

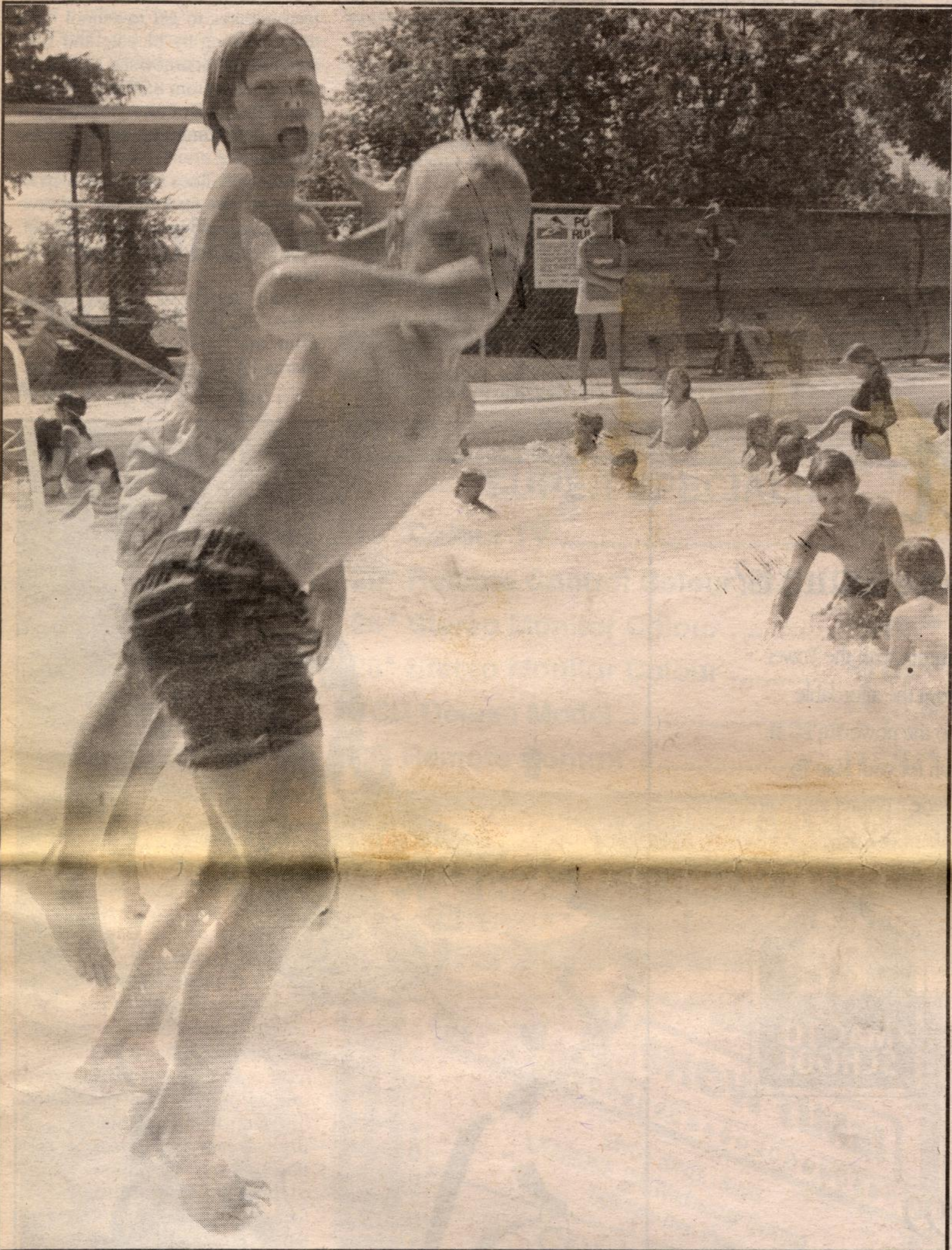


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Ryan Little, 11, and David Lockwood, 6, took full advantage of last weekend's warm weather to go take a flying leap. The boys were cooling themselves in the Prospect Park Wading Pool in Acton.

Photo by Jamie Harrison

Barber Mill set for new development

By Dianne Cornish

Plans to restore Georgetown's old Barber Mill on River Drive and convert the mill buildings into commercial shops and retiree units were presented Monday night to Halton Hills Council.

The redevelopment proposal also includes the construction of four non-profit residential apartment buildings, varying in height from three to six storeys, and containing a total of 157 units.

The residential complex, which would feature underground parking, would be developed by Inter Faith Homes Corporation of North York and would be located south of the mill between Maple Avenue and the Credit River.

"It's a very exciting proposal," Toronto planner Richard Pennycooke said while outlining details of the project to council. "We plan to save the mill and restore it to a form that befits its nature," he said. "Our project will

use the mill as a showcase to the town," he added.

Plans include renovation of the mill buildings, including new roofing, windows and brickwork refinishing. The building closest to the Credit River would be expanded from 66,000 square feet to 96,000 square feet and would house several commercial enterprises, such as antique and specialty shops "with a focus on tourism," Pennycooke said.

There would also be community space incorporated into the building, allowing for theatre productions and conferences.

The mill building closest to Maple Avenue would also be renovated and converted into a three-storey apartment building with 63 residential units "geared to retirees," Pennycooke stated. The non-profit housing complex would be developed under the direction of a Woodbridge-based company

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Prospect Park most economical arena site

By Dianne Cornish

A report on the costs involved in building a new Acton arena indicates that the town-owned Prospect Park site would be the most economical of three candidate sites being considered by Halton Hills Council.

However, the same report, prepared by the town's recreation and parks department, also recommends that arena users and other members of the public be asked for input before a final report on site selection is presented to council, Sept. 21.

The town has approved \$4.1 million for construction of a new arena, which would replace the current 67-year-old arena in Prospect Park. The present arena needs "structural upgrades" on a continual basis and faces an annual inspection by a structural engineer to ensure that the building is safe for occupancy, Paul Stover, the town's superintendent of facilities, said Monday.

In the report, to be considered by council Monday night, the three

candidate sites are identified as follows: Acton East—an 8-acre parcel of land just north of Hwy 7 on the east end of Acton; Acton North—a 12.5-acre site situated north of McDonald Boulevard and west of Wallace Street, and Prospect Park—land immediately north of the present arena, partially covering the existing tennis courts. Only the Acton East site would require the purchase of land from property owner Monmar Developments Ltd. The Acton North property for the proposed arena has been offered, at no cost, to the town by F.C. Dawkins Ltd. (10 acres) and Frank Heller and Company Ltd. (2.5 acres). Prospect Park is owned by the town.

Information in the report, obtained from various agencies, organizations, consultants and staff, identifies costs associated with site development at each of the three locations. Site costs at Prospect Park, over and above the \$4.1-million for construction of the arena, would amount to \$436,695.

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Family barbecue ends with assault charge

A 53-year-old Milton man has been charged with assaulting his wife, threatening his son and careless storage of a firearm.

The man and his family were having a barbecue at a trailer the family uses for vacations. The trailer was located at an address on Highway 7, Acton.

During the barbecue the accused man's 32-year-old son was cooking steaks on the barbecue when one was dropped on the ground. The man and his son got into an argument and it escalated to the point that the man allegedly threatened to shoot his son.

The man then went for a nap and when he awoke he began an argument with his 48-year-old wife because he believed that she had hidden some alcohol, police said.

The man went to leave in his truck and when his wife tried to stop him the man struck her twice knocking her to the ground. He then struck the woman again.

Police were eventually called and the man was arrested. A .22-calibre rifle was seized at the scene. The man is to appear in Milton court September 14.

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