



Halton Hills Toastmasters welcomed into the club seven new members last Saturday at the Georgetown Optimist Club Hall during the "10th Anniversary and Christmas Celebration". New members include, at front, from left, Pierre Brianceau, Andrew Crane and Adrian Wickenkamp. At back, from left, Julie Holmes, Linda Gilmore, Ann Fraas and Arline Coultrup. To be inducted at next club meeting are Byron Conrad, Loretta Ducas, Glenda Hansen and Mary Tiessen.

photo by Simon Wilson/HHTW

Varian acquires Toronto company assets

Varian Canada, Inc. announced Friday it has acquired the assets of Quality Hermetics Company (1990) Inc. of Toronto. The terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Quality Hermetics, a privately-owned company, designs and manufactures glass-to-metal hermetic seals for a variety of applications. The seals provide a liquid or gas-tight interface typically required in solid state amplifiers, high-vacuum systems, pressurized vessels, avionics equipment and semiconductor manufacturing systems.

Varian Canada manufactures microwave tubes for various purposes, as well as electronic equipment for medical applications worldwide.

According to President Joe Caldarelli, the company has streamlined its production processes over the last several years, freeing factory space to accommodate additional product lines. He said Quality Hermetics' technology is complementary to Varian's activities and its purchase represents a good growth opportunity.

"The acquisition of Quality Hermetics allows us to better utilize our facilities and make broader use of our engineering capabilities and distribution network," said Caldarelli. "With Varian's resources behind the hermetics line, we believe that business can broaden its markets significantly in the next several years."

Caldarelli added that the Quality Hermetics operation will be relocated to Varian's Georgetown site at 45 River Drive. The property currently occupied by Quality Hermetics at 45 Hollinger

Road is not involved in the purchase. Employees willing to relocate will be offered positions at Varian.

Varian Canada is a wholly-owned subsidiary of California-based Varian Associates, Inc. Varian is a diversified, international, high-technology company with annual sales in excess of \$1.3 billion. Headquartered in Palo Alto, Calif., it produces systems and components for medical, communications, scientific, industrial and defense markets worldwide.

Credit River bacteria arousing provincial concern

By Oksana Buhel

Just north of Halton Hills, the Ministry of Energy and the Environment (MOEE) and Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) are working together to lower hazardous bacteria levels in the Credit River. Along the West Credit (which includes Erin, Hillsburgh and Belfountain), a water quality study - part of the MOEE's Clean Up Rural Beaches (CURB) Program - determined contamination levels of the bacteria E Coli were up considerably this summer from the same time last year.

"Levels continually exceeded the Ministry of Environment guidelines at most stations," said CURB coordinator Marta Soucek of the CVCA. Soucek said the bacteria is most commonly found in animal feces. If runoff from nearby farms flows into the Credit River, anyone who drinks the water may become susceptible to ear, eye and stomach ailments.

CURB will provide finan-

cial assistance to landowners in the West Credit to implement remedial measures such as cattle fencing, better manure storage, improvements to septic systems and milkhouse washwater disposal systems.

Although Soucek admitted E Coli is found "all over the watershed," only the West Credit, specifically Belfountain Conservation Area beach, will be cleaned up. An application was made to have Fairy Lake in Acton cleaned up, but because the area surrounding the lake is not using a private septic system, the application was not eligible for provincial funding.

Soucek admitted bacteria from the West Credit will flow through Halton Hills, Brampton, Mississauga and eventually into Lake Ontario, but was confident residents of the municipalities were not in a hazardous situation.

"Some of it (E Coli) will settle in the sediment, some will die off, and some will flow into Lake Ontario," she said.

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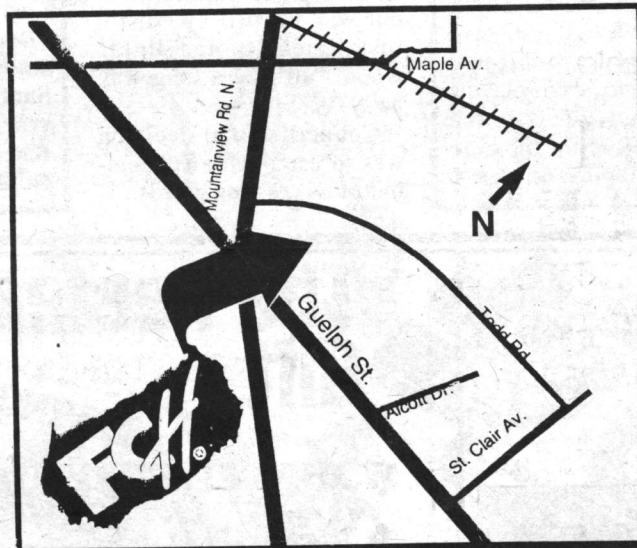
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Minor Hockey

Continued from page 1
the Metropolitan Toronto Hockey League) and out of province and out of country - including European touring - teams.

Both the Georgetown annual midget tournament and the annual Georgetown International Bantam Hockey Tournament would have been adversely affected.

So would tournaments in Acton hoping to attract Toronto-area teams, and so also would the cross-border hockey treks a number of Acton teams make throughout the hockey season.

On Nov. 30, Ontario Culture Minister Anne Swarbrick appointed mediator John Berger to help resolve the problems and amazingly, those involved came up with a deal shortly afterwards.

Part of the deal is that every OMHA player will pay \$6 for CAHA insurance this season and next season, on top of the \$14 each player already pays for OMHA coverage. The insurance bugaboo will be re-examined after next season.

Also, the OMHA has dropped all lawsuits to once more gain shelter under the CAHA umbrella.

HHTW will provide local reaction to these revelations in its weekend edition.