

# Quarry rehab depends on Regional Rd. 43's future

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

A large colourful map in the newly renovated boardroom at Blue Circle's Acton quarry shows a large lake with boating, swimming, picnicking facilities and open space. Whether the artist's conceptual plan will ever be a reality, in large part, depends on negotiations currently underway between Blue Circle and Halton Region over the future of Regional Road 43, which bisects the quarry.

Blue Circle would like to close the road, divert it around the quarry and after total rehabilitation, the Town would own the land. Hydrogeological studies are now being done to determine what impact the various road options would have on ground water.

A progressive rehabilitation plan for the quarry was one of the conditions of a deal between the Town and then-owner United Aggregates Limited, to stop the dump. In the meanwhile, Blue Circle is trying to be a good neighbour to area residents who, along with the fear of a dump, had past complaints about speeding trucks, dust, noise and blasting damage, ignored.

"Blue Circle answers our

calls, listens to our concerns and deals with our problems and that's very different from our relationship with the previous owners," said former quarry liaison member, Limehouse resident Rob Barlow, adding Blue Circle seems to have a better handle on resource management.

Blue Circle's lands manager Malcolm Barr thinks the entire aggregate industry has an undeserved bad reputation and points to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton as a prime example of a successfully rehabilitated gravel pit.

"Aggregate extraction is an interim land use and there are some very interesting after uses that have been developed including housing subdivisions, golf courses, conservation areas and sports fields," Barr said, calling aggregates the "foundation" that Ontario's economy relies on.

"It's a primary, low cost component in roads, highway and housing and almost every job in Ontario makes use of or depends on the aggregate industry," Barr said during a recent tour of the Acton quarry.

"People have to understand that if they would like to maintain their standard of living - if they want the in-

terlock walkways, the houses and the office buildings to work in - they need aggregates and that means quarries," Barr said, adding environmental management is a major issue.

Blue Circle, a heavy construction business based in the United Kingdom, purchased the assets of St. Mary's Cement, including the Acton quarry, in 1996. The company currently has 51 licenced pits and quarries and the Acton quarry is its largest facility and one of the larger quarries producing crushed stone in Ontario, mainly for the construction industry.

The quality of the dolostone deposits left south of Acton by the glaciers and the proximity of the quarry to the biggest construction market in Canada - the GTA - means the Acton quarry will play a large role in supplying an ever-increasing demand for product.

Several months ago Halton Hills Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson asked for an update on the quarry rehabilitation plan.

"We haven't had that report yet and won't until the future of Regional Road 43 is decided. Once that happens I'd like to have a meeting with Blue Circle about the ultimate long term plans for the quarry," Serjeantson said.

## SENIORS' REC. CTR.

BY DOT REDEKOP

Well, we had a happy coach coming home from Rama last Wednesday. The rest of us were happy for those who had won. As you know miles and laughter are contagious. The bread pudding was great as usual.

Our cruise trip is sold out. Watch for more trips.

Don't forget the breakfast and Travelogue on Tuesday, July 20 at 9:30 a.m.

On Monday, August 9 we are having an Outdoor Games Afternoon from 2 to 4. Cost \$1. Refreshments included. Should be a great afternoon of horseshoes, bocce, lawn darts, golf putting, bean bag baseball, etc.

I forgot to mention that Lois Walker told me Nick and I could ride home in the limo with her and her husband. (The big winners get a limo ride home.) We met them at 4 at the door and they told us we had to take the coach home. The offer is still good for next time. Wish them luck.

Our usual card games, darts, carpet bowling, fun and fitness, shuffleboard, bingo and Friday lunches are going on all summer. Our lunch this week is a barbeque at 11:30.

For information phone the Centre at 853-5951.



WAITING HIS TURN: A trucker waits his turn to be loaded at Blue Circle's Acton quarry. - Frances Niblock photo

### Police urge caution

Halton Regional Police Const. Bill Riddle is reminding seniors to demand identification of those purporting to be soliciting funds for charity.

