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"ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED"

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1993

## Hide House proposal would trade jobs for second chance

BY TIM MORGETROYD

The Acton Tanner

Jack Tanner's, Flight-Line, West Warehouse and 50 local jobs are casualties of the olde Hide House restructuring plan that management announced last week.

The closing of these three divisions of Hide House translates into the loss of some 50 local jobs — 15 full-time and 35 part-time.

"If the long-awaited 3,000-person boost to Acton's population hadn't been held up by the DFO (Department of Fisheries and Oceans), I believe we might have at least saved Jack Tanner's and the West Warehouse," said Hide House president Steve Dawkins

Thursday.

After filing for a 10-day extension last Monday, Dawkins revealed the three-year operating plan which forms the basis for his restructuring proposal.

A week before a deadline to present his creditors with the proposal Dawkins hopes reopens the olde Hide House, a nine-month development freeze demanded by Queen's Park at the OMB hearings resulted in deeper cutbacks than expected.

"I hope the meddlers at POWER who egged on the DFO are happy and proud of themselves. These people just don't understand how damaging and misguided their

actions can be," said Dawkins, in reference to the local environmental action group.

The Flight-Line and West Warehouse outlets will not reopen. Instead these product lines will be merchandised in themed areas within the Hide House itself, revealed Dawkins.

Jack Tanner's Table will also stay closed and the space "moth-balled" for one year, pending a final decision on how best to utilize that section of the building.

If the restructuring proposal is approved by the company's creditors in mid-August, the remaining operations will reopen in early September.



Laura Brillinger poses last week with her national Science Writers' award. (Doug Harrison photo)

## Acton native recognized for science writing

BY DOUG HARRISON

The Acton Tanner

She may have won the Junior Award from the Canadian Science Writers' Association, but Acton native Laura Brillinger's journalistic ambitions go much farther.

"My ultimate goal is to work in TV with a newsmagazine or documentaries," reveals Brillinger, a graduate this year of the Masters of Journalism program at the University of Western Ontario. "There's more depth and day-to-day news reporting. I prefer the long format. And if this works out, I'd like to produce stories."

Brillinger's award-winning

article, titled "Last Resort Treatment for Obesity," was a profile on Dr. Michael Grace, a surgeon at the London university. The article explained that with the lack of money being fed into research to explore the causes of obesity, the surgeon is forced to perform gastric surgery, otherwise referred to as stomach stapling.

Brillinger explains she couldn't help but raise feminist and moral concerns about what he was doing, but also mentions that he is "a very good and committed doctor and doesn't have much of a choice."

"The next step is kidney and

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## Mayor fears 'mistakes'

BY TIM MORGETROYD

The Acton Tanner

The mayor of Halton Hills is worried the Ontario government will ignore its own arguments for freezing Acton development when the time comes to build an "unnecessary" landfill site.

"My fear is two major mistakes will be made in the near future," Russ Miller said Friday. "The first mistake is a freeze on Acton development. Second is the allowing of a landfill site that will dump leachates in the water, at the expense of good things for the town."

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans environmental argument deadlocking development will be conveniently forgotten if Queen's Park wants a landfill site built here, he fears.

"If they stop Acton growth now, sometime down the road if they approve the landfill site the effect on the environment will be far worse than they are saying development could be," he predicted a few hours before the OMB hear-

ings examining development adjourned for a two-week recess.

"Small towns are not viable if they don't have a large-enough population, and this would have been a shot in the arm if Acton could have been expanded by two or three thousand people.

"It's hard for a business person in Acton to start a business that is viable now. I've been around 55 years and it used to be a very viable area.

"I'd like to see Acton grow to 10,000 or more but not have a landfill site, especially when we already have a landfill site in Milton for the Region of Halton."

The mayor felt a testing moratorium that doesn't drag on longer than nine months "wouldn't be that detrimental to Acton" because "three seasons go fast" and developers can proceed with planning while they wait.

"Three seasons is not a long time if it can give assurance that development will not hurt the environment."

## More time needed to study plan

Council has voted to delay discussion on a Town study setting guidelines on Acton business person Fred Dawkins' plan to build 87 new homes.

"The rules of the game have changed since the OMB hearings started," said Coun. Norm Elliott before voting with the majority Monday. "I think in order to give it a fair hearing we'll have to defer the hearing. I know it's frustrating for the builder to wait, but we had a 41-page report to digest over the weekend that is very complex with a complex formula."

Dawkins wanted to build 127 new housing units — a mix of single homes and

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