



**RECYCLING DEPOT:** Acton moved into the '90s on Friday as an Igloo Recycling Depot was unveiled on Churchill Road South. On hand for the ribbon-cutting were from left, Marilyn Serjeantson, chairperson of Halton Public Works; Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette; Art Leitch, commissioner of Public Works and Mayor Russ Miller. (Doug Harrison photo)

## Turner's statement not an election ploy

BY ERIC ELSTONE  
The Acton Tanner

The press conference that MP Garth Turner held last week concerning houses for Acton was in no way an election ploy, according to Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber members, in a press release on Monday said some local media and others are suggesting that the Turner press conference offered nothing new and was only electioneering.

Not so, said the Chamber. During Monday's press conference in the Chamber's office, several of the Chamber members, Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller, Turner and three reporters discussed the Turner meeting of Sept. 13 and its meaning.

"We didn't want this to be electioneering. We asked Turner to have a press conference," said Chamber president Bob Malcolmson.

The Turner meeting, held in the MP's constituency office in Georgetown, was called at the request of the Chamber "to let the public know the position of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans," said the Chamber. Turner said during the conference that he was speaking on behalf of the federal government as the min-

ister of revenue.

Malcolmson read the Chamber's version of events which began with his presentation to the Ontario Municipal Board hearing on July 20 of this year.

Turner, during his Sept. 13 meeting, announced that the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans no longer stood in the way of housing developments in Acton. The federal fisheries minister Ross Reid's position is that residential development can proceed while requiring that the water quality, for fish, be maintained.

The Chamber is pointing a finger of blame, for holding up the development, at the Provincial Minister of Energy and the Environment. Malcolmson claimed that millions of dollars in development charges, construction revenue and taxes will be lost if the Acton development fails to proceed.

According to Malcolmson, the Province refused as of Sept. 14 to allow a temporary permit for the taking of water. He went on to say that the Chamber understands that the ministry is not issuing anything until certain studies are completed.

The Chamber hopes to meet MPP Noel Duignan when he returns from holidays, said Malcolmson.

## Langridge overwhelmed by winning Miss Acton title

BY ELLEN PIEHL  
Special to The Tanner

In front of a large, enthusiastic crowd, 18-year-old Claire Langridge was crowned 1993's Miss Acton Fall Fair Friday at the Community Centre.

"It's completely overwhelming," said Langridge as she described how it felt to win the honour.

Langridge, a long-time resident of Acton, said she became a con-

testant because her uncle advised her to go into the pageant just before he died.

"I won this (the pageant) for him," she said.

It seemed that Langridge wasn't the only one filled with emotion on this particular night.

Heidi Dempsey, 1992's Miss Acton, broke into tears during her farewell speech just before this year's winner was announced.

Langridge said she plans to complete three years at Humber College (Lakeshore Campus) and hopes to become a child and youth social worker.

This year's runners-up were Wendy Graham and Karen Ramsay, both students at Acton High.

## Sex abuse survivors helped by leaders

BY ERIC ELSTONE  
The Acton Tanner

Enough adult survivors of sexual abuse have enrolled to form another support group in Acton, and there may be other survivors — adults, teens and children — who

need a group's help.

"I suspect there are more survivors than we're seeing in the support group," says Acton Social Services community support worker Lin Sallay.

Ten women have formed the latest group with the Halton Sexual Abuse Program that is operated in Acton. Another eight women are waiting to form another group.

A teen group may also be formed, and there have been some referrals, but not enough yet, to form a children's group, she said.

What the Halton Sexual Abuse Program needs is more referrals, from the courts, from doctors and others to get more of the victims enrolled. Referrals can also be made at ASSIC. Call ASSIC at 853-3310 or the Halton Sexual Abuse Program at 1-800-663-9888.

The program offers "a healing process" to survivors and victims. The program deals with issues of fear, trust, and honesty. Many of these have been broken during the acts of sexual abuse.

"It's therapeutic. You're establishing a network of friends who've been through the same thing. You're not the only one," said Sallay.

The Acton group is supported by other members of the community such as two local therapists, a minister and a teacher. Each has been trained to be group leaders.

The program takes 10 weeks to complete and the names of the participants as well as the discussions are kept confidential. Members of the group come from in-town, Milton and Georgetown to meet weekly in Acton.

