-bedroom house and the Campbells moved back to the familiar neighborhood in July.

Friends and relatives were quick to respond to the Campbell's plight. In addition to

providing much-appreciated spiritual support, gracious individuals offered household items and clothing.

Mr. Campbell, an engineering technician with the town and a member of the Glen Williams flag football club, said that team members and co-workers organized a fund-raising and a stag shortly after the family was burned out of its home.

Stewarttown Public School students on Mrs. Campbell's Charterways bus route made a generous cash donation to the family and fellow employees threw a shower for her to help set up another home.

The fire's "balloon" nature, originating from the furnace and then sweeping up the walls

from the basement, rapidly enclosing the house, reduced everything to ashes — toys which had been unwrapped only shortly before the 11:51 alarm was called in by a passing police cruiser, a television, a stereo, antiques which the family had collected and rugs and quilts which Mrs. Campbell had made. Small but meaningful memorabilia were also consumed.

However, the Campbells have even started replacing some of the family "photo-graphic" heirlooms.

"My mother-in-law made us a family photo album which was really nice," Mrs. Campbell said. "Our relatives have helped out quite a bit."

At school, Wayne and Julie

said that their classmates offered clothing. There were collection boxes at Preston's grocery store and at the Becker's outlet on Guelph Street.

In the summer, Mr. Campbell had help getting the outside of his new house in order from comrades in the Glen Anglers Association as well as relatives.

While Julie acknowledges that she is a little nervous about this year's Christmas, the Campbells are looking forward to Yuletide festivities in their new home.

Bad memories from last year's celebration have been brushed aside and, like most other people, the family is now concentrating on gift-wrapping and last minute shopping.

877 5213

FOBERT
H. Fobert Real Estate Ltd.
Realtor
EXCELLENCE AWARD
"IN CUSTOMER RELATIONS"

the HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Since 1866

Life is a Mutual affair.
BRIAN GOODLET
— Life — Business
— Mortgage — RRSP
Mutual Life of Canada
451-3460 or 877-4515

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1981

Council says no to old town hall

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

Halton Hills will not restore the century-old Acton town hall, council decided Monday night.

By a 7-5 recorded vote, council rejected taxpayer participation in an extensive restoration proposal for the hall and, at least temporarily, halted five-year old efforts by community groups to preserve the building for the community's historical posterity.

Another motion calling for the building to be sold in light of council's rejection of the restoration package (suggested in a recent consultant's study and adamantly endorsed by Mayor Pete Pomeroy two weeks ago) was later withdrawn.

Meanwhile, Acton's Actario and town hall restoration committees as well as the Leathertown Association will likely meet sometime in the new year, one spokesman for

the groups told reporters following the debate, to discuss the possibility of privately salvaging the building. Council has, as yet, declined to order the building demolished.

Restoration committee chairman George Elliott said later that funds raised for the restoration project — about \$45,000 including an eleventh hour, \$5,000 pledge from Business Improvement Area (BIA) merchants — will have to be returned to the donors if plans to save the building are scrapped once and for all.

Actario, a community lottery which has been raising funds for over a year in anticipation of the hall's preservation, is committed to carry on regular draws throughout the next year, Actario chairman Ted Tyler told reporters.

Adamantly opposed to the restoration because it would cost taxpayers about \$250,000 despite numerous grants available and public fund-raising which would cover the approximately \$250,000 balance, Ward 4 councillor and town budget chief Harry Levy threatened to resign if council sanction renovations.

In addition, the town received a 397-name petition two weeks ago gathered in a two-day period by Acton residents also opposed to using municipal revenue to finance the scheme.

Joined by the mayor, two Georgetown councillors and delegations from the council chamber gallery, Acton reps unanimously agreed that the hall can provide recreational and office space for the community, as well as becoming a major historical component in Acton's tourist-oriented "Leathertown" drive.

"We're like three peas in a pod," Mr. Tyler told council. "There's Acton, Georgetown and Esquesing and these peas are of different size, different texture and different taste. I wouldn't want it any other way."

