

Voliger



Vacationland!!

Sharon Bessley (centre) won The Herald's trip for two to Jamaica contest held in September and October. Sharon's name was drawn Dec. 12 by Herald Advertising Manager Carl Sinke (right) from "thousands and thousands" of entries. The trip, valued at \$1,300, was organized through Golliger's Travel, Golliger's Manager Suzanne Dey looks on as Sharon flips through the brochure describing her upcoming days on sunlit, sandy beaches. (Herald photo)

Murray Laird Norval historian fondly remembered

By KAY WILSON
Herald Special

NORVAL-Sincere sympathy is extended to the Laird family on the death of Murray Laird who passed away at the Georgetown hospital Dec. 29. Mr. Laird is the beloved husband of Marion Webb and dear father of Elaine (Mrs. Robert Crawford) and Peter Laird, both of Norval, and the late Patricia and Ian Laird.

He is predeceased by sisters Olive McKinney and Bessie Lorimer and brother A.M. (Mac) Laird. Mr. Laird is the loved grandfather of Kelly Crawford, Leane Nacent, Shannon Crawford and grandfather of Luke and Mark Nacent. Funeral and committal was from the J.S. Jones Funeral Home, Georgetown Dec. 31 at 2 p.m. and a cremation followed.

Murray was one of Norval's favorite old timers and he enjoyed reminiscing as much as everyone enjoyed listening. He was a naturalist who enjoyed bird watching, an agriculturalist, who enjoyed working with the good earth.

But most of all, he was a historian. He talked about Norval's yesteryears: the Mill days, when Noble's Mill was the hub of the village, along with the many shops that made Norval the thriving village it was in the "good old days".

Murray will be sadly missed by his many friends and neighbors.

NORVAL NEWS

Belated greetings

NORVAL-Belated birthday greetings to Kate Laidlaw who celebrated her 88th birthday Dec. 23 at the home of Gord and Rosie Laidlaw with a family party. Also birthday wishes to Pearl Burt who was surprised with a birthday cake at the Dec. 14 euchre meeting of the Pinegrove Community Club.

Travel the easy way by hosting a student

Interculture Canada, a not-for-profit organization administering international exchange programs, has officially launched its host family recruitment campaign in Ontario.

Celebrating its tenth anniversary, Interculture Canada has this year targeted the placement of 195 students across Canada, from as many as 35 different countries. Through this programme, Ontario residents may now enjoy the rewards of hosting a young foreign student, aged 15 to 18, as a full family member for close to a year.

Thanks to Interculture Canada, those welcoming a part of the world into their home can also look forward to an experience tailored to their own family profile. Interculture Canada carefully selects students from a large pool of applicants, and, through sensitive family-matching procedures, makes every effort to ensure a harmonious and positive climate for exchange. This way, families and students not only discover their similarities, but also enjoy the richness of their differences.

Each year, hundreds of families live a wonderful experience. One host parent of a Finnish student explained, "It's like looking at the world through a different set of eyes. We've let her become part of the family and now it's as if she always lived with us. It's going to be really tough when she goes home in July."

The programme is open to all family types: two parents with children, single-parent families, young, older or childless couples - all are welcome. The pleasures of hosting largely

rest on the acceptance of the student as a member of the family rather than a guest. This is, in fact, what the student is taught to expect. Host families, however, are not asked to absorb any outstanding expenses for the student beyond the housing, food and incidental expenses they would for their own teenager.

As a member of AFS Intercultural Programmes, Interculture Canada is part of the world's largest network of high school exchange programmes operating in 74 countries.

Families interested in obtaining more information about hosting a student may call toll free 1-800-361-7248, or write to Interculture Canada, 59, rue St-Jacques, Bureau 700, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 1K9.

Car flips

A Halton Hills woman was treated and released from the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital following a single-car accident which caused \$10,000 damage to a 1987 red Honda, New Year's Eve at 2:50 p.m. The Honda, driven by a 44-year-old, was travelling northbound on the Eighth Line when it lost control on the icy road surface. The car veered to the right, colliding with a steel re-inforced mailbox. As the driver's door collided with a cement retaining wall, the car flipped onto its roof coming to a rest in a private driveway. Damage to the mailbox and post was \$100.

Pest control called to prevent rodents parading our streets

By BRIAN MacLEOD
Herald Staff

Rats are playing havoc with residents in the Delrex Boulevard-Edward Street area.

