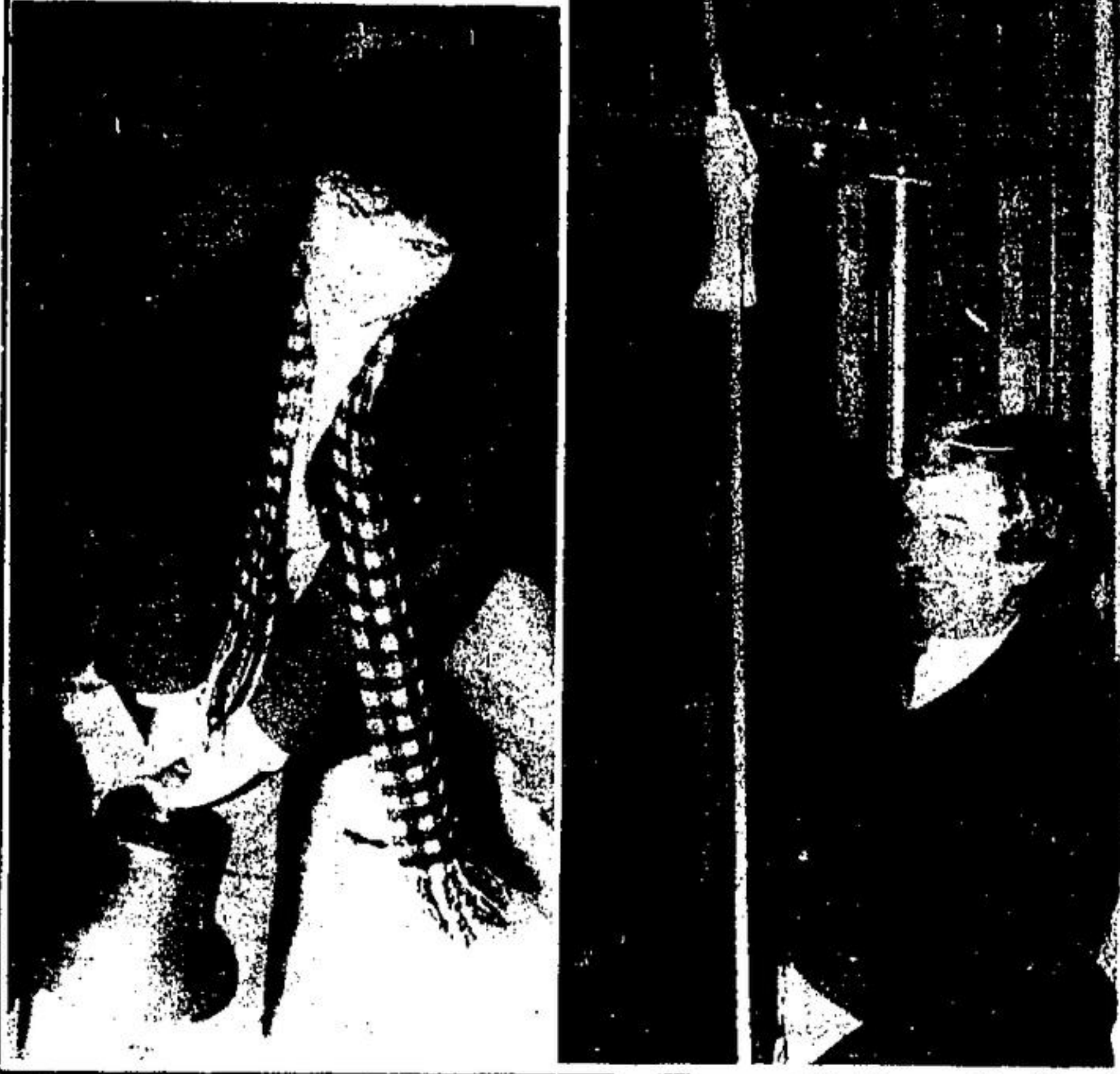


The bell tolls on New Year's Eve

Tracy Hagan (below) of Acton took her turn trying to ring one of the more portable bells that were at the Acton Town Hall on New Year's Eve. Meanwhile, (right) the Acton Citizens of the Year, the Royal Canadian Legion members, represented by Len Shone, Harry Norton and Lili Higgins rang in the new year, pulling at the large town hall bell rope. (Photos by Stewart Bartels)



In the hills

YBA begins
The YMCA Youth Basketball (YBA) program begins this week. All the other Y programs will begin the week of Jan. 12 for the winter season.
The programs include: special Preschool activities for children ages 18 months to 5 years, Playschool for children aged 2 1/2 to 5 years, Judo, Gymnastics, Babysitter's Training for schooled youngsters, and Fitness for adults.
There are spaces in all the programs. Phone 877-6163 or come in to the Y at 89 Mountainview Rd. S. and register.

Joint choirs
NORVAL-Joint choirs of the Norval and Union Churches led a large congregation in the 7:30 p.m. carol service. The Christmas Eve service was held in the Norval Presbyterian Church.
The young people of the two churches acted out skits on the true meaning of Christmas and read the scriptures between the carols.
A presentation to Gerry Murphy on her retirement as organist and choir leader of the Norval choir concluded the evening.

