

# Controversy swirls around McNab burial ground

By BEN DUMMETT  
The Herald

The Town of Halton Hills should take over the upkeep of the old abandoned McNab burial ground on Pinecrest Road in Norval, claims Bruce McNab a family descendant.

The burial ground's protection has become an issue because Norval resident Julian Reed has submitted an application to the Town to establish a five lot plan of subdivision in the area of where the burial ground is reported to be located.

Unless the Town takes steps to preserve the burial ground, Mr. Reed's plan could eradicate the plot, said Mr. McNab.

In response to direction from Town planning staff, Mr. Reed has done a geo-physical study to determine the boundaries of the burial ground, and if any bones remain buried on the site.

Contacted Monday Mr. Reed said the study has been submitted to the

province for examination. He didn't know when the results would be released.

He did say some test scrapings had been done, in which top soil was removed in an attempt to find any grave shafts. However none were found, Mr. Reed said.

"However I have reason to believe there is one burial without a headstone on site," he said.

Town Planner Glen Wellings said Monday the McNab burial ground did exist but two questions still remain. One centres on the burial ground's exact location, and the other on whether or not any bones remain buried on site?

Mr. McNab acknowledge's some of the bones in the McNab burial ground were transferred at some point to the Hillcrest Cemetery in Norval. However, he is convinced some bones are still buried in the McNab burial ground.

Dan Costea, Town Administrator, said if bones still remain on site

then the Town is obligated under provincial legislation to oversee the cemetery because it is no longer operated by a congregation or any other group or individual.

According to Mr. McNab, the burial plot dates back to the first half of the 1800's when Captain James McNab received a land grant for his participation in the 1812 war. Aside from the establishment of the a burial plot, the McNab family built a mill, a grist mill and a wooden mill in the area.

In a copy of a letter obtained by the Herald that was sent to the Town dated Oct. 18, 1991, Mr. McNab writes, "I realize that some bones and tombstones were moved to and interred in Norval (Hillcrest) cemetery. Most of the stones were thrown off the cliff down to the river's edge by exuberant teenagers but I am sure many bones are still buried in the plot."

Mr. McNab said there seems to be too many stories going around

concerning the burial plot.

Mr. McNab is referring to the fact it is his understanding records concerning who was buried in Hillcrest Cemetery when it was originally established were stolen several years ago. That being true, it's impossible to know for certain if all the bones buried in the McNab

burial plot were transferred to Hillcrest, he said.

Mr. Reed, however contends these records were destroyed in a fire.

Mr. Reed also said he has a deed indicating the bones buried in the McNab burial ground were transferred to Hillcrest.

# School board plan now in place to deal with inclement weather

Come hail or high water, the Halton Board of Education has a plan for inclement weather.

The board's policy 5000-47 Plan for Inclement Weather dictates exactly what will happen in case of bad weather.

The policy states that the decision to close schools and cancel bus transportation will be made by 5:30 a.m. instead of at 6:00 am. in former years.

Once the decision has been made, the transportation officer will implement the decision beginning with radio communication at 5:45 a.m.

It is the responsibility of the students, staff and parents to listen

to the radio for decision of school closure. Stations are:

-Acton, CJOY 10:40, CFRB 10.10, CKFM 99.9

-Georgetown, CFNY 102, CFRB 10.10, CKFM 99.9, CKOC 11.50, CHFI 98.1

-Milton, CKFM 99.9, CFRB 10.10, CBC 740, CKOC 11.50, CHFI 98.1

When bus transportation is cancelled at 6:00 a.m., it is cancelled for the entire day. Field trip and school-to-school transportation will also be cancelled if bus transportation is cancelled.

The following schools will be designated closed when bus transportation is cancelled for the day: Pineview, Stewarttown, and

Limehouse.

School closure during the school day will only occur when the most severe weather conditions are predicted or occur and the decision to close will be made by 11:00 a.m. with communication to close schools completed by 12 noon.

The policy states no pupils from kindergarten to Grade five will be sent home until parents have been notified. Parents of Grade 6 to OAC pupils may designate their wishes for their sons or daughters dismissal.

The policy for the Halton Roman Catholic School Board is much the same as the Halton Board of Education.



## Certified appreciation

General Manager of Georgetown's Wendy's Restaurant Andy Voelker (middle) is presented with a certificate of appreciation from Ellan Chattem (left), Fundraising Chairperson of the Georgetown Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society

for \$650 raised for the Cancer Society during a car-wash in September and hamburger promotion last month. Also pictured here is Cancer Society President (Georgetown Unit) Paul Armstrong. (Herald Photo)

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