Council agreed Monday to comply with a request by Delrex Boulevard resident Craig Gray to hire a pest control service to eliminate the rats.

Bylaw Enforcement Officer Bob Ustrzycki said there is evidence of rats on at least five properties in the area. The rats are burrowing in and around the properties and there is evidence that the rats are now nesting, said Mr. Ustrzycki.



Bob
Ustrzycki

sistent pest control. It needs more than just a "shotgun method", he said. "If you don't get them all, they'll migrate to another nearby area."

Halton Health Unit Supervisor Neil Pattullo said the new infestation is the second case of rats reported this year. In September a rat was killed on the driveway of a Sims Gate home.

Mr. Pattullo said rats can do "a fair bit of damage" if they burrow extensively underneath homes.

There is evidence of burrowing under at least two garages, a shed and a doorstep, said Mr. Pattullo.

A professional pest control service will put poison bait into the holes to kill the rats, said Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Ustrzycki said the town does have the authority to enter onto residents' properties to inspect possible causes of rat infestation with "reasonable, probable grounds" for suspicion of the cause.

He argued against taking that action now because there is still not clear evidence to prove the compost pile from the table waste is attracting the rats.

Council passed a motion to hire a pest control service and to further investigate the source of the infestation "until concrete conclusions are reached."

In one case, a resident's garage floor is starting to cave in because of all the burrowing underneath the floor, said Mayor Russ Miller, who viewed the property recently.

The problem was first reported Dec. 24 and the Region's Health Unit was called in to investigate, said Mr. Ustrzycki.

The Region is still unsure whether the rats naturally migrated from a nearby ravine or if they were attracted by compost, said Mr. Ustrzycki.

The rats may have been attracted by table waste dumped in a garden, he said.

A resident of the area was dumping table waste in the back yard until the Region told the resident to stop.

But there still may be table waste in the frozen ground attracting the rats, said Mr. Ustrzycki.

He warned council to take action quickly.

Oakville had a rat infestation problem in its downtown area, said Mr. Ustrzycki. The rats migrated from the lakeshore area. "It got to the extreme where they were actually coming outside in the daytime and parading up and down the streets," he said to some horrified gasps by councillors.

Rodents can multiply five to six times a year with up to 12 rats in each litter, said Mr. Ustrzycki. Each rat can start breeding six months after its birth, he added.

Mr. Ustrzycki warned councillors that the rat infestation will need con-

Police beat

Icy roads

Icy road conditions sent a 1965 grey Ford into the ditch of the 15th Sideroad near the Third Line at 11:10 a.m. Dec. 31. The car, driven by a 22-year-old woman, was travelling eastbound on the 15th Sideroad when it lost control while negotiating a "S" curve and slid into the south ditch. The vehicle flipped onto its roof and came to rest in a northern direction. Damage to the Ford was \$8,000.

Impaired driver

Charges of impaired driving were laid following a two-car accident Dec. 27 at 10 a.m. on Maple Avenue and Guelph Street in Georgetown. A 22-year-old Georgetown man was driving his 1966 black GMC eastbound on Maple Avenue when he began slowing his vehicle to turn left into the Holy Cross Church. A 1967 blue Dodge, driven by a 42-year-old Georgetown man, collided with the rear of the first vehicle. Damage to the Dodge was \$2,500 while the GMC received \$2,500 in damages.

Resolutions . . .

Continued from page A1

Ireland and Afghanistan," he said.

Personally Mr. McDermid plans to continue serving his constituents as best he can and if there is an election in the new year to get re-elected. As well, the MP will try to keep his weight down. "That is a constant, constant battle," he said.

Mayor Russell Miller has no resolutions for the new year but he

does have lots of dreams. "I never make them," he said, "probably because I never keep them." The mayor does have a few aims for the new year. Mr. Miller said he wants to keep the budget very responsible and to try and keep service at a level Halton Hills' residents have become accustomed to.

Personally, the mayor wants to try and spend more time with his family.

Hydro offers land behind backyards to town residents

Halton Hills Hydro will soon be offering land behind houses in two different areas in Georgetown for sale.

Residents in the McIntyre Crescent and Chelvin Drive areas of town who own property which abuts land currently owned by Halton Hills Hydro will be able to buy the land.