Christmas service
NORVAL-Huttonville United Church was filled to capacity for the family Christmas-Eve service at 7 p.m.
Families taking part were: the Gary Knechtel family, the Wilson Fraser family, the Gordon Higgins family and the Alex Watson family. The service was planned and conducted by assistant minister Hugh Heid.

Name change
The North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded is considering following of the lead of similar organizations and changing their name.
They are asking members to decide whether it is necessary and to come up with suggestions for a new name. The Canadian Association and smaller associations for the mentally retarded have changed their names.
At annual meetings of the Ontario Association name changing has been debated. The NHAMR is interested in your opinion. Those with suggestions for a new name can submit them by calling 877-5557.

Archbishop talks
The new head of the Anglican Church, Archbishop Michael Peers will be preaching at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday services this weekend at St. George's Anglican Church. Everyone's invited to come hear Archbishop Peers. A luncheon will follow the last service. The Archbishop was bishop of Regina until elected to his new post in June 1986.

Simon Fraser
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Family in Florida when home destroyed

By SANDY CAMPBELL, Herald Staff
While a Ballinfad area family was in Florida their home burned down Dec. 30.
Georgetown, Acton, Erin and Hillsburgh fire departments were called to the Fifth Sideroad west of Trafalgar Road at 10:30 a.m. Damage to the home is estimated at \$150,000, said Brian Ritchie, chief of the Erin Fire Department.
By the time firefighters arrived the fire was burning strong. "The back windows had already blown out allowing air to come in and the fire to burn even faster," Chief Ritchie said.
Nobody was in the home at the time. The fire, believed to have started in the kitchen, is being called accidental. The exact cause is unknown. Investigators presume the fire was smoldering all night, Chief Ritchie said.
The owners of the home, Joseph and Valerie Joy, now live in Naples, Florida. They moved to Naples in July and will remain living there. The house was for sale.
People in the Ballinfad area would know the house for the beauty salon, Valerie Joy's Beauty Salon, which was a part of it. The salon closed last summer and is now the

only part of the house still standing. The home was on a 10-acre lot and had an indoor swimming pool in addition to three bedrooms and three bathrooms. It was selling for \$189,000, said Marie-France Brossard, a real estate agent for Arthur F. Johnson and Associates in Georgetown. The house, described as rustic, had some furniture still left inside, said Ms. Brossard. It was mainly larger things, such as beds and dressers.

The Halton Hills department sent two tankers, and two pumps to the fire. "It was one of the more major blazes in 1986," said Bob Hyde, deputy chief of the Halton Hills Fire Department.
Firefighters left the scene at 4:30 p.m. after six hours of work.
The Joy's planned to return to Canada to settle insurance claims, Ms. Brossard said. They have three sons aged 13 to 21 years old.

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Owners of restaurant, inn oppose new muffler shop

Neighbors objected to a proposal to put up a number of car repair shops next to the Georgetown Motor Inn on Highway 7, Monday night, at a public meeting.
Property owner Nelson Lipani wants the 4-acre property rezoned to highway commercial so he can have a muffler shop, a radiator repair shop, an automobile lubrication shop, an automobile rust-proofing shop and an auto-glass replacement and repair shop built.
If you didn't make it to the public meeting, you can still submit written comments to the town on the proposal, but they must be received by Jan. 15. Jan. 19 town staff will report on the public meeting and written submissions in a report to general committee. Councilors will debate the application then, and you can also request to appear as a delegation at the meeting.

Solicitor for Mr. Lipani, Bert Arnold, said the muffler shop would be the principal tenant, taking up one-third of the property.
The Halton Hills Official Plan designates the land "Highway Commercial", although the land was zoned back in 1977 for "no other purposes than a motel or motor court".
Speaking against the proposal was Charles Dray, co-owner of the Georgetown Motor Inn.
He said when he bought the Motor Inn, he had his lawyer put an encumbrance (lien) on Mr. Lipani's lot, that anything built on it would have to be complementary to the Motor Inn.
"This is in the deed of the parcel of land," Mr. Dray said, although Mr. Arnold said he had no knowledge of it.
"In hospitality, I don't think the

patron will appreciate sleeping in an area covered in carbon monoxide. There are already two muffler shops and Capital Ford in the area," Mr. Dray said.
Ken Tooby of Guelph Street said he and other residents living across from the Motor Inn objected to having an auto shop there. There are enough car repair shops in town, he said, and expressed fears there'll be car parts left all around.
Noise and unsightliness were his other concerns.
Le Chateau lawyer Gord Chapman said the restaurant owners find an auto shop incompatible with the hospitality business. A concrete block building which looks like it belongs in an industrial park is objectionable to his clients, he said.

"It doesn't fit in with the motif of serving the travelling public who are staying at a motel or eating out," Mr. Chapman said.
Mr. Dray noted his encumbrance also specified no building higher than 13 feet could be allowed on the Lipani property. The proposal is that it be 10.7 metres tall.

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