The program is funded by the Province and by the United Way, and although the charity supports the program as much as it can, there is room for donations.

There are prospects for a male survivors group and an offenders group, but the program has not been receiving referrals for the offenders group, said Sallay.

The Sexual Assault Program formed its first Acton group in February of 1992.

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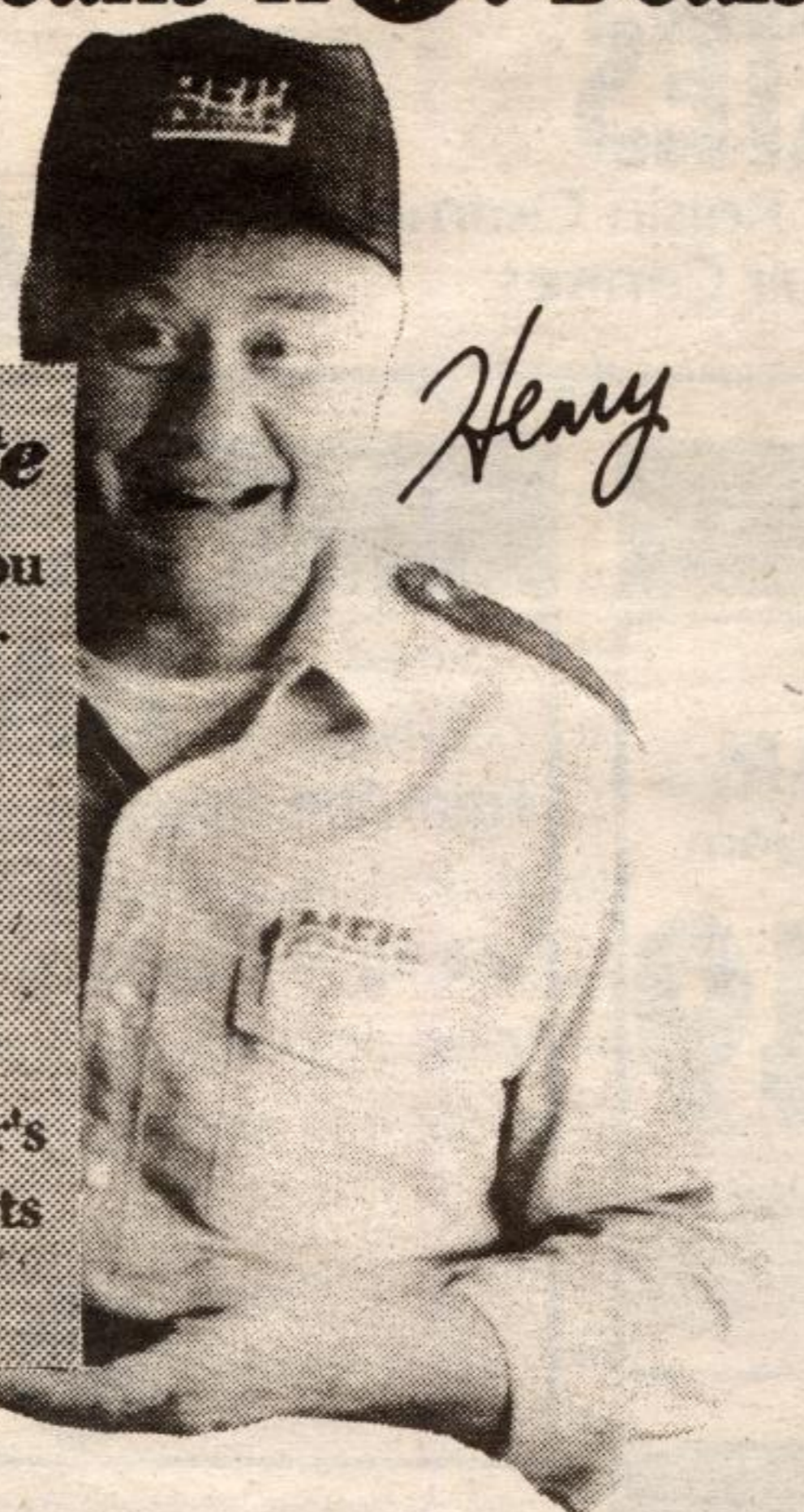
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