



SUPER STAFF

The Halton Hills Parks and Recreation Department unveiled their 1983 summer activities supervisors last Thursday at Cedarvale Park. They are: (back row, left to right) Coordinator Susan Ackroyd, activity centre supervisor Michelle Long, Tot Lot supervisor Maureen McGowan, Sports Camp boss John Warnock, and dramatics supervisor Susan McGowan; (front row) Leadership Development supervisor Tina McGrath, and Day Camp leader Heather Gage.

(Herald photo)

Comforts allowed to build home

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

As far as the region is concerned, Acton's Eldon and Elizabeth Comfort can go ahead and build a retirement home on land severed from a larger property they own in Halton Hills' rural area.

Strong opposition to the proposal from Oakville and Burlington regional councillors forced to the vote at Halton Council last Wednesday afternoon; but regional chairman Jack Rafitis sided with the Comforts, avoiding a case before the Ontario Municipal Board.

Council ruled in favor of a planning and public works committee recommendation to drop an appeal against the region's Division Committee which approved a severance for the Comforts.

The couple live on a 30-acre property near the southwestern corner of the Sideroad 17 and Highway 25 intersection. They propose to sever about two acres from the land for a retirement home.

AGAINST POLICIES

In urging the appeal initially, regional planning staff argued that policies in the region's official plan do not allow the type of development sought by the Comforts.

While policies allow retirement settlements for farmers, staff noted that Mr. Comfort makes no claim to being a farmer. Settlement in rural areas, they add in a report, should be directed into hamlets, smaller rural clusters and rural-estate subdivisions.

The land is also located

in an environmentally sensitive area, staff says.

In supporting the bid, Milton Coun. Bill Johnson described Mr. Comfort as an environmentalist and a "citizen of excellence".

Councillors like Burlington's Steve Toth and Joan Little maintained that council must uphold the integrity of the region's official plan. Rather than making adjustments on issues as they arise, parts of the plan may need a more general review, Coun. Toth suggested.

Much of his property is covered by woodlot, Mr. Comfort told councillors. Trails in the area run through a sap line from which he produces maple syrup every year.

SUGAR BUSH

Mr. Comfort said he has developed his sugar bush following tree thinning advice from the province's ministry of natural resources (MNR) and he added that the area's ecology has been enhanced by thinning out the bush.

That, combined with a pond he has made, attract wildlife, Mr. Comfort said.

A letter from the MNR suggested that further development on the property would threaten a grazing ground for white tail deer in the winter and ministry opposed the severance.

Halton Hills councillors Mayor Pete Pomeroy and Russ Miller spoke in favor of Mr. Comfort's severance. Policies in the official plan, Mayor Pomeroy said, are meant as guidelines, but are not meant to be "etched in stone".

Halton Hills Mayor

Levies cover water, sewer service costs

Developers win - no lot levies

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

A recommendation from the region's finance and administration committee to not implement industrial-commercial lot levies, was given a bumpy reception before being passed by council Wednesday afternoon.

At \$2,500 per acre, the levies are still a bargain for developers of industrial and commercial property, Burlington Coun. Walter Mulkeiwich argued, adding that without them, existing regional taxpayers will have to share the costs of servicing land with water and sewer mains.

Pete Pomeroy has strongly opposed the levies, fearing they will discourage new industry from settling in North Halton. He said he's had no calls from Halton Hills residents

complaining that they may have to support the costs of new industrial development.

They would be a detriment to the community, he argued, which already

has difficulty building up its industrial assessment base with new arrivals. Residential developers do pay lot levies, councillors noted.

A "master servicing"

plan for Oakville, will likely be a model for the rest of the region. It calls on new residential developers to pay for the costs of laying down and hooking up sewer and water services.

Being the "first in" in then recover their costs gradually from the region and from other developers who link up with initial mains.



It was back in 1918 that the Verdun Rebekah Lodge No. 184 was organized by the late William Buck with 26 charter members. Today, only two of the original members are still with the lodge. Celebrating the 65th anniversary birthday cake was charter member Olive Logan (left) with Noble Grand Anne Riddall. The club's membership is currently 77 women.

(Herald photo)

Microwave contract

The microwave division of Varian Canada Inc. in Georgetown has won a \$459,000 contract with the federal government to develop electrical equipment, the department of supply and services has announced.

It was among 297 unclassified contracts worth \$10,000 or more that were awarded by the department to Canadians during the week ended April 29. The contracts totalled \$41.6 million.



THANKS GUYS

Four local citizens were honored last Wednesday night for their help to Halton regional police. Gary Hyde of Acton (standing) helped police last March to apprehend a suspect police were having difficulty in restraining. Anthony Graham-Smith (seated) was at the scene of a disturbance on Mountainview Road South in Georgetown where an officer's revolver was removed from his holster in August 1981. He retrieved the revolver and diverted a potentially dangerous situation. During the struggle, Mr. Graham-Smith's glasses were broken. Also honored was Fred Dunn of Acton. His astute observations two months ago helped police solve an armed robbery at a Campbellville bank. Acton's Reg Landriault was recognized by police for his assistance in dispersing a hostile group of young people in Acton last June.

(Herald photo)

Noisy bikers

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owner of the bike if someone wants to launch a complaint.

NOISE BYLAW

While the town has no regulations governing the use of trail bikes, bylaw enforcement officer Jack Lusty said license plates would help police enforce the town's noise bylaw.

In the meantime, the owners of vacant fields where trail bikers like to go "have been urged to post "no trespassing" signs, Mr. Lusty said. With them, police can then move on to a property to keep trail bikes out. One thing Mr. Lusty says many trail bikers

don't realize is that existing provincial laws insist that they stay off the road—all of it. Ditches and the gravelled or paved shoulders are part of the road allowance, Mr. Lusty explained, and bikers driving on them are just as susceptible being charged as they would be on the main road surface.

Parks are also off limits to trail bikes, Mr. Lusty said. Acknowledging that some of these machines are given to children as young as seven and eight years old, Mr. Lusty suggested parents assume more responsibility in the operation of trail bikes.

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