A couple of youngsters recently approached an Acton senior in her home saying they were collecting funds to keep kids off the street. They identified themselves as belonging to the YMCA.

Although the woman did not make any donations, Riddle is reminding other to be cautious about solicitors.

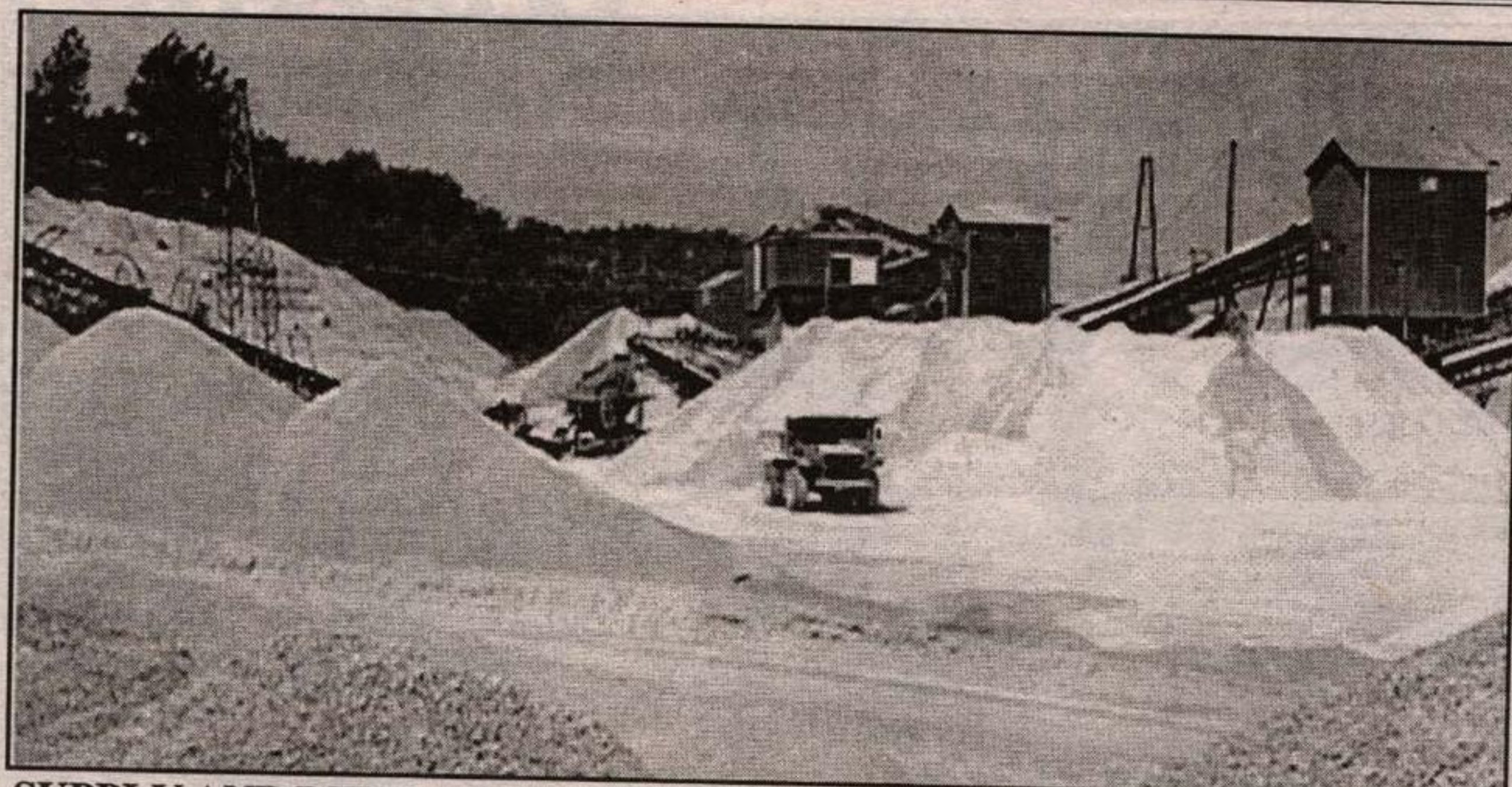
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**SUPPLY AND DEMAND:** Ontario uses almost 216 million tonnes of aggregate - a non-renewable resource - each year and the Acton quarry, now owned by Blue Circle, is a major supplier of crushed stone. Blue Circle lands manager Malcolm Barr calls aggregate the "foundation" of Ontario's economy and says the quarry is working with its neighbours and the Town to eliminate concerns with dusty, noisy trucks and blasting. - Frances Niblock photo