A study completed last month by Kleinfeldt Consultants of Brampton determined that the hall is still structurally sound, despite having been abandoned almost ten years ago. Council declined Monday night to endorse the study's fourth restoration option, a package which envisions office and recreational use in a building restored to enhance its historical character.

"It's the only remaining and significant municipal building

Continued on page A8



Most workers back on job at Abitibi

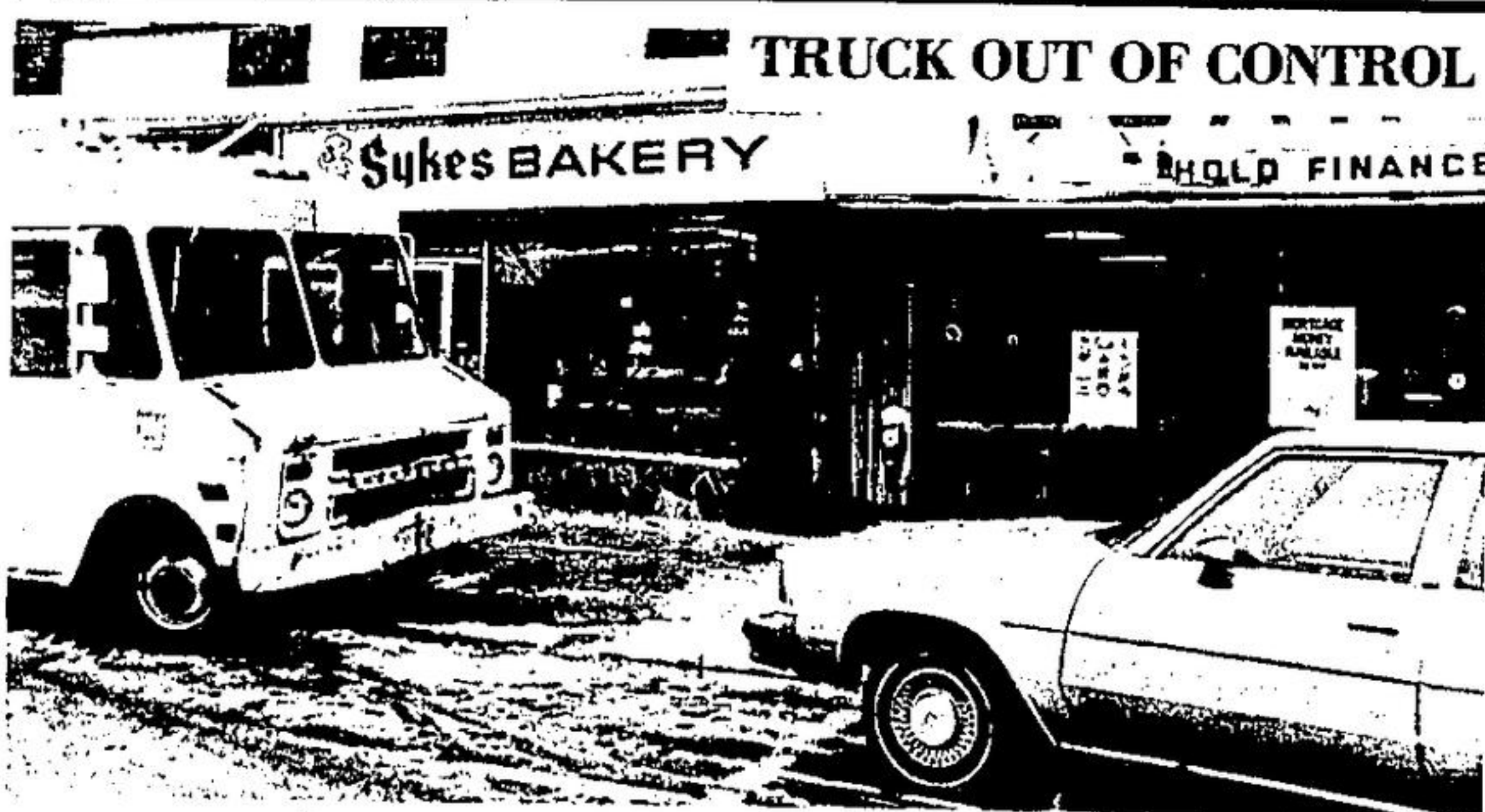
All but 25 of the 135 mill workers laid off a month ago at Abitibi-Price in Georgetown have returned to work, plant manager George Lockwood told The Herald Wednesday.

