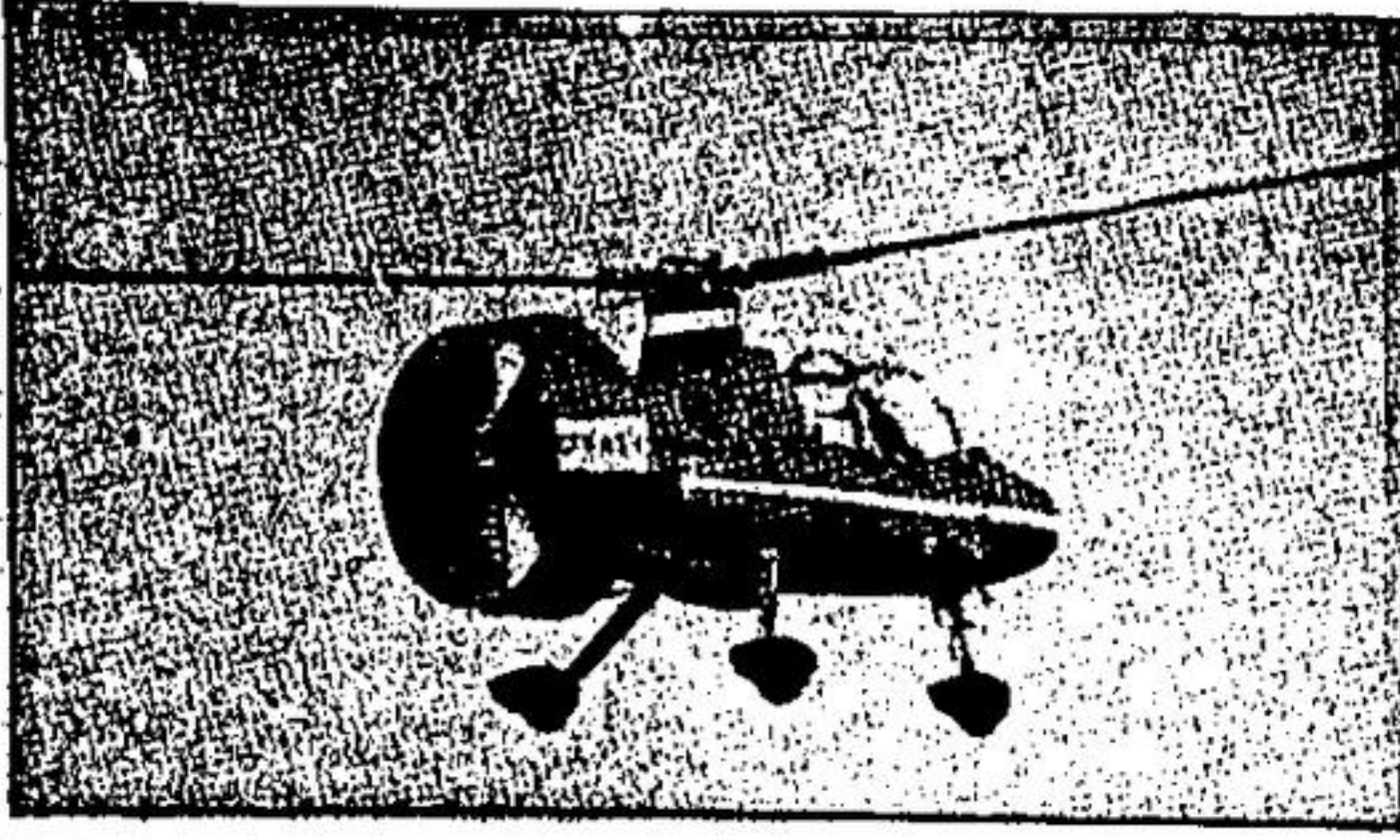


# Georgetown gyrocopter deserves a place in history



The Georgetown gyroplane deserves a place in Canadian aviation history, a Mississauga man says.

Also known as a gyrocopter, the first prototype in Canada was developed in Georgetown and tested in 1960 by former employees of A.E. Rowe Ltd.

The Georgetown Gyroplane called the Avian 2/180 passed the test during test flights, but a lack of financing and market interest couldn't warrant producing the "air car" on a large scale. A Mississauga man is hoping to have an Avian model, made in Georgetown, placed in the Ottawa Aviation Museum.

