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Home Newspaper of Halton Hills - Established 1866

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1985

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## Car crash kills four from Acton

The families and friends of four Acton women killed in a two-car collision Saturday morning will be closing the year 1985 on a dark note.

Funeral services are being held today (Tuesday) for a grandmother and three teenage girls in Acton.

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church is to hold a 9 a.m. funeral service for Pauline Gordon, 49, of RR2 Acton, and an 11 a.m. funeral service for Susan Lidbury, 19, of Poplar Avenue.

A funeral service is being held at 1:30 this afternoon for two 17-year olds, Jeanette Lamberink of R.R.2 Acton and Terry Vanderlaan of Peel Street. The service is being held at the Beth-El Christian Reformed Church on Highway 7 in Acton.

The four died Saturday in a tragic two car collision just before noon on Highway 7, two kilometres west of Trafalgar Road South.

Milton OPP said the 1979 Dodge Omni being driven by Susan Lidbury slid out of control and into the path of a 1978 Pontiac driven by Frederick Gordon, 51, husband of the deceased woman.

Police said the road with snow covered and slippery. Blowing snow made visibility poor at the time of the accident.

In the Gordon car was also another passenger, seven year old granddaugh-

### False alarm

The Town of Halton Hills have been getting some calls from worried residents, but all for naught.

Town Treasurer Ray King says a provincial ad notice about assessment appeal deadlines isn't for Halton Hills. The ad is meant for those people in outlying areas not affected by Sec. 63, he said.

Halton Hills residents will be getting their tax assessment forms Jan. 8 and will have until March to appeal them.

ter Tanya Louise Gordon of Acton's Willow Street. She's in satisfactory condition at Georgetown Memorial Hospital.

Fred Gordon was taken to Peel Memorial where his condition is listed as stable.

Another survivor of the crash was Denise Looyenga, 17, of Mowbray Place in Acton. She was a fourth teenager in the Lidbury car. Originally taken to Peel Memorial Hospital Denise was transferred Sunday night to Toronto General Hospital where she is in critical condition with multiple injuries.

The four teenagers were members of the young people's group at Beth-El Christian Reformed Church in Acton. They would meet Sunday nights and Tuesday evenings.

"They were pretty normal young girls, except they were believers and that's the comfort the parents get from this," Christian Reformed Church's Rev. Dirk Miedema told The Herald.

He said Susan worked at Acton's Canadian Tire Store but was looking forward to starting a new job in the new year with a Mississauga accounting firm.

Jeanette was a student at Sheridan College and Terry was working at a Georgetown factory. Rev. Miedema said. Both were well known in Acton and Georgetown Christian Reformed Church communities because they went to the Toronto District Christian High School in Woodbridge.

Pauline Gordon was a mother of four, and active in the St. Joseph's Parish.

Milton OPP called the crash the worst one of the holiday season and said most of the accidents have been cars going into ditches.

"These things can happen any time, if you get the right weather conditions and two vehicles being in the wrong place at the wrong time," an officer said.

## MARA is happy with lobby gains

It looks like a happy holiday season for the town after all. The threat of an Ontario Municipal Board hearing, which has been hovering over town council, has disappeared - for a time at least.