Although the plant, which coats special papers (like wallpaper) is running normally for the orders it receives at this time of year, Mr. Lockwood said the company does not know when other laid-off employees can resume work.

"It all depends on the market," he said.

Meanwhile, no decision has been reached on the plant's future, which dimmed last July amid company and union predictions that the plant will have to close, bowing to paper mills which produce and coat their products as the paper is made. Plant workers at Abitibi are represented by the United Paper Workers International Union.

Mr. Lockwood suggested that talks on the Abitibi-Georgetown's future will begin sometime in the New Year.



A runaway truck posed a serious danger to shoppers and drivers on Georgetown's Main Street Tuesday morning. Slipping out of gear from its parked position atop the Main Street hill, the driverless truck started rolling downhill, sideswiping a parked car in the other lane of traffic. Climbing the curb near Household Finance, it hit a brick wall between that business and Sykes Bakery, the impact of which brought it to rest. Pedestrians and

other drivers within reach of the truck were warned by a fast-thinking driver who was blaring his horn as he followed the runaway truck. There was \$2,000 damage to the truck, sideswiped car and shattered "Loans" sign at Household Finance. Nobody was injured.

(Herald photo)

Pipe band's spirits rise with funds for trek

A recent \$2,000 pledge from the Halton-Peel Highland Games Association towards a proposed visit to Scotland for the Georgetown Girls Pipe Band has perked up hopes that the trip may soon become a reality, a spokesman for the organization told The Herald recently.

"We've never been to Scotland as a band before," Virginia Hulme said Sunday. "We think it will be a very worthwhile visit since we are playing Scotland's national instrument."

When the trip was initially considered about two years ago, plane fare was considerably lower than current prices. Despite the band's earnest fund-raising efforts through dances, and garage and bake sales, air travel costs dishearteningly rose dramatically and band members were beginning to wonder if the trip would ever literally get off the ground.

Mrs. Hulme explained. The association's pledge which will be cashed when the girls purchase their plane tickets, was "very encouraging," she added, and has helped move the trip fund close to the halfway estimate of \$6,000. While the pipe band receives an annual grant from the town and gets parade money to cover uniform and miscellaneous costs, the income from special events has gone directly into the trip account.

Other ways of earning money for the visit include encouraging local businesses to sponsor a band member in return for having that member perform at special functions of the sponsoring business.

A trip itinerary hasn't been settled and although the visit isn't intended as a playing tour, Mrs. Hulme said that the band may perform occasionally anyway.

The pipe band will be 40 years old next September.

World peace to Corvettes, VIPs list Christmas wishes

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff Writer

Ask any politician what he wants for Christmas and he'll start telling you what he wants for the world or the nation. You have to be insistent to nail him down on personal things, The Herald found out last week.

"If I had any wish in the world, I'd like peace more than anything, with the strife in Poland and the Middle East settled. That would be the nicest Christmas present



MP JOHN McDERMID

Colorado ski trip

I could ask for, Brampton-Georgetown Conservative MP John McDermid said.

"On a closer-to-home basis, I wish we could form the government and bring in a half decent budget and bring Canadians some good news for a change."

Mr. McDermid said his Christmas treat this year is a trip to Colorado with his wife, where they'll both enjoy a week's skiing holiday.

"It's something we haven't done for three years. We're going to relax and get some exercise," he said.

NEW BUDGET

Echoing the desires of Mr. McDermid, Halton Conservative MP Otto Jelinek said he'd like a new federal budget and peace around the world, especially in Poland.

"I don't care which government takes credit for it, I'd like all politicians to try in the new year to build on the strengths Canada has to offer rather than throw obstacles in the way of free enterprise," Mr. Jelinek said.

Asked what he would like personally for Christmas, Mr. Jelinek said he hadn't given it much thought.

"I hope I don't get cigar tips again this Christmas," he said. "I smoke these plastic tiparettes and my wife complains about how they stink. Last year I told her I don't smoke them and only chew the tips, so she gave me a big box of 1,000 tips."

