

PAYING A VISIT



Santa's ears have been buzzing, thanks to Kris Doherty (right) and Barb Skok. The two Georgetown District High School students are part-time employees at Wendy's Restaurant on Guelph Street. They kept the jolly old gent busy Sunday at Wendy's, as did all the other customers who braved the 20 centimetres of snow dumped on Georgetown overnight.

(Herald photo by Ani Pederian)

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While he couldn't guarantee that the building would be completely restored and ready for use in eleven months, Mr. Tyler optimistically invited some of council's restoration opponents to a New Year's Eve Dance in the hall next year.

Councillors Mike Armstrong, Harry Levy, Pam Sheldon and Russ Miller opposed the \$1 sale and retention of its historical designation. In favor of the arrangement were councillors Rick Bonnette, Phil Carney, Finn Poulstrup, Tom Hill, Dave Whiting, Mayor Pete Pomeroy, Ross Knechtel, Marilyn Serjeantson and John McDonald.

BUYBACK

Under the arrangement, the building remains a historical site, must be restored to provincial fire and building code standards and the town has the option of buying back the building for \$1 after it has been restored.

But opposing councillors aren't so sure Halton Hills taxpayers have escaped responsibility for future town hall costs.

"It will come back to haunt us, believe me," Coun. Levy argued. "There are too many unanswered questions. We should continue our opposition and demolish the building like we originally planned."

Coun. Armstrong described the restoration proposals which have been forwarded to council regularly since 1977 as "Project Hope". He expressed concern that the annual operating costs of the restored building were not being carefully considered by those who want to restore it.

Although the final use of the building has not been firmly established, Mr. Tyler said he envisions an upper floor auditorium and meeting hall for senior citizens as well as office space for a private firm or town or region use. Revenue from these uses, he said, is expected to cover the building's heating, water and electricity costs.

One private firm, which he did not name, has expressed an interest in locating in the restored hall, depending on the office space available, Mr. Tyler said.

DOCTORS MOVE

Anti-restoration councillors have argued that the hall is "Surplus" to the office and recreational needs of the town. Mr. Tyler acknowledged that there were a number of vacant storefronts in downtown Acton suitable for offices, but he said the restored building would most likely attract professional people such as doctors and lawyers.

Questioned intensely by councillors Sheldon and Levy, Mr. Tyler said that about \$137,600 of the money already slated for the restoration would be used to pay wages and benefits, leaving about \$40,000 for materials if the corporation is unable to secure additional grants.

He told Coun. Serjeantson that he, George Elliott and "interested people" in Acton would oversee the restoration.

operating through a chain of command which includes a project manager and a clerk responsible for the project's book-keeping. The corporation's officials would also seek architectural advice and, Mr. Tyler said, a number of contractors have offered to consult on the project free of charge or at cost.

The Acton groups had

until Feb. 28 to secure council's support of the restoration project. Before work begins, Mr. Tyler said, he wants to proceed with an engineering study, the preliminary costs of which, he told reporters later, may be around \$5,000.

Some councillors said that if the building was to be sold to the non-profit group, the option the town

has to buy the building back should be removed, leaving no doubt in taxpayer's minds that council is not responsible for the building should the restoration bid fail.

Coun. Knechtel assured the town that it would not have any liability under the sale to the non-profit corporation. Councillors Whiting and Poulstrup said the town could end up

with a valuable piece of property once it is restored if it buys it back for \$1.

We can't help without your help



Acton East green light

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flowing into Black Creek by checking infiltration in the sanitary sewer system by storm waters, oversee industrial development in the serviced and partially serviced industrial land and increase Acton's water supply.

While the new urban boundary has been approved in principle by Halton Hills and the region, it awaits its final acceptance by the provincial ministry of housing and municipal affairs, expected next spring.

Dry industries ones which do not demand extensive use of the sewage system, could be located in the partially

serviced land, drawing on municipal water supplies but getting rid of liquid waste through private septic tank systems.

While Acton's population (currently around 7,000) could theoretically grow to 10,000, "wet" industries moving to the community and requiring full sewage services would correspondingly reduce the amount of residential waste the plant could handle.

Town planner Ian Keith said there has been no major "thrust of opposition" from agencies contacted about the new boundary. He said he did not foresee an increase in demand for serviced industrial land in Acton

and anticipated that growth in the community may favor residential areas rather than industrial for the time being.

Nevertheless, the town should have at least partially serviced land close to railway spurs and ideal for warehousing.

"One should structure planning on the assets you have and not on what you haven't," Acton Coun. Ross Knechtel said. "What we have here is lots of water. There are

many types of industry which do not need (large scale) sewage requirements."

"The new implementing committee will include a member of local council."

Acton's water supply should not be seen as a threat to the community's future development, Coun. Dave Whiting said. There are a number of potential wells outside the urban boundaries which could meet Acton's additional demands for water.

Open for season

Terra Cotta Conservation Area opened its gates to cross-country skiers, snowshoers, hikers and skaters Saturday. Come on out to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority's showcase park for winter fun every weekend from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Gate fee is \$3.75 per car.

New deal

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regular community access to them and the users are properly supervised;

- the board is responsible for maintaining its playing fields. At the end of October, board and town officials will meet to discuss maintenance of board playing fields for the following year;
- board and town consultation periodically will plan programs and discuss the use of the facilities. These talks may include the purchase and installation of new recreational equipment.

The agreement will be administered by an eight-member policy body, four representatives of which will be with the town and four members from the board.



Planning social services career

Elizabeth Cowan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F.M. Cowan of Parkview Drive in Georgetown, recently graduated from the University of Guelph with a General Bachelor of art degree, majoring in psychology and sociology. She plans to make a career in the social services field.

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GEORGETOWN LIONS 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.

The Lions Club wants help from you in picking our most deserving citizen or group for 1982. Nominations are now being received for Georgetown's Citizen of the Year.

Please mail nominations with supporting resume, postmarked not later than January 30th/83 to: Georgetown Lions Club, Citizen of the Year, P.O. Box 73, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 4T1.

The winner(s) of the award will be announced in February at a dinner-dance to be held in the Lions Club Hall, on Saturday, February 26th, 1983. The public is invited to attend this special evening. Tickets are available from Lions Club members.

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