Ken Kuebel is a member of the Toronto Roto-craft Club and he is building a gyroplane in his basement.

For the past four years he has been researching the development of the gyroplane, built by Georgetown's Avian Industries Ltd.

"I plan to contact the Ottawa (aviation) museum to see if they are interested or will support the project in any way," he says.

In the meantime, Mr. Kuebel is collecting information on the Georgetown gyroplane, called the Avian 2/180.

Although searching through old newspaper microfilms, he is also hoping to contact people in the area who might have been associated

with the project.

The gyroplane is part airplane, part helicopter and part autogyro. As writer Roy Shields explains, "To understand what Avian's designers are up to, one has to go back to 1920, when a Spanish engineer, Juan de la Cierva, first began experimenting with the autogyro. Stated simply, lift on a wingless autogyro is accompanied by having a rotor above the airframe spun by the force of air passing over its blades."

"This occurs as the aircraft is pulled (or pushed) along in flight by the thrust from a conventional engine and propeller. Air spins the free-wheeling rotor blades just as wind turns a windmill."

\$200,000 spent on research, the 17 former Avro employees successfully tested their prototype in 1961.

In the spring of 1960 the first gyroplane crashed during taxiing. By the end of 1963 over 300 hours of flying had been done on the gyro. At one point Avian had over 400 prospective orders for the gyroplane and the company wanted to produce 500 in their first production year.

However, Avian employees struggled to find financing for their aircraft company.

The Canadian and American military authorities viewed test flights of the Avian gyroplane. At the time, the machine would have been priced between \$17,000 and \$20,000. (See A4 for additional story).

**SPORTA SALES LTD.**  
853-2030  
Check out our **free Lifetime Service Guarantee**  
Lifetime Service Guarantee

# the HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Established 1866

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1986

"Canada's Largest Leather Store"  
the **olde Hide House** **OPEN SUNDAYS**  
(519) 853-1031  
"It's Worth The Drive To Acton"

## In the hills

### Santa comes to Acton

Santa will be coming home for Christmas in Acton this year on Nov. 22. The Acton Firefighters Association (AFA) is preparing its annual Santa Claus parade with the theme "Coming Home". AFA Chairman David Ford said thus far three bands and seven floats have confirmed their participation in the parade which will begin along Acton Boulevard, continue down Mill St. towards Main St. and end near the old Acton Free Press building. The AFA will be entering its own float this year, Mr. Ford said.

### Industrial loans

Don Knight, M.P.P. for Halton-Burlington, announced this week information regarding loans and loan guarantees made by the Ontario Development Corporation during the last fiscal year.

"The Halton Hills area will receive some \$575,000 which it is estimated will create approximately 37 jobs," said Mr. Knight.

Five firms in the municipality have benefited from these loans and guarantees.

"...these loans and loan guarantees will help to stimulate industrial growth, economic development and employment opportunities in the Halton Hills area," Mr. Knight said.

### Citizenship class

If you're interested in citizenship classes, the Oakville Multicultural Council offers them, free. You can register for the four week program by calling 842-2486. Applications for Canadian citizenship are being taken by appointment only at the Oakville Multicultural Council office between 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Nov. 19 and Dec. 3 and call 842-2486 early to book your appointment.

### Teachers needed

The Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department requires instructors, starting in January, for the following upcoming winter programs: fitness, aquatics, leadership camp, ski bus supervisor. Interested people should pick up an application form from the Recreation and Parks Department office, 25 James Street, Georgetown or at the Acton Arena. Call 877-5185, ext. 260, for more details.

### Chamber sign repairs

The elements haven't been kind to the business directory sign on the corner of Guelph and Sinclair Streets in Georgetown.

The Georgetown Chamber voted Thursday to have the sign taken down, re-painted and installed about 200 feet from the corner.

The sign needs a new coat of paint. Chamber president Marg Tanas called the sign an "embarrassment".

### Guest missionaries

The Georgetown Christian and Missionary Alliance Church will be holding its annual missionary convention from Nov. 28 to Nov. 30. Members and guests will hear from two of the many missionaries in the field, Miss Lois Belsey and Rev. Bruce Edwards. Anyone wishing more information should call 877-9818 or 873-0269 or 877-3537.

