

The search to find water in Acton

Community growth is at stake.

By ANIPEDERIAN Herald Staff Writer
Ah, for a cool gulp of water. But, there's only a drip, a very slow drip from the tap. Not enough to wash your hands, never mind wash the dishes or have a shower. Better open a can of juice instead.

That's not the scenario in Acton today, but it could well be the frustration for the future if the search for new water sources doesn't succeed in meeting the town's growing demands for more water.

Acton could well end up in a permanently stagnant position if more water for its current population of 7,000 isn't found.

In terms of major industrial growth for Acton, finding more water is important.

The current water sources have a maximum possible potential of 700 gallons a minute, not enough for a new major industry with heavy manufacturing, but enough for residential use.

The current average water flow of 500 gallons



DON MORRIER
A minute is sufficient for the population and industries now located in Acton, but for how long

will that continue to be so?

"If we were to allow more growth in the community we could be asking for trouble," Rick Robertshaw said last week. He is the manager of engineering for the Halton public works department.

RESIDENTS WARNED
In the spring, Acton residents were warned there was the possibility of water restrictions over the summer. Although it was a dry, hot summer, the wells currently supplying Acton were able to keep

up with the water demands and no restrictions were activated.

What are the main water sources for Acton? They are the Davidson wells on Churchill Road south of the reservoir; a well east of Churchill Road on Fourth Line; the Hufaneg well on Highway 25 near Main Street; and the Warrengrove well on McDonald and Wallace Streets.

Because they were recognized as not supplying enough water for the town to develop industrially, the public

works department has been test drilling to find an additional water supply source near the Fourth Line well, and working on terms of reference for a study to find a major source of water for the town, Mr. Robertshaw said.

A keen interest has been taken by the region in a well dug in Prospect Park prior to regionalization in 1973. The then Town of Acton had the well drilled approximately 78 feet below the bottom of nearby Fairy Lake.

With regionalization,



VINCE SUFFOLETTA
A pump hose was added and the Prospect Park well was tied in with Acton's distribution

system, water plants engineer Vince Suffoletta said.

TASTE PROBLEMS
However, all was not well. There were taste and odor problems, and complaints about staining on piping and clothes being laundered with the water. Resultant tests showed the water to be heavy in iron and manganese, and the well has since been closed.

Over the last two years, the public works department has completed a study solving the problem of high manga-

nese and iron contents. They can treat the water and control the levels successfully, plant operations manager Don Morrier says.

Now the question is, how much water can be drawn from the well without affecting other water sources, including neighboring Fairy Lake?

The Prospect Park well is actually what is called an aquifer, an underground river of water, continuously flowing, fed by rain and snowfall, percolating through the porous

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FAST BREAK

The Grey Cup may have held more people's attention, but there was also fast-paced action behind the Herald parking lot, Sunday afternoon. Ten-year old Derrek Tibbitts' one-on-one attack is thwarted by goalie Shane Walkem, 7, in a game of ball hockey. (Herald photo by Chris Aagaard)

Three contenders for mayor's job

By CHRIS AAGAARD Herald Staff Writer
Assuming there are no challenges to the unofficial "straw poll" taken last week, Pete Pomeroy will begin his duties as regional chairman Dec. 7 and automatically resign as Mayor of Halton Hills.

Already a number of people have expressed an interest in taking over as Halton Hills' chief executive officer, either by appointment or municipal by-election.

shortages of administrative space.

SAVE ISSUES
Coun. Knechtel argued that election issues should be saved until all councillors campaign in two years. He suggested that an election now, while the town is in the midst of budget preparations for next year, would be untimely and "unfair to the taxpayer and candidates."

As of presstime Tuesday, veteran councillor Mike Armstrong remains undecided about whether he wants to be Halton Hills next mayor.

Town council veterans such as Marilyn Serjeantson and Harry Levy told The Herald Monday that they will not offer themselves as candidates for the post;

nor will Coun. John McDonald or Acton's Dave Whiting.