Ontario Hydro is selling property to Halton Hills Hydro containing an easement originally designated for a now abandoned Electric Railway Line from Toronto to Guelph, said Ontario Hydro Property Administrator Dave Ellis.

Halton Hills Hydro will then offer the lands for sale to abutting residents.

There are two separate sections which were turned over to Halton Hills Hydro effective Jan. 1, said Mr. Ellis.

One section borders on Chelvin Drive, Flamingo Court and Delrex Boulevard. The other section borders on McIntyre Crescent, Norton Crescent, Bairdow Crescent, Rexway Drive and Gibbons Place.

Former Halton Hills Hydro Commission Chairman Murt Allison said the land will be offered for sale but he could not say when or how much it will cost.

Letters have been sent out to residents owning property abutting the land and two information meetings were held in November.

Hydro lines running through the property will be torn down in the spring, said Glen Broomhead, a spokesman for Ontario Hydro.

Halton Hills Hydro will erect hydro lines in other areas to carry the electricity currently channeled through the lines on the easement, said Mr. Broomhead.

He said Halton Hills Hydro is trying to decide how to sell the land without creating a checkered pattern of ownership if some residents decide not to purchase their abutting land.

The transaction is all part of a provincial scheme carried throughout the late 1970s into the '80s. The province ordered Ontario Hydro to transfer all assets concerning distribution of electricity to local hydro offices, said Mr. Broomhead.

The current easement was transferred in April, 1980 but it has never been formally complete until now, he said.

He could not say how much residents will have to pay for the land. Hydro's governing legislation says it must sell the land at "fair market value", said Mr. Broomhead.

Hydro Commissioner Doug Mason said there are also some lots suitable for building along the route but he could not say where they are located.

Mobile home park plan

Developer Al Pilutti wants to put a mobile home park on 117 acres of land on the Sixth Line behind the town's administrative offices.

Mr. Pilutti is going to work with the town's new Affordable Housing Committee to study the project.

Mr. Pilutti says he has permission to put estate homes on the land but he is interested in developing affordable housing.

A one bedroom apartment costs about \$120,000 and the cheapest house costs between \$130,000 and \$140,000, said Mr. Pilutti.

Mr. Pilutti said he considers affordable housing to be in the \$70,000 to \$75,000 range.

Councillor Pam Sheldon said the proposal faces problems concerning its distant proximity to services, a lack of water in the area and stiff opposition from residents of the Sixth Line.

Mr. Pilutti said he is willing to develop just one half of the lands if residents complain. He also said there is enough water there for the proposal but he is willing to apply to the Region to ask for expansion of water services to the park.



WANT TO APPEAL YOUR ASSESSMENT?

You still have time to appeal your 1987 assessment if you feel your home or business property has been improperly assessed. Your assessment is important because the amount of property tax you will pay in 1988 depends on it. The assessed value of your property is multiplied by the municipal and school mill rates to determine your property taxes.

Notices of Property Valuation were mailed to property owners and tenants whose assessments have changed since last year. Open house information sessions were held in your area to give you the opportunity to ask questions and correct any errors.

The Assessment Roll was delivered to your municipality on December 22, 1987 and will be used to calculate the taxes you will pay in 1988. You can review the Roll at your municipal office during regular business hours. If you believe your property has been improperly assessed and you have not yet registered an appeal, you still have until January 12, 1988 to mail or deliver your appeal to the Assessment Review Board. And remember, even if you did not receive a Notice of Property Valuation, you still have the right to appeal.

Appeal deadline — January 12, 1988

The Assessment Review Board is an independent tribunal under the jurisdiction of the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General. It is intended to provide you with an additional opportunity to have your assessment reviewed if, in your opinion, it is not fair and equitable with the assessment of similar properties in your area. The Review Board is more informal and relaxed than a regular court of law. You may present your own case, retain a lawyer, or ask a relative or friend to speak as your agent.

To help you in filing your appeal, Notice of Appeal forms are available from the Assessment Review Board, your Regional Assessment Office, or your municipal office. You can also use the reverse side of a Notice of Property Valuation, or write a letter giving the property address and roll number along with your reasons for appealing. Appeals should be forwarded to the Regional Registrar of the Assessment Review Board at the address shown below.

In those parts of Ontario designated for French Language Services, you can appear before a bilingual (English/French) Appeal Board. Please check the space provided on your appeal form if you wish to use this service.



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