### 300 new clients

The CNIB Halton-Peel, a district office of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind is pleased to show appreciation to its many volunteers, Board members and supporters.

CNIB Appreciation Night will take place Nov. 21 from 8-10 p.m. at the Credit Valley Hospital in Mississauga.

The evening will feature special presentations for outstanding service, entertainment by blind and visually impaired performers and a display of aids and appliances.

When the office in Mississauga opened in 1979 there were 500 clients known to the agency. By mid-August 1986, this number had grown to over 1200. By the end of 1986, it is predicted that over 300 new clients will approach the CNIB Halton-Peel for service.

The volunteers who provide driving, friendly visits, reading, administrative and financial support will be honored at this special event.



### Sleepytime

Having a mid-morning sleep was a little easier Nov. 12 for students of the Horby Co-op Nursery School.

The school had a pajama party with the theme Day and Night. Seen here are (left to right) Katherine Meyer,

Neole Robertson and Michael Neath. (Herald photo)

## PLAYING WITH FIRE

### Changes required to improve safety of Regional museum

The Halton Region Museum is playing with fire, literally.

According to an architect hired to look at expanding the museum building, a lot of work needs to be done to bring the existing building to Fire Code regulations.

In a letter to the museum, Christopher Borgal expresses "strong concern" over the existing safety conditions at the barn, which is the main building of the museum.

"I feel it is a professional obligation on my part to inform you at this early date of substantial deficiencies with respect to this structure which may place the Region in a position of severe liability," Mr. Borgal writes.

The building lacks adequate fire exits. As well, there is no proper exit hardware on the emergency exit doors. There aren't adequate exit identification lights and emergency lights.

Of most concern is the fact there is no fire separation space between the existing furnace and the rest of the building. Indeed, the furnace room

also doubles as a staff room.

Acquired 20 years ago, the furnace is most likely on its last legs and if failure occurred in the heat exchanger or other equipment, "the results could be disastrous," Mr. Borgal warns.

As for the monthly spraying of insecticides to control the busy carpenter ants in the building's frame, this spraying could have harmful health effects, the architect points out.

Washrooms are inadequate for the number of people who visit or work at the Museum, and keeping the upper floors above 62 degrees is not and cannot be done, Mr. Borgal says.

He has noted a shift in the west foundation wall which may indicate movement in the structure because of seismic activity caused by the blasts at the nearby quarry. There is also damage to part of the chimney and falling stones from the roof, as a result.

"As the Fire Code provisions are

the most stringent, we advise that you contact your local fire department representative to determine what courses are open to you to relieve the Region from potential liabilities. This should be done immediately," Mr. Borgal urges.

The Region's Chief Administrative Officer, John Fleming, has asked the Museum Curator to meet with a representative of the Milton Fire Department to figure out how much work will have to be done to permit continued public use of the building.

If it's decided to limit access to the museum, it would mean public functions booked in the museum like Christmas parties, will have to be cancelled.

Already 1,200 Halton students are booked for the museum's Christmas Education Program. Curator Ernie Buchner wants as little disruption of the school program as possible. It's taken him and his staff several years to build up teacher support of the museum program.

## Over Sheldon's remarks

# War zone at council

Council broke out into a war zone Monday as members lashed out at Coun. Pam Sheldon for her remarks to newspapers last week.

She was criticized for voicing her disappointment about a closed-door vote choosing an architect to design the new town hall.

"I had certainly hoped we wouldn't get a barrage in the newspapers about this," Coun. Betty Fisher charged. "We interviewed eight very fine architects."

The decisions were made in a professional manner, without nepotism, favoritism and were handled with conscience and thought, Coun. Fisher said.

In a 8-2 recorded vote, C.A. Ventin Architects of Simcoe was chosen over Sankey Partnership Architects of Acton.

Norm Elliott, who voted with Coun. Sheldon against the contract to Ventin defended the right for councillors to speak their mind.

"The press knew there was unhappiness; the press obviously contacted other minority opinions. Don't go back and tell anyone on council they don't have a right to dissent," he said.

But that's not the point, said Coun. Fisher. "Private words taken out of a private session" were discussed, she said.

Coun. Lillian Bowman felt it was wrong for Coun. Sheldon to say the decision by council was "hasty".