## 3 to Business Fame

The Region of Halton Council is recognizing the inductees of the first annual Halton Business Hall of

Fame.

Created by Junior Achievement of Halton in cooperation with the Regional Municipality of Halton, the Halton Business Hall of Fame recognizes the contributions Halton business men and women have made to the economy and growth of the Region of Halton.

This year's inductees are: Douglas Leggat, owner of Leggat Pontiac Buick Cadillac in Burlington, Graeme Goebelle, of Goebelle MacAdam Alexander Chartered Accountants in Georgetown (Halton Hills) and J. Michael Ledwith, retired entrepreneur from Milton.

Photos of the inductees, a description about the Hall of Fame award-winning criterion and the award itself will be displayed in the front foyer of the Halton Regional Centre. One to two inductees will be added to the Halton Business hall of Fame on an annual basis.

## POLICE BEAT

Overnight July 3-4 a break-in at the unlocked garage of a home on 15 Sideroad netted thieves a \$2,000 set of golf clubs.

Earlier in the week a golfer at Blue Springs had his lock broken and his wallet containing \$120 in cash and his credit cards stolen from his locker.

June 29 was busy night for vandals although police can't say for sure all the incidents were related. A Kingham Road resident wakened at 1 a.m. because someone was knocking on his bedroom door. He opened it and saw someone running from the house. Outside he found his lawn furniture had been thrown into his swimming pool.

The same evening another Kingham Road resident found two chairs, a table and his lawnmower had been thrown into his pool.

Also on June 29 a Storey Drive resident found planters, a picnic table and his barbeque in his pool. The pool liner was damaged at the two latter incidents.

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

The public is invited to attend a meeting hosted by the Halton Regional Police Services Board and Halton Region to hear a summary report on the recent review of policing services in Halton.

Mr. Keith Taylor, Perivale and Taylor Consulting, will present findings from his report "Bringing into Focus - Policing in Halton", and will be seeking public comment on the document. It addresses, among other matters, resource needs, rank structure, service coverage, enhancements to service, communications, and performance monitoring.

Four meetings will be held throughout the Region of Halton at the following times and locations:

Monday July 19th - 7pm	Community Room, 11 Division, 217 Guelph Street, Georgetown
Tuesday July 20th - 7pm	Community Room, 3 District, 440 Locust Street, Burlington
Wednesday July 21st - 7pm	Community Room, 12 Division, 490 Childs Drive, Milton
Thursday July 22nd - 7pm	Community Room, Headquarters, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville

We look forward to seeing you at these important meetings. If you would like to read the report summary, you may obtain a copy from your local central library, the Clerk's Office in City/Town Halls, the Clerk's Office at the Region of Halton, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Halton Regional Police Service Headquarters, or on the Police website at [www.worldchat.com/hrp](http://www.worldchat.com/hrp).

Questions may be directed to Joan Eaglesham, Regional Clerk, Ext. 7237, at 825-6000, 853-0501 (Acton), 878-8113 (Georgetown), 639-4540 (Aldershot), 823-6720 (Streetsville), Regional Municipality of Halton, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, ON, L6M 3L1, FAX (905) 825-8838, or by e-mail at [regionalclerk@region.halton.on.ca](mailto:regionalclerk@region.halton.on.ca)



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