

Group protests heritage loss

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

Old Stone School in Acton is scheduled to be demolished. But a group called Heritage Acton is hoping that won't happen.



TED TYLER

The group, co-chaired by Ted Tyler and Dr. George Elliott, has

drafted a letter to Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller and members of council stating "as a result of it's (Old Stone School's) historical significance, Heritage Acton is interested in its preservation."

Old Stone School has been purchased by the Halton Board of Education for \$80,000 and the board intends to tear the building down and use the site for a possible expansion of Robert Little School or as park land.

The site was originally owned by the board but was sold to the Town of Halton Hills in 1984. Since then, nothing has been done with the building and it has deteriorated to the point that town and board officials deem it unsafe.

Tom Shepard, Town Director of Recreation and Parks, estimates it would cost at least half-a-million dollars to make the building structurally safe and even more to convert it for some use. The building has no heating, plumbing or electricity.

But Mr. Tyler said "you can't put a dollar value on our heritage."

He said the group has been approached by taxpayers who prefer

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the school board not pay \$80,000 for a building and then pay even more money to demolish it.

"There are more constructive ways of using tax dollars, particularly during these times of economic restraint," stated Mr. Tyler in a letter to the Town.

Mr. Tyler believes there are many uses for this building in the Acton community.

He said the Rotary Club has indicated it would be interested in using the school for Scout programs and the local Air Cadet Squadron is also interested in a permanent facility for its programs.

The letter stated "Heritage Acton would be willing to co-ordinate use of the facility by the various organizations and be responsible for the restoration of the building in the same manner in which we successfully restored the Acton town Hall."

Specifically, Heritage Acton is asking council to delay the sale of Old Stone School until the potential use of the building has been evaluated by various groups.

In response, Mayor Russ Miller said the letter will appear before council Monday night, (last).

He questioned whether or not Heritage Acton has considered the financial ramifications of fixing up the building.

"When they were raising money to restore the town hall, they could really put the bite on people to donate money but in today's times, people don't have much money to give" he said.

The deal to sell Old Stone School to the Board of Education is expected to close this month unless council changes its mind.

The old council had voted unanimously to sell the school back to the board.



50th Anniversary

Jane Powers, the Pipe Drum Major for the Georgetown Girl's Pipe Band, plays her bagpipes at Park Public School where the band meets weekly to practice. The band is now practicing for its 50th Anniversary celebrations to be held in September this year. (Herald Photo)

Holly Sones is U.S. bound

By STEVEN LeBLANC
The Herald

For Georgetown District High School student Holly Sones, a talent for volleyball which started five years ago, will now take her across the border to compete with the best university players in the United States.

Eighteen-year-old Holly, a Ballinafad resident, will be attending Arizona State University on a five year athletic scholarship beginning this fall.

"I chose Arizona State because it's in the PAC 10, (Pacific Athletic Conference) because it's the hardest conference for volleyball in the States," said Holly. "For a long time I couldn't decide whether to stay in Canada or go to the States. I went back and forth until about three weeks ago when I decided on Arizona State."

Holly is a member of both the senior Rebels volleyball squad and the Peel Selects rep team. Her specialty is middle hitter.

Before Christmas, she visited a number of universities in the States, including Penn State, Georgia Tech, Indiana, and Arizona State.

"The campus and facilities at Arizona State are just gorgeous," explained Holly.

Holly first became involved in volleyball the summer before entering high school when she went to a camp for the Peel Selects. Since then she has played with the Select team for five years. The team trains in Mayfield twice a week.

Holly was a major part of the Peel Selects winning the Provincial Championship last summer. Her hopes are now that she will make the national team this summer before going off to university in mid-August.

She has also led the senior Rebels to a 9-0 record so far this season and feels the team's chances of winning O.F.S.S.A.A. (Ontario Federation of Secondary Schools Athletic Association) are very strong. Her match averages this season include 8 blocks, 17 kills, seven digs, and two aces



HOLLY SONES

"We have a great team this year," said Holly.

Holly was recently featured in the sports section of the Toronto Star as one of the six best female volleyball players in the Metro Toronto and surrounding areas.

While she is excited about attending university, she realizes there will be a period of adjustment because she is attending a school so far away.

"It will be hard to adjust at first because I'm very close with my family, but I'll be coming home for a month during the Christmas break," she said.

She hasn't nailed down her decision on a major yet but is leaning towards sports science, an excellent program at Arizona State, according to Holly.

It is clear that Holly Sones has carefully decided the best route to take to benefit both her athletic and academic careers.

Whether on or off the court, Holly is a winner and her years of training and dedication to volleyball will soon provide her with an amazing bonus.

Hockey Heritage winner

This year's winner of the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council Award is Herb Robinson, who was a founding executive of both the Tri-County Hockey League and the Georgetown Minor Hockey Support Group.

Mr. Robinson will be officially honored with this award at the annual Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council Award Dinner March 2 at Georgetown's Holy Cross Church Hall.

AN INSIDE LOOK

SECTION 'A'	SECTION 'B'
Police Beat 2	Country News 2
Council & Region 3	School News 3
Business 4	Agriculture 4
Marsha Boulton 7	Seniors 5
Editorial 10	Jacqie B. Palmer 6
Money Matters 13	Religion 10
Legion Lines 14	Comm. Focus 11
Political Forum 15	Comm. Service 13
Sports 16-19	Entertainment 14
Classified 20-23	Arts & Ideas 15

Senior run down

A 71-year-old Georgetown woman is in intensive care in Toronto Western Hospital after being struck by a hit and run car.

Halton Regional Police say Hazel Colpitts was crossing Confederation St. from her private driveway at approximately 6:45 p.m. and didn't see a car coming down Confederation because it didn't have its headlights on.

According to the two 12-year-old girls who witnessed the accident, the driver knocked Ms. Colpitts into the air and never stopped but continued driving northbound on Confederation at excessive speed, running a stop sign.

The hit and run mishap fractured Ms. Colpitts left hip, severely damaged her right leg, and damaged her kidney.

She's now in traction at Toronto Western Hospital in serious but

stable condition.

The two witnesses called 911 for the victim and were able to supply police with a description of the vehicle.

It's been described as medium to dark in color, mid to full-size with an older, boxy style and square taillights.

Police believe there may be damage to the front-end and/or windshield of the car. Although Ms. Colpitts was bleeding heavily, there may or may not be blood on the vehicle.

Witnesses weren't able to see if the driver was male or female.

Police are asking for the public's assistance to help solve this crime. Any person who has information regarding this accident is asked to contact the Halton Regional Police Service Traffic Bureau at 878-5511, ext. 5060.

The investigation is continuing.

Georgetown Girls Pipe Band
The legend lives on
See Lifestyles Section