"I don't like things like this in the paper. I don't like it when people take council in vain," she added, angrily.

The town complex is a public project, using public funds and information should be available to the public, Coun. Sheldon said.

She told fellow councillors she stood by her remarks of last week and made it known she didn't take kindly to "threats".

"I'll put you on notice you're not going to muzzle me because I have an opinion," she said. "I'm accountable to the taxpayers, not to the other 12 members around this table."

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson said she was shocked with what she read in the paper last Wednesday. She said she was impressed with the council procedure and felt the process was democratic.

Maybe some of the councillors wanted to get home, but after 11 hours, the decision was not "hasty", Coun. Bowman said.

"I am sick and tired of this grandstanding just to get a few extra hundred votes," she added.

Coun. Rick Bonnette remarked about the irony of Remembrance Day just past and the soldiers who

fought for freedom and freedom of speech. "This is democracy and this is 1986," he said.

If council feels the press is slanting a story, then they should take their disagreement up with that newspaper, he said.



Norm Elliott



Pam Sheldon



Betty Fisher



Lillian Bowman

Coun. Fisher said she wished to see an end to "this despicable tirade", referring to last week's story. The newspaper article, Coun. Pam Johnston said, made council's decision look frivolous. "I was appalled," she said.

Councillors from in-camera, or closed-door sessions, are leaking information, Coun. Johnston said.

By not talking to the press, "I come out looking like a jerk because I'm following the process," she said.

One person talked to her but couldn't get any information. Then that person went to two other councillors and was able to get the information.

## Stop for Glen

An engineer's report recommends that a stop sign be placed at the intersection of Tweedle and Mountain Streets in Glen Williams.

Also, yield signs at the intersections of Tweedle and Glen Crescent and Tweedle and Forster Street are necessary to improve traffic safety, the report indicates.

The report was made after concerns were raised about the safety of children in the area.

## Numbers speak out

# Teenagers need homes

It does not take a mathematical genius to calculate that Halton has failed to house its homeless. The numbers speak for themselves.

Two years ago, Halton social service agencies documented 1,000 requests for shelter. However, only 401 requests were met; 201 finding accommodation in Halton, and 190 being transported outside the Region.

What is also painfully obvious is that most of those who requested shelter were youths; persons under 25, single, and with no dependents.

Between March 1 and August 1 of 1986, Halton Adolescent Support Services (HASS) received 145 requests for shelter. All of these requests came from youths, and 67 per cent were made by students.

"There are many myths about the homeless," explains Mark Degner, co-ordinator of the HASS Room and Board Housing Network, "the two most common being that homeless people do not want to work, and that

they are carefree hobos who like their lot in life. But nothing could be further from the truth."

A survey of Toronto's homeless revealed that more than 80 per cent had worked within the last year, and a higher percentage wanted to one day own their own house. In addition, many had been victims of family breakdown, and an increasing number had found themselves disadvantaged by larger socio-economic trends.

The same characteristics describe Halton's homeless. As Mr. Degner explains, "most youths do not choose homelessness over family life; they choose to live on the street out of default - not having a healthy family life in the first place. As well, youth employment has, since about 1981, risen dramatically, increasing the need for low cost accommodation at a time when the housing supply has fallen.

"As a result, we are seeing a variety of adolescents who are in

need of housing - some with backgrounds of sexual, physical, or emotional abuse, and others who are just feeling the pinches of unemployment, and a low vacancy rate."

In their attempt to address the housing crisis, HASS has developed a Room and Board Housing Network for youths 16-24. Each boarder is assigned a qualified HASS worker to help develop essential life skills, while landlords/ladies receive the benefit of having their boarders screened, and are given on-going support by both the agency and other Housing Network landlords/ladies.

Public response to the program has been good, with homes being made available in both Georgetown and Acton, but there is still a desperate need for more accommodation. Anyone interested in helping youth is asked to call HASS at 639-0025 collect.

—Courtesy Halton Adolescent Support Services



## Mad hatters

Lakeside Chapter of the IODE bazaar held at the Acton Legion Saturday afternoon. (Herald photo)

Joey Markle, 7, (left), and Wesley Harris, 6, shade themselves with a Mexican sun hat big enough for two. These youngsters were at the