

Neighborhood Watch

Ruth's Angels go back to books

By Jeannine d'Entremont

After three months of numbing knuckles and wearing down shoe leather, Ruth's Angels are returning to their studies.

Throughout the summer, the Neighbourhood Watch program has attempted to arouse in the people of North Halton, an awareness of the problem of vandalism and has tried to educate them as to ways of dealing with it. They received generous support from many businesses, service groups and local media which helped make the program

able. Besides canvassing all the homes in Milton, Acton and Georgetown, the students employed by Neighbourhood Watch initiated several projects and events designed to spark concern and dispel apathy in the community.

These happenings included a senior citizens' film to instruct seniors on ways of protecting themselves against attacks and burglaries and three film nights for children at McDonald's which hopefully served to deter youngsters from becoming potential vandals. As well as the film nights, Ruth's

Angels organized three "Clean up the Parks" campaigns in an effort to instill in children a respect for public property.

The most recent effort of Ruth's Angels was a Homeowners' Nite held at the Elks' Lodge, last Wednesday evening. Although poorly attended, the information session was very informative for the people who did attend.

As a measure of the effectiveness of the program, Halton police found that cases of willful damage decreased between June and July, usually the peak months for vandalism. The estimated

total cost of resulting damages to property dropped from \$11,000 in June to \$7,000 in July.

Ruth's Angels advise homeowners that the only way to fight vandalism is to use security measures. The old adage "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is an apt credo for the program.

By following home security tips in the Neighbourhood Watch brochure, and by periodically meeting with neighbours to discuss a plan of action, residents can effectively help reduce the incidence of vandalism in North Halton.



Mayor Pomeroy



Wilbur-Mill house to be office space

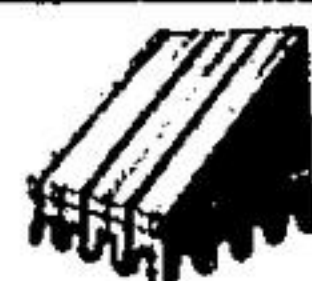
Halton Hills planning board approved the conversion of a house at Wilbur and Mill Streets, Acton, for office space and an apartment, at their meeting this week.

The building, on an 8,530 square foot lot, is owned by Ian S. Johnson, and B. W. Publications Ltd.

Three years ago an application was made by Johnson to demolish the building to construct retail stores on the ground level and apartments above, but this plan was revised. The planning report recommended the access be restricted to Wilbur Street, and a parking plan be prepared.

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Water shortage may be felt in Georgetown

There could be a water shortage in Georgetown in the future, according to a report, by four consulting firms, submitted to the Region of Halton.

Mayor Pete Pomeroy told Halton Hills council, Monday night, of the possibility. The lengthy report, which Pomeroy

said is difficult to understand, identifies a potential water shortage in the Georgetown area, and recommends long term planning to use wells at Huttonville, now abandoned by the City of Brampton. It also points to the Stewarttown area as potential aquifer for ground water.

The report indicates the sewage plant can handle a population of 39,000, and still meet requirements of the Ministry of Environment. Until now the MOE has repeatedly said the limit is 30,000 population in the Georgetown area served by sanitary sewers. The report also con-

tends infiltration of the sanitary sewers is using up sewage plant capacity unnecessarily, and pinpoints the infiltration. In Acton there is no problem with water, said the mayor. "There's lots there". He said the report also says the Acton sewage plant can be expanded.

The mayor explained the regional staff and the works committee felt the consultants should come to this council to explain the report, and pointed out three companies wanted to charge to make the presentation and one was willing to do it for nothing. Pomeroy said he felt Halton Hills council should know about it, rather than having it all done at the region. He emphasized it is a document that could set the growth pattern of the town, and as such is very important.

Councillor Mike Armstrong said one of the companies is asking \$350 to come and explain their report to council, and for four at that rate would be \$1,500. He said he was adamantly opposed to paying that amount and suggested the regional chief engineer should be able to do it.

Council went along with the suggestion and will have a regional staff engineer at the September 10 meeting, while an executive summary of the lengthy reports will also be prepared.

Lending her car for the volunteer

One does not need to be a volunteer to have a talk with Beth Newell; all one has to have is a view concerning volunteers.

"I will be surveying people's attitudes about volunteering. They do not have to have been volunteers. I'm interested in finding out why people do or do not volunteer," Miss Newell said Monday.

The survey is a Halton Social Planning Council project that is funded with a federal Secretary of State grant. Miss Newell will conduct the survey in front of the town offices, on Mill St., Thursday.

"So far my findings in other North Halton communities have been inter-

esting. I'm amazed at how many people have done volunteer work," said Miss Newell.

The 22-year-old Carlisle resident is ending her eight-week

Working model

It may not be the Great Slide Ride but visitors to the region's office on Bronte Rd. will be able to play their own water game.

The game is more properly a working model of what happens to the land when there is too much runoff due to denuding the landscape or floods.

study of urban North Halton. By month's end she plans to have a brochure made available to the public. A report will also be written.

In preparation for the



Beth Newell surveys attitudes towards volunteers Thursday.

on-street interviews with the public, Miss Newell sounded out agencies which use or depend on volunteers.

"The purpose of the project is mainly just to promote volunteerism and the benefits that go along with it," Miss Newell went on to say. "There are a lot of advantages, like job experience and retraining that most people don't even notice."

"Volunteering can be an adventure in your own town. You meet new and different people, you learn new things and become more outgoing as a person," she said.

Miss Newell has herself volunteered. She worked with teenage girls and skid-row alcoholics. She also gave creative exercises to senior citizens.

Industrial subdivision...

(Continued from page 1)

a new road with access on Highway 25, and backing on to the railroad tracks. The minimum size lot is 2.5 acres.

The application stated the proposal would fit in with existing industrial uses to the east and future development to the south, with smaller lots reserved for light industry, and larger lots at the rear for industries using the railway spur.

The conditions set down by the town call for the new road to come up to the standard of town industrial subdivisions, that a traffic study and drainage study be prepared, and the actual lot size and shape not be determined until the actual subdivision plan is submitted to the town.

An Official Plan amendment changing the land from rural to industrial will be prepared and submitted to a public meeting for comment.

Watch for fall brochure

Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department Fall Brochure will be distributed on Wednesday, September 5. This 24-page brochure will have an orange cover and be inserted in the Georgetown Independent and mailed to Acton urban and rural residents.

This brochure will feature the Fall activities of many community groups as well as listing contacts for organizations and programs available in Halton Hills. