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Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Established 1866

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 1987

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It's Worth the Drive to Acton!

In the hills

Truck fire

A truck parked at Lefrink Disposals on Highway 7 between Acton and Georgetown received \$22,000 damage after it caught fire shortly before 4 a.m. June 11. Fire Department officials say the fire started because of an electrical failure in the engine area. The truck was not turned on at the time.

Attempted murder

A 28-year-old Georgetown man faces charges of attempted murder and aggravated assault stemming from a bar-room dispute in Caledon on May 23.

The man will face a preliminary hearing in Brampton Provincial Court at 10 a.m. on Jan. 15, 1988.

Caledon OPP say a 26-year-old Caledon man received a stab wound to his left shoulder in the dispute at Michael's Tavern on Highway 10 in the village of Caledon shortly before 1 a.m. May 23.

A second victim, an Orangeville man, received wounds to his neck and chin when he stepped between Mr. MacDonald and the Caledon man in an attempt to halt the dispute. The Caledon man refused hospital treatment at the time, the OPP said.

Education grad

Kimberly Joan Stewart of Georgetown, recently graduated from the University of New Brunswick with a degree in elementary education. The Fredericton-based university held its 158th Encaenia May 21 at the Alken Centre, with 1,370 students receiving degrees at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

The address was given by Thomas Enders, former American ambassador to Canada, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree.

\$435 profit

Open Door would like to thank all those people who supported the car wash on Saturday, June 6th as well as sponsors, Georgetown Co-op, Burger King, Miracle Mart and Home Hardware. The car wash was a success and raised a profit of \$435.00.

Boy hit

A nine-year-old Acton boy received minor injuries when he was struck by a car at Mill Street and Wilbur Street in Acton at 7:10 p.m. June 12. Police say a 1981 Buick was travelling eastbound on Mill Street when the boy darted across the road and was struck by the car. David Lee was taken to Georgetown District Hospital by ambulance where he is listed in satisfactory condition on Monday. No charges were laid in the incident.

'Neighbors' meet

Acton residents are invited to a Neighborhood Watch information seminar June 24 at the Acton District High School from 7-8 p.m. Neighborhood Watch is a group of neighbors that watch out for each other and report suspicious activity. It is a community crime prevention program designed to reduce the opportunity for crime to occur in the neighborhood. Take the time to become involved and learn about home security, suspect identity and crime reporting.

Stairs open house

There will be an open house to congratulate Acton's Rev. Jean Stairs on her coming marriage to Dr. Rev. Wayne Sobie June 20.

The location is the Acton Baptist Church and the time is 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. All are welcome, best wishes only.

Rev. Stairs will be married Oct. 16 at the James Street Baptist Church in Hamilton. She will preach for the last time in Acton Oct. 25. The Minister is also pursuing a Doctorate at the Toronto School of Theology in the fall.



Riding the range

The life of a cowboy was full of adventure, freedom and danger. These three students at Joseph Gibson Public School had the chance to dream about cowboys and Indians during Western Days at their school last week. Seen here are (from left) Scott Ezekiel, 8, Tara Nord, 9, and Joanne Meek, 10. (Herald photo by Dave Rowney)

SEARCH FOR TRUTH

... causes conflicting information

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Attempts to get at the truth about a proposed application for an Acton dump gave Halton Hills Coun. Pam Sheldon more "conflicting information," last week.

At the conclusion of the Regional planning and public works committee meeting, Coun. Sheldon aired her frustrations over months of what she called "shadowboxing" with the proponents of the dump.

Late last month, Terrence Godsell of Shieldings Incorporated addressed Halton Hills council for the first time on the proposal to develop a landfill on quarry lands owned by United Aggregates Ltd.

His version of the steps taken thus far in the process did not correspond with what she had been told by others, Coun. Sheldon said.

She asked the Region's Chief Administrative Officer John Fleming if he had been asked to keep confidential information shared by Mr. Godsell at a February meeting with Mr. Fleming, former PC cabinet minister Claude Bennett and Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz.

"At that meeting, I was led to believe they had asked the content of that meeting to be kept confidential," Coun. Sheldon said. "I want to know if that was the case."

Mr. Godsell has said there was no request made for secrecy.

Mr. Fleming said he didn't remember, but was willing to go back to his notes to check. That first meeting on the matter was held prior to the information hitting the newspapers. It was the day before the Region's own preliminary hearing board took place, Mr. Fleming said.

Burlington solicitor Michael McQuaid spilled the beans on the dump proposal at the Region's preliminary meeting of the hearing board.