Talking to reporters after his election as chairman, Mayor Pomeroy said he favored the appointment of a new mayor, rather than holding a costly by-election.

During December, Coun. Armstrong will be the town's acting mayor.



RUSS MILLER



ROSS KNECHTEL



RIC MORROW

No date set for decision

Georgetown's Ric Morrow, a former councillor and regional chairman, confirmed last week that he'll run for mayor if there is a by-election, or he'll seek council's support if council chooses to appoint a new mayor.

Equipping Coun. Russ Miller announced that he is also interested in the mayor's job. He told The Herald following Mayor Pomeroy's 12-10 second ballot victory over Oakville's Carol Gooding, that he isn't "about to let anybody else walk into the job".

THIRD CONTENDER
And a third contender, Acton area Coun. Ross Knechtel said Monday that he's interested in taking charge for the remaining two years of the term if council chooses the appointment option.

In a prepared statement, Coun. Knechtel said the about-to-be vacated mayor's seat should be filled as soon as possible. If chosen as mayor Coun. Knechtel said he would not be a candidate for "any position" on regional council in the 1985 municipal elections. He said he'd rather see the estimated \$50,000 it would cost for a by-election used to fund an independent study on whether it is best to expand the Trafalgar Road town offices or build a new municipal complex to solve

By CHRIS AAGAARD Herald Staff Writer
No choice has yet been made as to which Monday night council meeting will decide how the mayor's position will be filled.

While councillors agree that the mayor's job is an onerous one, requiring an allotment of time most are not prepared to give right now, they differ widely whether an appointment or by-election is better for Halton Hills.

Acton Coun. Rick Bonnette told The Herald Tuesday he supports holding a by-election. The majority of people he's talked to aren't concerned about the estimated \$50,000 it may cost for an election, he said.

"If there were three months, or six months or even nine months,

I'd probably favor an appointment," he said, "but not when there's still two years (of three) left in the term."

Coun. Bonnette described the costs involved as "a cheap investment in democracy."

More than one by-election could be held, depending on who wins the mayor's seat. If a regional councillor is chosen mayor, his vacated regional position would be filled by appointment, likely from among local councillors.

The vacated local council seat may in

turn, be filled by an election.

Coun. Harry Levy, a senior Georgetown councillor, favors appointing a new mayor, fearing an election may break "continuity" in the knowledge of the town's finances and policies.

Supporting an election, Georgetown Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson agrees that \$50,000 is a small price to pay for upholding the democratic process.

Coun. Dave Whiting speculated last week that council would seek a by-election.

Dog day afternoon

It was with an NSF cheque that a dog was bought from a Lot 16, Concession 7 resident. Halton regional police

have issued a warrant for the arrest of Andrew Dinkin, 20, of Willowdale for false pretenses. The man wrote a cheque for \$60.

Everyone's 'good neighbor'

By CHRIS AAGAARD Herald Staff Writer
After 11 years, Roma Timpson is stepping down as the best "neighbor" a lot of Georgetown families ever had.

She's made sure that needy Georgetown residents have been able to enjoy a wholesome Christmas dinner and have had food throughout the holiday season, thanks to her "Good Neighbors Service".

Mrs. Timpson's now turning over her duties as Good Neighbors coordinator to Siena Van Hoekelen, a Mill Street, Georgetown resident. But she'll remain dedicated to the annual campaign, helping to manage the inflow of cash, food products and,

even toys for children. She took charge of the charitable operation from the late Walter Gray. At that time, it was known as the Georgetown families ever had.



ROMA TIMPSON
Christmas Welfare Fund, but Mrs. Timpson changed the name to more accurately reflect the people receiving the bushel baskets of vege-

tables, fruit, meat and canned and baked goods.

RECIPIENTS
"Not everyone of the receivers is on welfare," Mrs. Timpson said when The Herald contacted her Monday. "Sometimes they are just out of work because of sickness or lay-offs. All are desperate but proud people."

