

GRAPE VINE

course will run on four evenings — Feb. 13, 16, 21 and 23, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm.

Everyone can benefit from these courses, whether the skills are applied on the job or in the home.

For full details and registration call Yvon Essiembre at 853-4889, or David Burke at 877-1045.

Apply now for summer employment

The Town is now taking applications for summer staff in the Day Camp and Aquatics programs. There are a limited number of opportunities so it is best to apply for them now. There are full details regarding job descriptions and salaries at the Recreation and Parks department in the Civic Centre on Maple Avenue in Georgetown.

If you're hoping to work for the Town this summer, you can't afford to wait too long. The deadline for applications is Feb. 4.

Learn to eat vegetables

Did you know Halton has a vegetarian club? The Halton Vegetarian Association is sponsoring a free seminar on how a meat-free diet can help prevent heart disease, cancer, diabetes and osteoporosis. The seminar is on Feb. 1, from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at the Hugh Fraser Hall on Mary Street in Milton.

The organizers would like you to bring a friend, a teacup and your questions about vegetarianism.

Learn to save lives

St. John's Ambulance is again offering CPR and First Aid Courses in Acton. The courses are available for a nominal fee and will run Saturday, Feb. 26 and again Sunday, Feb. 27 (CPR). The first aid

Celebrate the family

The Town is sponsoring a celebration of the family at the Georgetown Market Place indoor mall on March 25 to 26. The Recreation and Parks department is organizing the event as part of the International Year of the Family.

There will be a number of activities, displays and demonstrations, as well as special attractions and games for everyone to enjoy. Everyone is welcome to attend, but if you are a member of a service club or interest group that would like to participate, please call Joy Thompson at 873-2600, ext. 263.

Christian unity service

The Acton Ministerial Association is presenting a community worship service this Sunday at the Legion.

The highlights of this service include the renowned preacher Rev. Mariano DiGangi, who will be the guest speaker; a mass choir; and the Divisional Youth Band of the Salvation Army leading the singing.

Eight Acton congregations are involved in this worthwhile service celebrating Christian unity and all are welcome to attend.

The service begins at 10:30 am and will replace morning services of the churches which are involved.



CO-OP CREW: Acton High honoured its first semester Co-op students at a dinner last Wednesday. Back row, left to right, are Julia Trenton, Alana Clark, Matt George, Brad Hammond, Don Patterson, Adam McDowell and employers Al Zeijlmaker and Steven Hess. Middle row, Joan Boychuk, Co-op co-ordinator, Katherine Thomson, Ruth Wilson, Creative Arts department head and employers Gail Baumeester and Fiona Hess. Front row, Carrie Ferguson, Melanie Cook, Jennifer Wilson, Janisse Bailey, Kasey Iredale and Julie Robinson. (Doug Harrison photo)

What's needed is accountability

Last week in *The Tanner* a page one story was headlined, "Fish study being funded by developers and government." I think the headline should have read "Another \$270,000 of your money flushed down Black Creek."

Make no mistake about it, it's your money, your tax dollars which are paying for yet another study of Fairy Lake. If they study it much more, they'll know all the fish by their first names.

A total of \$135,000 comes out of tax revenues. Arena fees are going up, rural residents have to chauffeur their garbage to the dump, valuable local organizations may have grants cut, Town employees are being made to take unpaid days off. The list goes on and on. We have no money for these things, but we have \$270,000 to make sure fish are comfortable?

The other \$135,000 comes from "the developers." Translation: the people buying these houses will pay an extra few thousand dollars for each house — plus interest. I don't blame the developers for that, it's just business. They would rather be spending the money on bricks, mortar and manpower. Jobs would have been created.

The way housing costs have

The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



escalated, I wonder if my kids will ever afford a house close enough for me to see them. (If they ever move out, that is.)

I'm not saying that environmentalists are entirely responsible for escalating housing prices. They have, however, contributed to this escalation.

The Acton development has been in the planning for 10 or 15 years. How come the fish hit the fan in the last month of this process, just before what was supposed to be the final OMB hearing? Why couldn't this new study have been considered when some of the other ones were done? I think the beleaguered taxpayers here deserve an answer to that question.

One thing that disturbs me is that none of the people ordering these studies have anything on the line. I wonder if they'd be so fast to spend your money if the results proved that there is no problem?

What if, in that case, the cost of the study was deducted from the next year's budget allocation for that department.

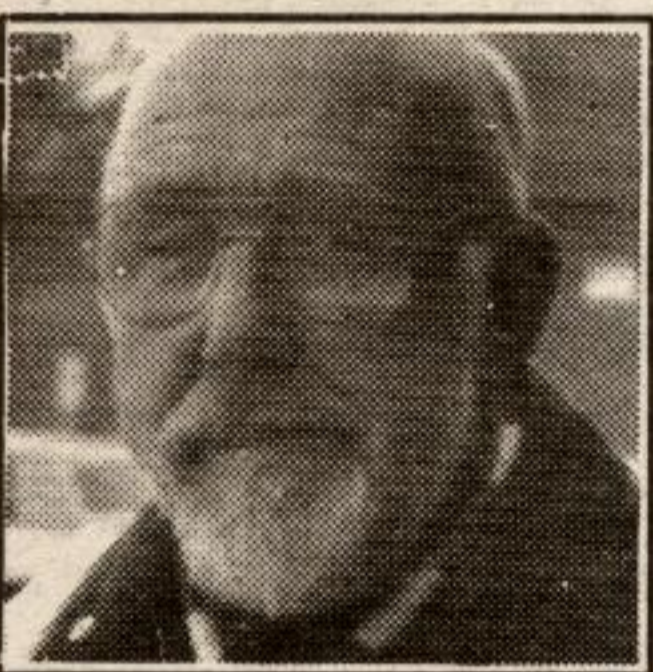
We have the Ministry of Environment and Energy, Ministry of Natural Resources, Department of Fisheries and Oceans all insisting on these studies. Why not? They're playing with your money. Since we also pay all these people, they're collecting your money to demand studies which justify their jobs and you get to pay for it all. Ain't democracy wonderful?

The Bible says the Lord created the heavens and earth in six days. It takes over 10 years to build some houses however, when you're dealing with people who only think they're God.

Yesterday was Robbie Burns day and all of the appropriate festivities were observed. With a name like mine, I don't get too involved.

I've often wondered though why anyone would stuff a sheep's stomach with oatmeal and other stuff, call it dinner, recite poetry to it then stab it with a sword. Anyway, Happy Robbie Burns day to all, but thanks — I've already eaten.

HEY! Are you planning a winter holiday?



"No, I'm staying here. I've always thought about it, but I'm in the teaching profession, so I don't get a chance. It's expensive, too. All the prices go up in March."

John Shaw, Hwy. 7



"Definitely. I try to go away every year and this year it's Alabama. I've gone a couple of times before. It's not quite as busy there and it's relaxing."

Willie Veerman, R.R. 2, Acton



"No, I can't afford one. I'm self-employed and it's the slow time of the year. If there's work, I work, and if not, I survive on the work I did. I get an enforced holiday."

Doug Draper, Hwy. 25



"Not this year. I have horses, so I have to stay around all year. I'm also saving for a wedding in October."

Patty Ransom, Orville Road