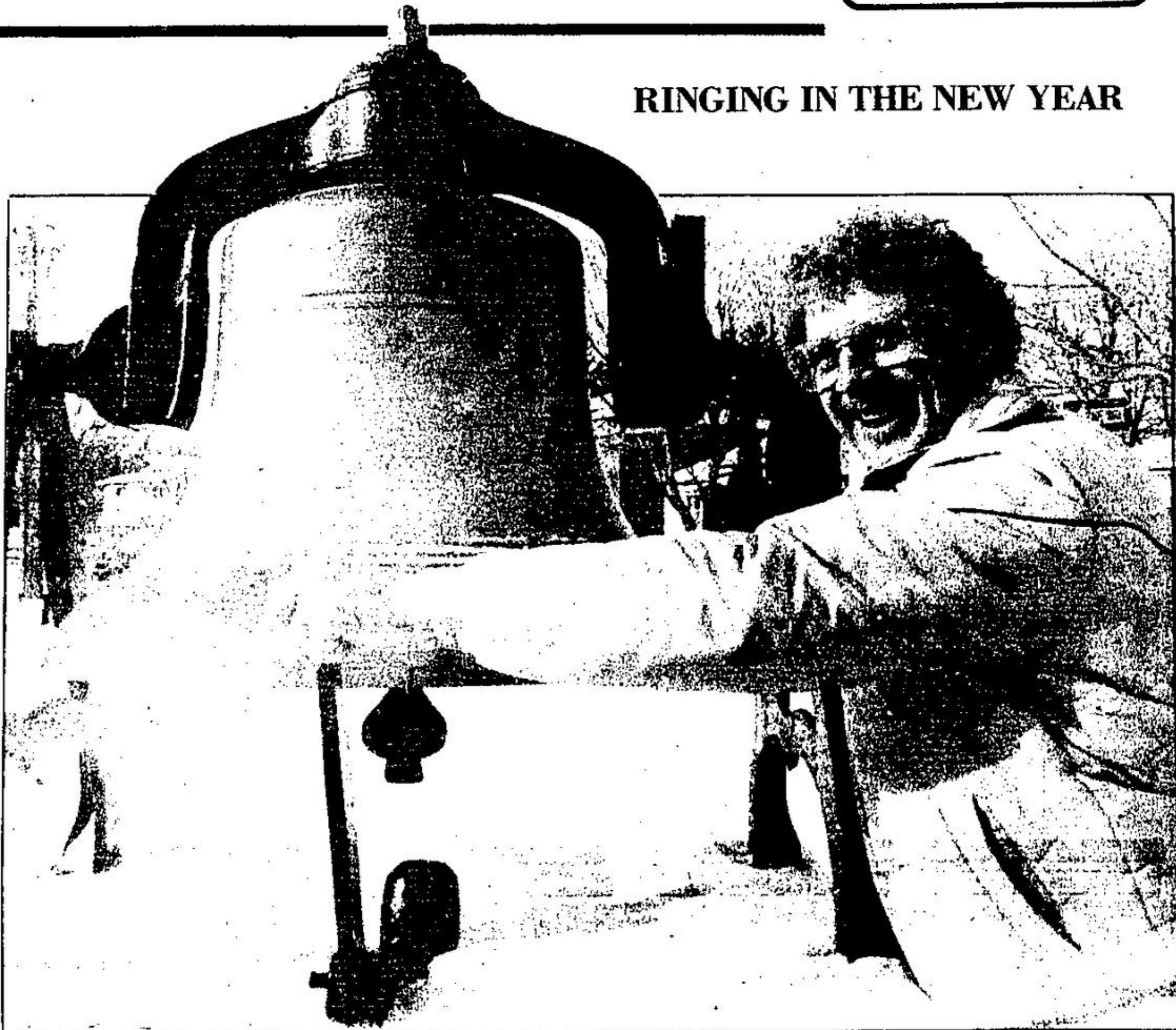
The Mountview and Area Ratepayers Association (MARA) has been satisfied with the draft plan conditions meted out for Enterac Development Corporation, according to member Gord Benner.

"They said they would do a study for us on the current traffic and the effects of future traffic on this area," Mr. Benner told The Herald. "With that, we agreed; hey, this is a step in the right direction for the existing residents of Georgetown."

He said that if the group isn't pleased with the study, they always can return to their option of an OMB hearing. However, for the time being, there will be no OMB hearing, Mr. Benner said.

The change in perspective for MARA was noted by the regional chairman last Wednesday.

Peter Pomeroy said the president of MARA, Brian Mann, had phoned to say his concerns had been resolved and that he was satisfied with the draft plan conditions, just before the council meeting at which regional approval was given to the same. He said the group had planned to be a delegation at regional council.



## RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR

Plug your ears and join in the celebrations New Year's Eve, because there's going to be a party. In Acton, Citizen of the Year Henry Kroes (seen

here) will be ringing in the new year at the town hall. Meanwhile, in Georgetown, Citizen of the Year Steamer Emmerson will do the same honors at

Knox Presbyterian Church. New Year's Day there will be a Levee, hosted by Mayor Russ Miller and the Town of Halton Hills. Come out to the

Library-Cultural Centre Jan. 1 from 2-4 p.m. Everyone is welcome. (Herald photo)

## Acton residents protest water woes

By ANI PEDERIAN  
Herald staff

Over 270 Acton residents have signed their name to a petition demanding answers to the water supply shortage in Acton.

The petition is a follow-up of a meeting held back in September by Acton citizens and officials.

Although it's unclear who is responsible for the petition, Mike Kinal of Home Hardware in Acton said he had a hand in it along with Paul Neilson of Neilson's Clothing, also in Acton.

Mr. Kinal, an Acton businessman for the past 14 years, said the petition was supported by the Acton Chamber of Commerce and the Business Improvement Area.

"We can't grow without water and we're not progressing," Mr. Kinal said. "When I came to Acton 14 years ago we were as large as Milton. Now look at where Milton is and where we are."

The Acton businessman feels the hold-up for additional water sources for the town isn't at the regional level but at the Ministry of Environment level.

"All we want is answers. We don't want to be just brushed aside. We've waited long enough," Mr. Kinal said. "I feel the Liberal rep owes more to the community than just a vague letter."

Mr. Kinal was referring to a recent letter he received from Halton-Burlington MPP Don Knight that left him still unsatisfied.

He and other area residents asked Mr. Knight to speak on their behalf to the Ministry of the Environment back in September.