Milton Mayor empathised with Coun. Sheldon's frustration. He said his reaction had been guarded at the February meeting. When a letter from Mr. Godsell followed a week later, Mr. Krantz said he sent back a letter making it clear he wasn't endorsing their proposal.

Then came a thick document with preliminary feasibility information on the proposal.

"I do know it was marked confidential," Mayor Krantz said. "Why that type of approach, I really

don't know. Was it divide and conquer with respect to the area municipalities?"

He said it disturbed him because he wasn't sure if they were trying to get Milton pitted against Halton Hills.

Although Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy wasn't at the February meeting, he said confidentiality is something Regional staff give as a matter of respect to anyone they meet with.

"I wouldn't authorize confidential meetings between our staff and other people that would undermine a member of this council, but meetings go on between staff and proponents all the time before council is aware of them," Chairman Pomeroy said.

Coun. Sheldon also wanted to know when the Burlington solicitor was hired to represent Burlington at the Region's landfill hearings.

Burlington Coun. Joan Little said he was hired at least two years ago.

At his presentation to Halton Hills councillors, Mr. Godsell said Mr. McQuaid walked the Acton site and was briefed on the proposal in October 1986, prior to Mr. McQuaid realizing he had a conflict of interest on the matter.

"I cannot imagine somebody approaching our solicitor to act for them... it would never occur to me

someone of a professional calibre would take him on an opposing landfill. That's crazy," Coun. Little exclaimed. She said she would be inquiring further into this.

On another vein, Burlington Coun. Walter Mulkewich said the Halton or Milton solicitors should have informed the hearing board of the Acton proposal. When they didn't, Mr. McQuaid had to do it, realizing the potential of this information.

Chairman Pomeroy said it was unfortunate Mr. McQuaid did that, calling it premature.

"If the Regional solicitor raised that issue with the information he had at that point in time, there would have been hell raised," the chairman said. "Any one to raise it obviously had more information at that point in time than the rest."

Oakville Coun. Liz Behrens also disagreed with Coun. Mulkewich saying it shouldn't have been brought up at the preliminary hearing board.

"It is a non-issue until the time it is brought as an application. You can't deal with something that is floating around," Coun. Behrens said, questioning why Burlington chose to make it a public issue.

Coun. Sheldon said the actions of the proponents to date have been "terribly underhanded" and whether purposely or because they are inexperienced, she didn't know.

Backyards in danger of slipping further

Backyards at 61 Irwin Cres. and neighboring properties are in danger of being lost, says a geotechnical report undertaken for the Credit Valley Conservation Authority.

Triton Engineering Services Limited of Orangeville says fill placed over the crest of the slope to create the lot at 61 Irwin Cres. in the early 1970's is unstable and will eventually shift downslope. Although the house at that address isn't an imminent danger of failure, the surrounding soils at the back and sides of it are.

Authority staff have asked Triton

to do a preliminary engineering study of slope stabilization adjacent to Irwin Crescent and Metcalfe Court. The geotechnical firm of Peter MacCallum Limited will act as sub-consultant. It was involved in the original slope instability investigations. This preliminary engineering study is estimated to cost \$40,750.

The study will examine and recommend remedial measures to stabilize the valley slope of Silver Creek adjacent to Eden Place, Irwin and Dawson Crescents, and the valley slope of Metcalfe Ravine adjacent to Metcalfe Court, which includes 32 lots.

Dr. Ford supporters

Protesters cancel out

An "information meeting" scheduled by supporters of Dr. Jack Ford for June 18 (Thursday) has been cancelled due to "inappropriate" timing.

Group spokesman Paul Dougall said Tuesday the meeting may be rescheduled after the June 25 annual meeting of the Georgetown Hospital Board of Directors.

"The timing was rather inappropriate for the (information) meeting," Mr. McDougall said.

The intent of the meeting was to discuss the quality of patient care, the possibility of open board meetings and to discuss board accountability, a June 12 advertisement in local papers said.

Asked if hospital board members were going to be present at the meeting or what forms the discussions would have taken, Mr. McDougall replied "I'm not at liberty to divulge that."

Mr. McDougall is a member of a citizens' group which met recently with hospital board members protesting the lack of reasons for the dismissal of Dr. Jack Ford. Because of a pending Ontario Hospital Appeal Board hearing, the Georgetown hospital has not been willing to divulge specific information about the withdrawal of the doctor's hospital privileges.

Meanwhile, supporters of Dr. Ford have purchased a number of memberships from the hospital corporation, allowing them access to the annual general meeting.

