

Seniors learn about scams with help from students

By ALAN MACKIE
the Herald

The students' involvement in the Acton seniors night, put on by the Halton Regional Police and the Acton High School, is welcomed by the Acton Village Constable.

Const. Bill Riddle visited the students who will be acting out numerous plays at the April 9 senior's night out.

He asked the students to mingle with the seniors while they are still in make-up because the seniors "like the rest of us, they love attention."

Most of the students echoed Const. Riddle's feeling about looking forward to the plays and working with the seniors.

Const. Riddle also told the students the series of one-act plays will be video-taped and possibly shown on television.

The students are being asked to present the one-act plays depicting real life "scams" directed at senior citizens. The plays will introduce seniors to the phoney bank inspector, the pigeon drop, the purse snatcher, the phoney service man and the gypsies.

Const. Riddle told the students there were gypsies in Acton last year.

The phoney repair man hit on Brock Street, he said. The man, saying he was from Hydro, walked out of the house with a pension cheque, Const. Riddle said.

"I'm not here to scare them (the seniors)," he said.

The class showed Const. Riddle how far they are with the production of the plays.

The show starts at 7:30 p.m. and will run for approximately two hours.

If any seniors require transportation to the high school event they should call the Village Constable's Office at 853-2050. Busing to and from the show will be made available, Const. Riddle said.

The plays were an idea taken from a trip to the United States, Const. Riddle said. He saw a senior's drama club perform skits for other seniors and decided to try a similar event.

He said this is a good way to bring two sections of the community together.

The plays are not only entertaining but help people keep their concentration on the message that is being presented, Const. Riddle said.

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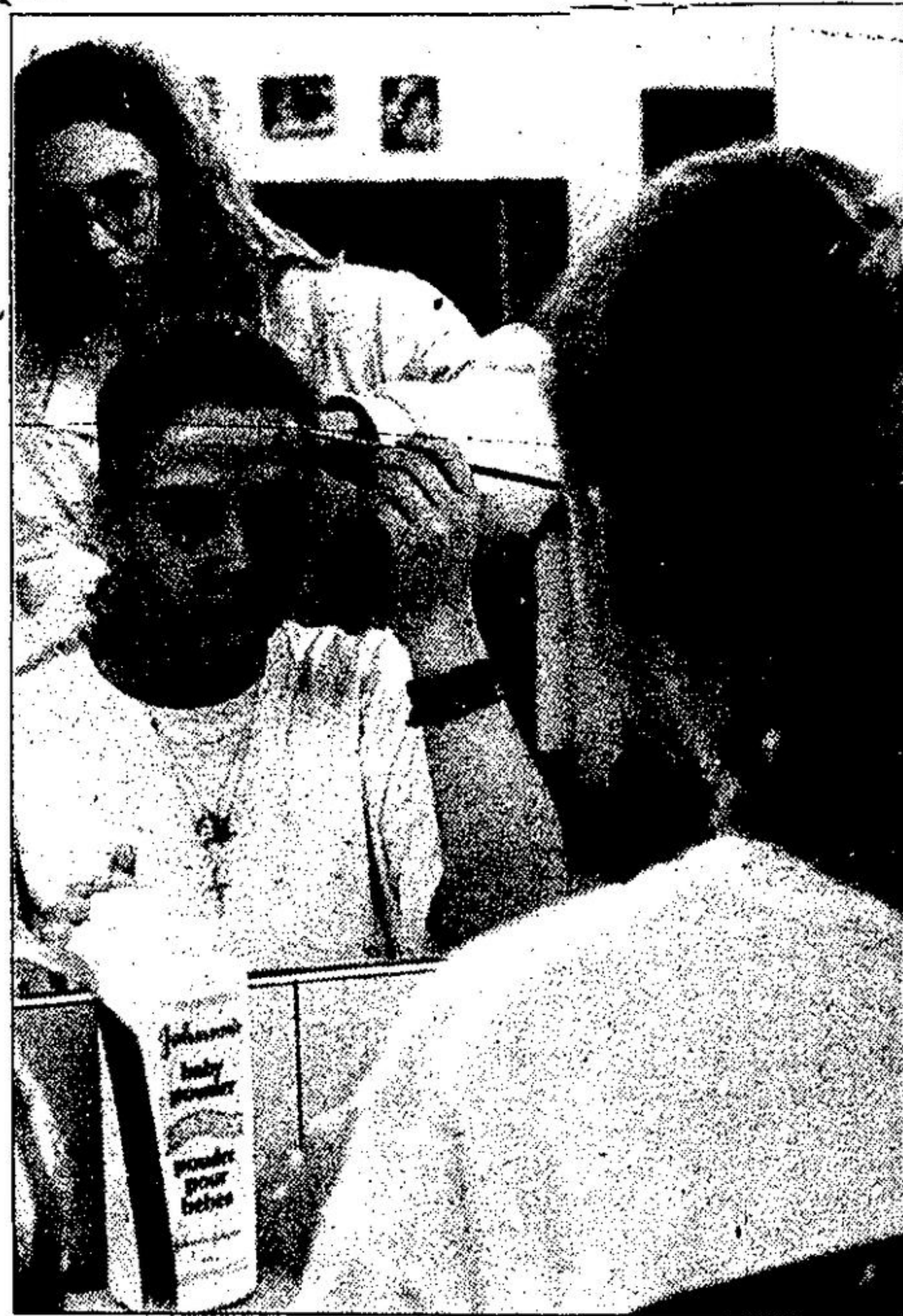
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Creating an appearance of wrinkles, Kim Pumphrey, an Acton High School student, prepares for a dress rehearsal March 23. Jamie Case helped with the rapid aging process of Kim. The plays will be seen by seniors at a night out, April 9, set up by Halton Regional Police and the high school. (Herald photo)

Province tries to clean up tire sites

Ontario Environment Minister, Jim Bradley and Solicitor General, Steven Offer, who is responsible for Ontario's fire code, have announced a comprehensive plan to provide solutions to the problem of large tire storage areas and the recycling of used tires. Under the plan, tougher fire prevention and environmental protection legislation, a massive used tire recycling program, and action to secure and clean up existing tire storage sites will be introduced.

as well as provisions for greater security at tire storage depots. These changes are designed to allow the provincial government to take quick action against potential threats to the environment found at tire storage depots instead of having to wait to react to actual threats.

The environment ministry will invest an initial \$16 million in recycling this year. The money will be used to develop new methods of recycling and to stimulate new products using materials from used tires. It will also be used to secure, clean up and eliminate large tire stockpiles in Ontario, and to underwrite the use of recycled tire rubber in rubberized asphalt paving for roads, walks and parking lots. This initial \$16 million is in addition to \$18 million in government funding, announced last month, for the municipal and industrial 3 "Rs".

The 60 tire-storage sites in Ontario with more than 5,000 tires have all been subjected to inspections during the first few days of March and owners have been ordered to apply for environment ministry certificates of approval requiring security fencing, buffer zones, fire lanes and proper access for fire vehicles. As a further precaution no more than 5,000 tires may be stored in any one pile at a storage dump. This last measure is designed to ensure that if a fire does start it can be quickly confined and prevented from reaching other parts of the site.

The fire at the Hagersville storage site has served as an object lesson for all concerned. In acting quickly the Ontario government has served notice that it will no longer tolerate delays in cleaning up the potential hazard that huge piles of used tires represent.



Walt Elliot
MPP
Halton North
LIBERAL

Proposed changes to the Environmental Protection Act will give the ministry of the environment the power to step in and act where company stalling prolongs a threat to the environment or to the health and safety of local residents. These amendments will require owners of tire dumps to obey environment Ontario Control Orders, even if they have appealed that order. Site owners would have to apply to the appeal board or the courts to win a delay in meeting the contents of a control order.

The Ontario Fire Code and the Fire Marshals Act will also be strengthened to prevent any possible recurrence of the type of fire witnessed at Hagersville.

These changes will deal with such things as improved onsite fire prevention measures and access.

Environment committee to meet on Friday

The next meeting of the Halton-Peel Environment Committee will widen its examination of the issue of garbage - how to reduce it, and where to put it. The committee is sponsored by Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner and its meetings are open for anyone to attend.

Scheduled speakers for the meeting are John McKay, Director of Waste Management for the Region of Halton, and Jane Rowbotham, his counterpart for the Region of Peel.

The Halton-Peel Environment Committee, chaired by Bill Paterson of Acton, is also involved in planning for activities to mark Environment Week - slated for the first week in June. Anyone who would like to be part of this, is invited to attend.

The meeting will take place on Friday, March 30, 7:30 p.m. at the North Halton Golf Club, corner of Trafalgar Road and Maple Avenue in Georgetown.

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