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PADDLING AND PUDDLING AROUND, Stephen and Verne Gorven navigate their boat around in a puddle which formed last week on their lawn at 5050 Appleby Line, Burlington. The recent thaw created the vast puddle and the boys took advantage of it for a

little cruise in the boat built for them by their father, Les Gorven. They even tried a little fishing but the worms and groundhogs just weren't biting on Friday when this picture was taken.—(Staff Photo)

Dutch saying "thank you" fete Canadian liberators

A local committee of Dutch-Canadians is hard at work this month, organizing a financial collection and planning to make some significant contribution to the people of the Milton area as part of the nation-wide "Operation Thank You Canada" movement.

Marinus Traas of Campbellville, one of the men organizing the campaign locally, said this week the committee hasn't decided yet how they will

be putting their "thank you" gesture into effect, but a decision will be made in the near future.

Operation Thank You Canada is designed to recognize the country which sent her soldiers to liberate Holland during May 1945 — just 25 years ago. Dutch-Canadians from coast to coast in Canada are organized to conduct a fund-raising campaign and on May 16 in Ottawa, the national committee will present

a beautiful new memorial concert organ for the National Arts Centre. The presentation will be the climax of weekend festivities including a dance, car rally, inter-church service, wreath laying and a ceremony honoring the Canadian regiments which served in the Netherlands during the second world war.

"We want to do something locally too," said Mr. Traas. He said there are about 130 families of Dutch people living in and within a few miles of Milton today and they will all be asked to make a contribution towards both the national gift and a local gift.

Questionnaire on jetport

Do you support or oppose a super jumbo jet airport being located in Halton County? Strong indications in recent weeks give rise to the speculation the jetport may be located on up to 50,000 acres of land in Esquesing Township and there have been persistent rumors it may be located in neighboring Nassagaweya Township.

Here's your chance to register a protest. Read the editorial on Page B1 and be sure to fill in and mail the questionnaire that appears on the same page. Do it now.

Ratepayers meeting plan airport protest

Ward One Oakville Ratepayers Association is planning a meeting this Sunday evening at Boyne Community Centre, to discuss the proposed new airport at Omagh.

The 8 p.m. meeting is open to all north Oakville residents and anyone interested in the airport proposal.

A planning board hearing is scheduled for Thursday, March 19 when objections can be formally registered and the Sunday meeting is expected to get the area ratepayers banded together to protest the airport establishment at Omagh. The

board's hearing is to be held in the Omagh area.

Landowner G. K. Rueskamp Ltd., Toronto is applying for rezoning of 91 acres to allow developer Grand Davidson of Willowdale to operate the privately-owned project on lands south-east of the Omagh intersection. One 3,600 foot long paved runway and two shorter grass strips are planned, also an office and hangars. If neighbors object an Ontario Municipal Board hearing would be needed before the rezoning can be carried out.

Changes mind

Peel nixes marriage

Peel County's politicians are having trouble making up their minds about regional government.

Friday they reversed their earlier stand and voted almost unanimously at a county council meeting to reject Minister of Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough's proposal for a Halton-Peel merger into a two-level regional government. Peel prefers a region of its own, Peel warden Ivor McMullin of Albion Township said.

Earlier most of Peel's 10 municipalities favored a Halton-Peel marriage, admitting their fears that Mississauga would control too much power if the county went into a regional area on its own. Mississauga was the only town

still in favor of a two county merger when the vote to "go it alone" was called on Friday.

Mississauga Mayor Robert Speck pleaded with Peel members to retain the merger idea. He said their action gave his town three choices—join Metro Toronto, join Oakville and Burlington in the lakeshore city, or opt for city status on its own.

Many Halton councillors originally favored a Halton-only region over joining with Peel. But in recent months those who were against Halton-Peel have gradually changed their minds and supported the two county merger, with the exception of Acton and Nassagaweya representatives who are still opposed to the proposed "shotgun marriage".

Reverse frontages

Planners, council debate topic again

Should back yards of houses front on the Base Line Rd.?

That, in a nutshell, was the subject of a joint meeting of Milton Council and Milton Planning Board as members discussed again the principle of reverse frontages as opposed to the service road concept and its application to development in the north east corner of Milton.

After an hour's discussion the two groups agreed they would support the service road concept. That way the fronts of houses would face Base Line Rd. But this would require a service road with limited access to the Base Line Rd.

The problems of additional snow plowing and road maintenance were reviewed. The opposition of the town's planner, engineer and the Department of Highways engineer to the scheme were considered but members when

polled, favored the service road concept.

They had already expressed concern about the appearance of back yards with a variety of fences and landscaping. They considered the problems of maintenance of shrubs and planting strips which would be required if reverse frontages were permitted.

With their decision made, members invited the representatives of three major developers involved in the area, to the table for discussion.

Representatives of Torprop, Halton Daylight and George Wimpey Canada took turns

One permit

Besides being a fairly cold month, February was a slow month for building in Milton with only one building permit issued — for a residential addition valued at \$2,000.

assailing the problems that would be created if a service road was required. They pointed out houses facing the Base Line or Third Line would be fronting on a busy strip of asphalt. By fronting in that direction they would, contrary to the concept of the development plan, be facing outside the area rather than focusing on the core of the neighborhood where services are to be located.

"If the major reason (for requiring a service road) is appearance, we can accomplish much by landscaping", M. Goldman of the Halton Daylight Group told Council and Planning Board. He emphasized it would be his group's intention to provide extensive landscaping.

Representatives of the Wimpey organization offered to produce photographs of suitable methods of treating, by landscaping, the reverse frontages.

It was proposed that a landscape architect be provided to outline how the matter of protection of the rear yard could be dealt with. Council opted for definite concrete examples rather than sketches and developers agreed to co-operate in advising the council of such examples within seven days.

Council agreed to leave the matter of reverse frontages vs service roads open until further evidence is received, despite the earlier hope the meeting would be the last joint meeting required on the plan by the Council and Planning Board.

Some discussion took place on the possible movement of the arterial road location, as indicated on the plan, and members agreed there was flexibility in the plan.

Mayor B. Best pointed out the quicker the developers could get together and come up with plans which mesh with the general

Attack on councils questioned

Expect education rate to drop

Attack or not to attack, that was the question of the day when Halton County Board of Education drafted a press release noting Halton taxpayers will receive a saving this year due to a reduction in the mill rate needed for education.

Red Cross gets \$715

Milton Red Cross conducted its annual fund-raising blitz on homes in Milton and district Monday night and early returns indicate \$715 was collected.

Campaign chairman Don Hayward was quite pleased with the returns to date. He said four more areas are yet to be heard from, and half of two other areas, so there shouldn't be much trouble reaching the \$1,500 goal. This year 14 captains and about 150 canvassers made the collections. A final report on the campaign is expected by next week.

Currie pavilion

Esquesing will consider pavilion for Hornby Park

Esquesing council agreed Monday to "take a good hard look" at the possibility of helping to finance the construction of a pavilion for Hornby Park and will come to a decision on the project at budget time.

Park superintendent Alf Bridgen presented plans for the 2,600 square foot building, which would also house flush toilets and dressing rooms, at Monday night's regular council meeting.

Mr. Bridgen, who headed a deputation of 10 area residents, explained that the park is used for ball games, picnics or reunions almost every day during the summer and present facilities include only five outhouses, two for ladies and three for men.

One side of the proposed building, designed by Jim Snow, would be open and would contain picnic tables. Estimated cost is \$26,000.

Mr. Bridgen went on to say Oakville council had consented to match Esquesing dollar for dollar, up to a maximum of \$10,000 each, in financing the project. The park is owned jointly by Esquesing and Oakville.

"There's a difference between \$10,000 from Oakville and \$10,000 from Esquesing", reeve George Currie reminded Mr. Bridgen.

Reeve Currie and councillor Ken Marshall had different ideas of how the project should be financed.

Councillor Marshall wondered if it were proper to ask the whole township to bear the cost of erecting the building. He felt

that people who make the most use of the park would not ask other township residents to share the cost.

"We could take the money out of the capital reserve fund, then put a levy on residents in the area of the park," he suggested.

"We can't do that", the reeve argued, "it must come out of general funds".

Deputy-reeve Tom Hill was concerned about Oakville gaining control of the park, when regional government comes in.

"If we sink \$10,000 into it and regional government comes in and it goes to Oakville, we'll lose control of it," he warned.

"We all know Oakville isn't going to give up more than they

have to," deputy-reeve Hill added.

Councillor Marshall suggested that a public building so close to the centre of the county could be dedicated to Reeve Currie for his 40 years of service as a councillor and reeve of Esquesing and also as warden of Halton County.

"The town of Oakville might shoot you", deputy-reeve Hill interjected jokingly.

After discussing the matter, council passed a resolution instructing the clerk to contact the Oakville Parks and Recreation Commission, informing them Esquesing Council is considering the proposal and will come to a decision at budget time.

Police Chief Ray Andress, who handled the investigation, said the person or persons responsible for the prank had blackened the name of every student in the school by his or their thoughtless action. "These young people are crying for more responsibility; okay, if they want responsibility let them find the people behind this bomb threat and report them to the school officials," he suggested.

A thorough search of the school building failed to produce any bombs. "Someone wanted a half day holiday", said one official.

Treacherous country roads in the north part of the county that morning had cancelled bus routes and only about two-thirds of the student body made it to school. Police said it looked like one of the students felt gyped out of a holiday and decided to pull the bomb threat to force officials to close the school for the rest of the day. It was not closed but classes were suspended for half an hour.

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Snowmobile racer to enter pro ranks

Snowmobiling is still an enjoyable hobby for 21-year-old Chris Brading of Lowville. But next year he hopes to be able to break into the pro ranks and enter snowmobile races practically every weekend of the winter.

A driver for just two years, this winter he started entering races around the province on his free weekends and has so far amassed eight trophies in competitions at Barrie, Ancaster, Carlisle, Flamboro and Drumquinn. They represent five second prizes and three thirds...to date he has no first prize trophies but he's still trying for a top spot award.

That's not bad for his first winter of racing.

An employee of Ford at Bramalea, Chris drives a Boa-Ski Cobra with a stock 28 horsepower (493 cc) engine. Competing in the E class stock races, he's running his machine against more powerful motors with up to 880 cc but that certainly hasn't slowed him down one bit. A friend Vince DiPersio of Milton helped Chris make some front end adjustments that make his Boa-Ski handle much better and Chris claims this keeps him in competition despite the fact his engine is less powerful than some of his opponents.

He has even won in races against E type modified snowmobiles. Chris' friend Bob Hassey is his mechanic and helper Bob also races a similar machine but so far hasn't entered the charmed winners' circle. His father Wally Brading of Lowville sponsors Chris in the races.

Next year? Chris would like a shot at the pro prizes where the prizes are a share of \$12,000 and \$13,000 purses. He'll have to do well in a series of qualifying races first, but he's confident he can jump to the pro ranks without too much trouble after good successes this year.



SNOWMOBILE RACING is getting to be a popular winter sport in Ontario and Chris Brading, 21, of Lowville has so far this season amassed eight trophies in competitions. He's pictured at left with

his Boa-Ski 493 cc. machine and mechanic Bob Hassey. Next year Chris hopes to enter the pro ranks.—(Staff Photo)

(Continued on Page 10)