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Noise complaints rise with temperatures

By Angela Blackburn
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

It's 11 p.m. and if you don't know where your teenager is, there's a good chance they may be bugging someone else.

Just ask some Penrose Lane residents who are miffed about noise from large groups of teens dancing and playing music in a plaza parking lot behind their homes.

The Penrose Lane residents don't necessarily object to 24-hour Tim Hortons as a backyard neighbour on Trafalgar Road at Postridge Drive, but they are upset with the youths who hang around in its parking lot.

"The Tim Hortons was there when I moved in. I thought it would have been a great thing," said Monique Bedard.

"We're getting so tired of nothing being done," said Bedard, who gets up early to head to work in the Toronto office of a bank president.

Bedard has called police on numerous occasions, several times last week alone.

"I know it's an annoying thing for the police to deal with in the grand scheme of things, but we're starting to get so upset ... and so tired," said Bedard.

"The problem has really escalated lately," said four-year resident Hilary Morgan, whose home, along with Bedard's, is among half a dozen that back directly on to the parking lot of the plaza that houses the donut shop, a Wendy's and a Nickels restaurant.

Ward 6 Councillor Janice Wright said she believes it's a "town-wide problem."

Wright can reel off a list of problem areas, parks or plazas, including: Valleybrook Park, Hampton Street (at a plaza east of Eighth Line), North Ridge Trail, Postridge Drive, Grenville Drive and also at the north Oakville Loblaws parking lot.

"Residents should bring it to the attention of police, who then do go out and monitor these areas more thoroughly," said Wright.

Morgan, of Penrose Lane said, "Youngsters are gathering there late at night with their cars, playing their car radios and dancing around. One was even playing bongo drums."

(See 'Noise' page A3)



Photo by Brent Foster

CONTEST WAS A SLICE: Eight-year-old Stephanie Wheeler was one of several young contestants in the watermelon eating contest held by Longo's on Dundas Street on Saturday. We don't know whether young Stephanie won the contest, but she sure appears to be enjoying her slice.

Before logos — there were coats of arms

By Angela Blackburn
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

Today computer screens and business cards bear corporate logos — the 21st century's equivalent to the coats of arms of the Middle Ages.

The Town of Oakville's corporate logo is a simple "O" and a stylized oak leaf that have become synonymous with "quality of life."

Halton Region's globe proclaims "Halton A World-Class Place To Be."

The Halton Regional Police Service still uses a traditional coat of arms though it does include the service's motto, "Progress Through Participation," a phrase developed by former Halton Police Chief James Harding.

The 21st century is an era of corporate logos or corporate identities. They're streamlined, simple and modern. They quickly identify a group or business, and they're an easy fit with technology and the global economy.

And everyone has one.

These logos are, literally, worlds away from the usually complex, always ostentatious conglomeration of animals and Latin phrases commonplace on traditional coats of arms — devices whose origin is traced to eras when knights would blazon recognizable, pictures on their armour so as to distinguish friend from foe in battle.

Yet, in this circle of life where everything old is new again, Canada's Governor-General established the Canadian Heraldic Authority in 1988.

Groups can now apply to that Authority to establish their own coat of arms.

That's exactly what the Halton

Regional Police did before introducing their new coat of arms (which includes Halton Region's coat of arms) in 1992.

Not long after the Canadian Heraldic Authority was established in 1988, the Halton Regional Police saw its new badge presented in June 1992 by then Governor-General Ray Hnatyshyn.

Since then the design has been gradually incorporated into numerous facets of the police service — not the least of which is on the door of its police vehicles, police badges and hats.

The Town of Oakville already had a coat of arms — a crest developed in 1966 that declares "Avancez" (meaning move forward) — but a new corporate logo was adopted in 1999 upon

the recommendation of a communications and economic development report.

You may have spied this logo and not made the connection.

It's a large, modern yet understated Serif font "O" representative of the circle of life and Oakville. It's adorned by a stylized oak leaf, also representative of Oakville. It's all blue and ochre (gold), the Town's corporate colours.

"Many of us were happy with the crest," said Mayor Ann Mulvale at the time that the new image was adopted.

In fact, the coat of arms, at the Town and Region, continues to be used in historical, commemorative and legal purposes and is displayed in council chambers and associated with the mayor's and regional chair's office.

The regional crest, adopted in 1975 (a year after regional government was established), is also used to identify regional council, Halton Region (See 'Coats' page 4)



Photo by Brent Foster

SCORE ONE FOR THE POOL: The current heat wave didn't stop these youngsters from having fun underneath the basketball net at the Bronte Pool on the weekend. They weren't alone in seeking relief from the heat by heading for the pool. For more pool fun, see page A8.

Heat wave takes toll on water reservoirs

Halton residents are being asked to temporarily restrict their outdoor water use in order to alleviate pressure on the Region's reservoirs.

Unseasonably dry weather, combined with heavy water use, has prompted Halton Region to request that residents avoid certain types of outdoor watering activity.

Residents are asked to refrain from watering their lawns and washing their cars and driveways.

Flower and vegetable gardens should be watered by hand and only as needed.

"This conservation recommendation is a precautionary measure designed to ensure that the Region's reservoirs have enough water to provide for essential household uses and fire protection," said Patrick Murphy, Halton Region's Commissioner of Planning and Public Works.

Halton Region's Planning and Public Works staff is monitoring the situation closely — a complete watering ban may be necessary if the hot, dry weather persists.

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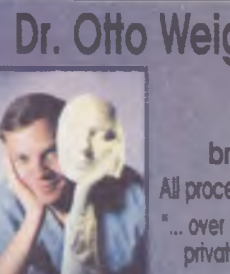
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