Single one year memberships cost \$5 and lifetime memberships cost \$50. Anyone who bought memberships after May 25 will not qualify as members for the June 25 meeting.

Meanwhile, Councillor Al Cook doesn't think the Georgetown hospital board is keeping something from the public, when asked by The Herald, he replied, "I don't think so."

The town council representative resigned May 27 saying the closed door meetings were the motivating force behind his decision, Coun. Cook did not make a public declaration of his resignation. The news of his decision was published last week.

He could not point to any specific incident which led to his decision to quit.

"They shouldn't be perceived as showing something is being kept from the public," Coun. Cook said of the board. He said opening board meetings would not solve the whole problem but it would help.

He said roughly 60 per cent of the hospital board's dealings justify closed door meetings. He would like to see the same standards used by council applied to the hospital board for closed meetings, such as litigation, personnel and property matters.

The board has 17 members with four of those positions to be filled at its annual meeting June 25.

A majority vote by the board could open board meetings but Coun. Cook said he could not say if the board intends to open future meetings to the public. Neither would he say if he would return to the board if the meetings were opened to the public.

Coun. Cook said he had attempted to get the board meetings opened up but he could not say how or when the attempt took place because the activities of the board are confidential.

High turnout expected for hospital's AGM

The Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital board of directors is expecting attendance to be "more than usual" for its annual general meeting.

The June 25 meeting at the Bennett Health Care Centre is expected to be crowded with supporters of Dr. Jack Ford. Dr. Ford had his hospital privileges revoked by the board April 7. Since that time, a protest group has encouraged its members to buy annual or life memberships enabling them to attend the annual meeting.

Hospital Executive Director Mark Rochon said to date there are in excess of 650 life and annual memberships. However, he said the hospital wasn't able to break down the number of memberships which had been purchased during the past month. However, the board is expecting more members attending June 25 than in other years, he said.

The board hasn't a reaction to the resignation of Coun. Al Cook May 27 because of the director's refusal to open their meetings to the public. Mr. Rochon said the board hasn't had a chance to discuss the resignation. The hospital bylaws ask for three councillors to sit on the hospital board, said the executive director. Two are from town council and the other represents Halton Region. The board can operate with two councillors on the board and it will be up to the town to appoint another representative, he said.

People will be able to ask questions at the annual meeting under "other business" indicated on the agenda, Mr. Rochon said. However the questions must be "reasonable," he said. "If it doesn't put any party at any disadvantage I suspect we can answer it."

The hospital board had no prior knowledge of an advertisement which appeared in the Friday edition of The Herald, called Outlook. The ad mentioned an information meeting concerning issues at the hospital and was sponsored by the Dr. Ford support group. The meeting has since been cancelled.

Father's Day bulletin

On Father's Day, June 21, Church bulletins in Halton Hills will include Big Brother inserts to promote Big Brothers. The agency appreciates the help of clergy and other church staff in making sure that these inserts are included in this special day's bulletins.

Big Brothers of Halton asks the congregations to think seriously about the request for more Big Brothers. At present, there are 32 unmatched Little Brothers who need a Big Brother, and the list is ever increasing. These boys, between the ages of 6 and 16, come

from father absent homes. They feel this absence of a father at all times, but particularly on Father's Day. So while you celebrate Father's Day with your family, think for a moment about a young boy who has no father or other male role model to enjoy this day with.

The agency also wants mothers of eligible boys to contact the agency and complete an application form.

For further information, call the Oakville office at 845-6456 or the Milton office at 878-4756.

Alliance church takes shape

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Handsome drawings of the church building the Georgetown Alliance Church intends to build on Eighth Line (Main Street) just south of Maple Avenue, are now ready.

The two-floor 11,000 square foot building is still awaiting approval of rezoning and site plan applications by the town.

Building was to begin this month, but has been rescheduled for late September or early October, said Laurie Kemp. He's a member of the church's public relations committee.

He expects the rezoning application to be approved in mid-July, and the site plan in mid-August. Town staff are currently working on both applications.

If construction begins in the fall, Mr. Kemp anticipates the church will be ready for Christmas. Building should take three months, he said.

The new home for Alliance members will have a sanctuary that seats 350, 11 Christian education classrooms, and a large fellowship hall downstairs which could eventually be used for day care.

At a slight angle to Eighth Line, the church has lots of long windows

allowing for natural interior lighting. It is to have a mansard roof with brick and siding exterior in earth tone colors.

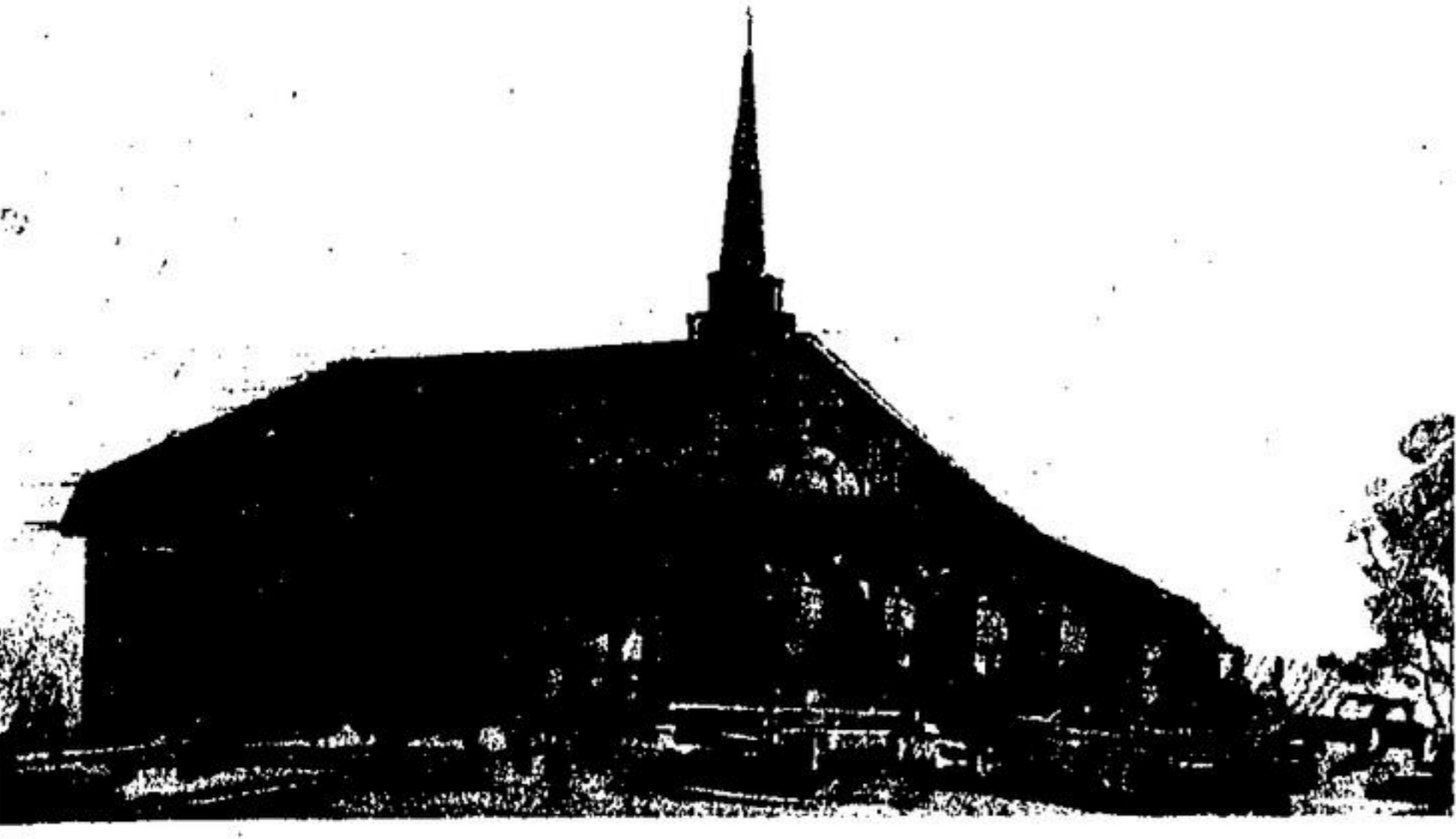
Mr. Kemp said the mansard style roof appealed very much to church members. It's a style not used much, he said.

The church is also to have a large foyer outside the sanctuary. Mr. Kemp said it'll be like a lounging area where members can visit after church.

Provision has been made for an elevator in order that the handicapped will feel comfortable attending church functions, Mr. Kemp said.

There aren't any plans for the remainder of the land yet, he said.

The architect for the building is David McAuley of Guelph. His design incorporates provincial requirements of day care centres, so the building can easily accommodate that development.



This two floor building is to be the future home of the Georgetown Alliance Church. Church members are hoping to begin construction this fall, with it concluding in December. The church site is on the Eighth Line near the Fifteen Sideroad. (Herald photo)