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"ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED"

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1993

Babysitter freed on \$25,000 bail

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK

A 30-year-old Acton babysitter, charged with manslaughter and aggravated assault in connection with two infants in her care, has been freed on \$25,000 bail.

In releasing Heather Holmgren yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon, a Milton court judge ordered that she live with her parents in rural Georgetown, and have no contact with any child except her own infant daughter, under terms of the Halton Children's Aid Society.

Described by a neighbour as "soft-spoken," Holmgren was charged with manslaughter in connection with the death of a 6-month-old Acton boy she was looking after. She also was charged with aggravated assault involving a 6-and-a-half-month-old girl she was babysitting.

Police arrested the woman Monday afternoon after receiving results of forensic tests.

Police will not identify the victims, the cause of death or injuries.

Police report that on Monday, Jan. 18, an Acton woman called 911 and said that the infant boy she was babysitting had stopped breathing. The baby was taken to Georgetown Hospital and transferred to McMaster-Chedoke Hospital, where he died the next day.

A post-mortem did not reveal a cause of death and forensic tests were ordered. Those tests indicated the infant had been assaulted.

On Tuesday, March 23 the same woman was babysitting a 6-and-a-half-month-old girl who became ill and was taken to Georgetown Hospital by ambulance and then

Please turn to Page 14

Fairy Lake land dispute

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK

Judgement has been reserved on a money claim by Lucretia Rowe of Barrie, the great-great granddaughter of a former Acton landowner, whose half-acre property

was sold by the Town for unpaid taxes.

The Town and Rowe's lawyer were in Milton Court on Monday arguing their cases.

Following the three-hour hearing, Town counsellor John Schaljo said the case is unique because if the Judge rules against the Town, it would mean a significant change in the tax sale process for all municipalities.

Lucretia Rowe, 83, is the executrix of the estate of Christopher Row, a United Empire Loyalist, who bought a mill site on Fairy Lake in 1851.

In assembling land for a park, the Town discovered the property had never appeared on a tax roll.

It was placed on the roll in 1990 and notice of the tax sale was sent by registered mail to "Christopher Row, General Delivery, Acton."

Please turn to Page 2



BLOSSOMS ON BLADES: Samantha Schroeder (left) and Erin Koebel help each other with finishing touches before show-time at the arena on the weekend. The skaters were readying for a performance of Disney On Ice, the Acton Figure Skating Club's theme for their 1993 Carnival. All three shows were sell-outs. (Lori Frechette photo)

IGA clerk cleared

A former employee of the Acton IGA, Ilka Higgins, was found not guilty of theft in Milton Provincial Court last Wednesday.

Higgins, 45, was charged in September with the theft of \$33 worth of goods from the store.

In finding Higgins not guilty and dismissing the charge, Pro-

Please turn to Page 4

John Toebes is Citizen of the Year

John Toebes, 66, has been named the 1992 Acton Lions Citizen of the Year.

Toebes, a multiple nominee, was selected for his 40 years of service to Acton minor sports.

Toebes has been president of Acton House League hockey for 20 years and also has been involved with soccer and baseball.



JOHN TOEBES

Toebes, who said he was "surprised and honoured" to be selected, is a retired auto worker and a regular fixture at Acton arena.

Toebes will be honoured with an awards dinner at the Acton Legion on Friday, April 30.

Originally from Holland, Toebes moved here 40 years ago

and lives with his wife Martha on Brock Street. They have four children (Elly, Henry, John, Jr. and Trudy) and nine grandchildren.

John is a hometown-proud booster of the Acton community. "I was born in a small town, and I really like small-town life."

The annual Citizen of the Year award is presented to someone or some group that has "given unselfishly" to the community.

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