Using lists of needy people provided by the region's social services department, Mrs. Timpson and her army of volunteers end up making about 70 to 80 baskets of food, and they do their best to provide for needy people they find out about through word-of-mouth.

The Good Neighbors Service has become a community event, as much a part of Christmas locally as decorations downtown and school Christmas concerts.

In fact, school children participate by bringing in canned and packaged goods and placing them under a school Christmas tree, Mrs. Timpson said. Service clubs pitch in financially or by joining policemen and firefighters in collecting goods, bringing them to a "headquarters" and then redistributing them to families.

There are some anxious moments, she said, when the campaign first

gets under way. Organizers wonder if the campaign will be as successful as the one the year before, but Georgetowners have never let them down.

This year, Good Neighbors is planning to use space in the Holy Cross Auditorium to sort out the donations. (For information on how to contribute to the campaign, call 877-3235).

The Good Neighbors Service hopes to hold its pick up of goods from schools Dec. 14. Sorting goods begins shortly after and delivery should be held Dec. 23.

Annual toy drive

The Kinetite Club of Georgetown's annual Christmas Toy Drive is underway once again, with many local groups already collecting new or nearly new toys for needy area children.

The Toy Drive, held in conjunction with The Good Neighbour Service has been a Kinetite project for the past eighteen years and each year the Kinetites are amazed at the generosity of local citizens.

If your group is collecting toys and books this year please contact the Kinetites so they can be certain there is as good a response as there has been in the past.

Toys can be dropped off anytime at the home of Kinetite Joanne Stiles, 25 Heather Ct., (877-0722) or at the office of Arthur F. Johnson Real Estate on Guelph St., (877-5165).

Santa letters
Santa's eagerly awaiting letters from all his young friends in Halton Hills and once again this year he's asked The Herald to forward his mail.

When he sends back his answers we'll write them in the newspaper.

Concert tickets

During the Saturday and Sunday night performances of Sing Gloria, the audience will be invited to sing along with the choir on a number of popular Christmas carols.

Both concerts will be held in Knox Presbyterian Church—and not the John Elliott Theatre—to take advantage of the church's large pipe organ.

Organizers advise not waiting to buy tickets at the door—there's no guarantee any will be left. Tickets can be purchased from choir members, at Georgetown's Oxbow Books, Main Street, or by calling 877-6839.

They are \$5 each for adults and \$3 each for senior citizens and students. Group rates are available.

WHAT'S INSIDE

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- Sports**
The North Halton Golf and Curling Club will host the OCA Junior playdowns in December, and they just may have a winning rink. See Sports Page B1 for the details.

ABOUT THE HILLS

Motorist napping

A motorist was caught napping in the southbound lane on Esquesing Township's Eighth Line, north of Steeles Avenue.

The 32-year old Mississauga man had stopped his car, left the motor running and fallen asleep on the steering wheel. A citizen noticed the dozing man and attempted to wake him without success. When police arrived on the scene, they had more luck waking him.

Girl hit by truck

A 13-year old girl is in good condition at Milton District Hospital after being struck Saturday afternoon by a 1976 Ford pick-up truck.

Jo Ellen Woyndlowicz was taken by ambulance to hospital where she was treated for major injuries. She sustained undetermined injuries including an injured leg, according to the hospital's nursing supervisor.

The girl was one of three young girls attempting to cross Sideroad 15 near Highway 25, when a truck travelling at approximately 25 kilometres per hour attempted to stop, but wasn't able to in time.

There was \$500 damage to the front end of the truck. No charges have been laid.

Man charged

An 18-year old woman who came to pick up her 22-year old common-law husband Saturday after midnight was struck in the face by him.

The Bramalea man was charged with minor assault following the dispute at Mill and Main Streets. He appears in Milton provincial court Dec. 19.



BEATING THE WAY
This front line of drummers from the Guelph Royalaires Drum Corps gave an impressive performance at Acton's Santa Claus parade Saturday. On an otherwise hazy day, the drum corps, along with Acton's own Citizens' Band, provided a colorful musical backdrop. They drew the attention of Matthew Bunt.