Mr. Jelinek said he'd like to get together with his parents and his brothers and sisters in Oakville for Christmas.

"It's a big gathering now that there are about 25 nephews and nieces," Mr. Jelinek said. Already he's practising the big "ho, ho, ho" for when he'll don the traditional red costume Christmas eve and delight the children.

DAY OFF

Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed laughed heartily when asked what he'd like for Christmas.

"I'd like one day away from the phone, speaking selfishly," he said. "On a national basis, I hope and pray that Poland will be able to resolve its distress."

Mr. Reed expressed gratitude for his family's health and the fact they've escaped major problems this year. He said he would be spending a very quiet Christmas at home with his family.

Halton regional chairman Jack Ruffin was already off for his holidays when The Herald contacted his office Friday. He's enjoying the warm Florida sunshine.

The Christmas question roused laughter from Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy. "I never think about things like that. Wait 'til I ask my wife."

With Judy Pomeroy's help, he remembered that he wanted a tool box for Christmas.

1,000 tips," Mr. Jelinek said hopefully.

He said he and his wife would be getting together



MP OTTO JELINEK

Plastic tip problems

with his parents and his brothers and sisters in Oakville for Christmas.

"It's a big gathering now that there are about 25 nephews and nieces," Mr. Jelinek said. Already he's practising the big "ho, ho, ho" for when he'll don the traditional red costume Christmas eve and delight the children.

DAY OFF

Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed laughed heartily when asked what he'd like for Christmas.

"I'd like one day away from the phone, speaking selfishly," he said. "On a national basis, I hope and pray that Poland will be able to resolve its distress."

Mr. Reed expressed gratitude for his family's health and the fact they've escaped major problems this year. He said he would be spending a very quiet Christmas at home with his family.

Halton regional chairman Jack Ruffin was already off for his holidays when The Herald contacted his office Friday. He's enjoying the warm Florida sunshine.

The Christmas question roused laughter from Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy. "I never think about things like that. Wait 'til I ask my wife."

With Judy Pomeroy's help, he remembered that he wanted a tool box for Christmas.

Continued on page A8

About the Hills Man injured in local crash

A Brampton man was taken to Georgetown District Memorial Hospital Friday with major injuries, treated and released, following a single car accident. Robert Baptiste was driving eastbound on Sideroad 22 near Highway 25 when he was forced off the pavement by a car coming west in his lane. Swerving onto the north shoulder, he tried to swing back onto the pavement, crossed over the south ditch and flipped over. There was \$10,000 damage to his 1979 Ford.

Damage claims in red

Damage claims for lost livestock and poultry this year has put the town's account for this purpose in debt. According to a report from the municipal clerk's office, the town has paid out \$9,579 for farm animals which accidentally died this year, as well as an additional \$715 for contractual services to dispose of the corpses. The province has paid \$4,261 of the claims, but the account remains overdrawn by \$3,093. Livestock and poultry are often killed by wild predators and roaming dogs. Farmers recovered \$270 in damages in 1981 from dog owners whose pets were involved with farm kills.

The Pomeroy's will be staying home with the family this Christmas and they're looking forward to it.

Acton Chamber of Commerce president John Allison said he hadn't given it much thought, but a waterbed would be a nice gift to receive.

He said he'd heard they were good for back problems, although he himself hasn't any back problems. Mr. Allison said his mother-in-law would be coming down from Toronto to spend Christmas with his wife and children in Acton.

Georgetown Chamber of Commerce president Doug Penrice said he might hang up a pair of pantyhose for the jolly gent to fill this Christmas.

Penrice said if somebody very benevolent and generous were interested he would like a red Corvette. Keep on wishing, Doug.

"I'd like (finance minister) Allan MacEachern to change his budget because



MAYOR PETE POMEROY

"Oh, yeah - a toolbox"

he's putting the screws to investment opportunities, or else I'd like him to retire to Cape Breton and never be heard from again," Mr. Penrice said.

Together with his family, Mr. Penrice is going to stay in Georgetown and relax over the Christmas holidays, he said.

Continued on page A8

Merry Christmas