Mr. Knight's response states he has sent a letter to the Ministry of the Environment and that the province is studying the situation.

"It's very easy to say that to shut us up. That's political rhetoric," Mr. Kinal said. "I feel he should be doing a little bit more for the community."

Attempts to contact Mr. Knight before press time were unsuccessful.

The Acton businessman is happy with the work of the regional engineers on the town's behalf. He endorses their proposal to draw water from Acton's Fairy Lake, and thinks that supply should be enough for the town to have

some additional growth.

The proposal is currently awaiting Ministry approval.

Mr. Kinal feels the lack of water for additional residential and industrial development is robbing Acton of its vitality, with many shops in the downtown unable to survive with a population of only 7,000 to draw upon.

"I'm open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. to attract the people who work out of town, to maintain the profit level I had six years ago," Mr. Kinal said. "Our taxes, hydro and heat are going up, but our sales remain the same. You must increase volume to maintain the same level of profit."

The Home Hardware store used to be open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., but Mr. Kinal increased the store hours in hopes of drawing the resident commuters into his shop.

Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller is more optimistic about a near settlement of the water shortage problem in Acton.

He told The Herald Ministry staff have been meeting with regional staff to iron out problems in using Fairy

Lake water.

Beardmore Tannery, who own the lake, has posted an objection to use of the lake waters by the town, Mayor Miller said.

As a result, the original intention of drawing one million gallons of water daily from the Fairy Lake well has been reduced to using the well as a back-up supply of one-quarter of a million gallons daily.

The mayor said Beardmore is afraid the water level of the lake will be lowered and has indicated it will hold the Ministry of the Environment responsible if that occurs.

"There's nothing that can't be settled with negotiations, so I'm sure this is going to be resolved," Mayor Miller reassured.

He pointed out the maximum development possible in Acton is 10,000 people because of the sewage capacity Black Creek can handle.

The mayor said before any development can proceed in Acton there needs to be a resolution of the boundary study for the town's urban area. He anticipates that will be achieved early in the new year.

## Halton police solve more crimes in '85

News about crime in north Halton for 1985 is mixed. There were slightly more crimes committed than in 1984, but the percentage of crimes solved is up, Detective-Sgt. Roy Smith said.

1985 was also the year computers and 911 were introduced by the Halton Regional Police. Crime prevention programs have helped police do their job better too.

Over the entire region crime has decreased slightly, but in the north it was up slightly. Detective-Sgt. Smith believes a population increase is the major cause for the crime rise in the north (Milton, Acton and Georgetown). Police are, however, solving more

crimes this year. For instance, in 1984 they solved 31.7 per cent of break and enters. This year they surpassed their goal of 37 per cent. "By Dec. we were in the high 40's (per cent)," Detective-Sgt. Smith said. More crimes are being solved in all areas of criminal activity, he said.

The installation of the HEART computer service should help maintain this trend. Police records are now on computers which are also linked with other forces and national police agencies. All this means quicker access to information.

The staff is learning how to operate the computers which were installed

late in the year, but once they are trained "there will be a savings in man-hours," Detective-Sgt. Smith said.

Bringing 911 to Halton is another time-saving advance introduced this year. Time wasted searching for police, ambulance and fire station numbers is over. Now residents can just call 911.

"These are tremendous strides. There is not much money for new men. Good management and technological change are the only ways to assure we can improve efficiency and give taxpayers good value for their money," Detective-Sgt. Smith said.

Three crime prevention projects in 1985 have helped reduce crime in problem areas. The region reduced frauds by teaching businesses to get the proper information from those they do business with. In the last part of 1985 there was a reduction in frauds.

So too, has there been a decrease in the number of stolen cars. Through the Lock It or Lose It program the police have made more people aware of the importance of locking their cars.

Rural community Neighborhood Watch programs have helped reduce the number of break and enters, which were up in 1984, Detective-Sgt. Smith said.

"An increasing presence in Acton has deterred loitering in Acton and strengthened police support with the people," Detective-Sgt. Smith said.

That was a goal of the police this year.

Success in solving crimes has been assisted by a decrease in the number of lengthy investigations, which require more manpower, Detective-Sgt. Smith said. There was one homicide in District 1 this year. It was fully investigated in less than a week, he said.

Thefts and attempted murders were up. There were 11 robberies and three attempted murders. All but one of the robberies has been solved and

the robbers arrested. "We (the north) lead the region in serious crime categories," Detective-Sgt. Smith said.

There has also been an increase in the number of sex crimes against children. Detective-Sgt. Smith does not know whether it is an actual increase or whether more people are reporting them. The public service agencies are reporting more crimes against children than last year.

An increasing population will mean more men should be hired, he said. "To match the economic growth, which means more people to protect, we will need more resources to maintain our product," he said.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR