

Speed limits going metric

The speed limit on most Acton streets will be 50 next month.

On September 6 Halton Hills goes metric and speed limits will be changed from miles per hour to kilometers per hour.

Engineer Robert Austin told Halton Hills works committee Monday night that the new speed signs have already arrived and are ready to go up.

He noted the town isn't getting any extra money from either Ottawa or Queen's Park for the conversion to metric.

Austin explained "pressure sensitive overlays" showing the kilometer speed limit will be placed over the old speeds.

Kilometer will be shown under the number on the signs for 30 months and after that there will only be the number. He pointed out there are new speed limit and distance signs in kilometers up all over Ontario already.

The town doesn't have to change all its by-laws to metric when the change comes either. Queen's park has passed legislation making previously passed by-laws enforceable under metric speeds without specific by-laws being amended.

In the future however Austin said by-laws will be in metric and by either 1978 or 1979 councillors will be receiving construction information in metric. He noted Deputy engineer Ted Ballinger has been involved in preparation for the change to metric with the province and region for over a year.

He said the speed sign conversion is neither too costly or inconvenient for the town since there aren't that many signs.

Streets now posted for 25 miles an hour, like Main Street and Maple Avenue, will be re-signed to 40 kilometers per hour.

Most urban streets are now 30 miles an hour and these will be changed to 50 kilometers per hour.

Many rural roads along with Highways 7 and 25 in Halton Hills will be changed from 50 miles an hour to 80 kilometers per hour and Highway 401 will be re-signed 100 kilometers per hour from 60 miles per hour.

Austin pointed out miles per hour don't always convert to an even multiple of 10 in metric so for speeds under 45 metric and rounded up over 45.



SEVEN COWS DIED Friday on the Linham farm near Limehouse when the tree they were using for shelter from the showers was struck by lightning. The loss is at least \$7,000 to \$8,000, according to Walter Linham.

Lightning bolt kills seven milking cattle

Friday's sudden shower caused the death of seven milking cows near Limehouse when the tree they were

standing under was struck by lightning. The cows were owned by Walter Linham, who placed

the loss between \$7,000 and \$8,000, "at least." Mr. Linham heard "just the one crack" of lightning he added, but it was enough to do the damage.

According to Mrs. Linham, their partial insurance will cover "I would think, not more than one-half" of the loss. The seven milk cattle lost were out of a total herd of 27.

Apply soon Heritage grant

The Town Restoration committee will be sending a letter soon to the Ontario Heritage Foundation, requesting a grant to cover about half of the cost of the architects feasibility study.

Architect Patrick Coles of London met with the committee members in the town hall Monday evening.

At the groups last meeting Doug Koch of the Heritage Foundation had explained the procedure in requesting grants.

Mr. Coles outlines some of

his proposals for the building to the members, and the committee members discussed likely uses. Mr. Coles was attempting to come up with a figure for possible income as well as annual expenses.

Doug Fread commented on the figure of \$20,000 stated in last week's Free Press as the cost of fire hall changes to match the town hall. Mr. Fread felt the figure was high. Matching windows would cost \$600 at the most, he said.

Mayor's birthday

It was Mayor Tom Hill's birthday, Tuesday, August 2, but he still had to attend council meeting.

When wished "Happy Birthday" at the end of the meeting, he growled "it's damned near too late."

The time was 11.35 p.m. and his birthday was almost over.

Rain adds to detour woes

Monday's downpour produced a tangle of snarled traffic throughout downtown "Detour City," the one-way patch over the bridge at the library was the primary bottleneck.

Work continues all along Main N. from Mill up to the tracks.

A jackhammer on the end of a backhoe is being used to cut the rock at the school creek. The water is being pumped out of the creek so the work can proceed below the water level. The water

bypasses the area and proceeds on into the lake.

New gas mains are installed at the Main N. both north and south of the tracks.

Along No. 7 highway as far west as the Blue Springs line, contractors are working on the rough grading for the reconstruction of No. 7 highway.

Back on Mill St., the workmen are completing the filling of spots in the sidewalk, creating new sidewalks and patching up.

Water worries to be over soon

Acton will have no water worries next summer, says Bob Moore, regional director of public works. The introduction of the new well at the lake and completion of the addition to the sewage treatment plant will alleviate the present situation.

The town wells are working overtime to pump water this summer, and the new well is needed. Work is proceeding now on the building of the pump house. The mains are already laid from the end of the park to tie the well in with the system.

Mr. Moore pointed out that many months of testing will be required before the water is approved for regular use.

The quality and consistency of the water will be monitored. So will the level of the lake, to make sure the drawing of water is not affecting it.

The addition to the sewage treatment plant should be in operation next year. The plant was "in dire need" of work and expansion, Mr. Moore commented this week.

Although problems with water here were not too acute, the works department men were glad to see the rain.

Water use always falls dramatically after Labor Day, Mr. Moore said.

Rural man hurt in mishap

A rural resident was taken to Georgetown Hospital with minor injuries following a Mill Street accident early Saturday morning.

Roger Roy Swan of R.R. 2, was taken by ambulance to hospital after the 3.45 a.m. mishap. Police estimate damage to the Swan vehicle at about \$400.

About \$2,000 in damages was received by a car owned by Frederick Hills, 90 Mill St. E. Police said the Hills' car was parked.

Fist fights in town hotel

A Rockwood and Georgetown man were charged with causing a disturbance after fights Friday night in the Dominion Hotel.

A Halton Regional Police officer saw between 30 and 40 people watching two men fighting on the floor.

When he tried to break up the fight, two other fights also broke out over the fight already in progress.

See problems on Churchill

Councillor Les Doby and engineer Robert Austin are on the same wave length.

Monday Doby told Halton Hills works committee that early August is the time to contact the police for enforcement of traffic and speeding laws on McDonald Boulevard and Churchill Road North since the new Acton High School opens next month. He said he is sure the new school will create many traffic problems.

Austin was delighted to

announce he sent a letter to Superintendent Floyd Schwartz, Halton Regional Police, that day suggesting extra police coverage after the new school opens.

Councillor George Maltby said now that Churchill Road North is fixed up he hopes the clerk sends the by-law prohibiting parking on the road to council soon for approval.

He thought the new regulations governing parking on Churchill Road should be in force before school resumes.

Philbrook at council

Dr. Frank Philbrook M.P. has been invited to attend the next Halton Hills council meeting, August 15.

Dr. Philbrook wrote council saying he would like to appear before council to discuss the federal government's affect on Halton riding and to answer questions on federal subsidies.

"We could get Julian to play the guitar and play "running scared," quipped Councillor Mike Armstrong.

Grand finale for playgrounds

Thursday is grand finale day for the Halton Hills summer playground children.

A parade will kick off the festivities which mark the end of the playgrounds for another season. Floats will gather on Fellows St. and take the usual route down Mill to Park St. to the arena, where a penny carnival will be held.

Playground supervisor Rick Hoche said children from Ballinafad will be staging a mock wedding on a special float. Speyside and Limehouse playgrounds will share a float with the Wizard of Oz as a theme, and M. Z. Bennett youngsters will highlight Hollywood in the parade. Robert Little school playground's float will have a Mickey Mouse theme and the day camp youngsters at Prospect Park will be featuring the Knights of the Round

Table.

The Penny Carnival at the arena will have many booths such as candle squirt, bean bag throw, fortune telling, etc. In previous carnivals there has been a dunking machine, where youngsters get to soak their favorite, or least favorite leader. Mr. Hoche said that it is not known yet whether the machine will be available for tomorrow's carnival.

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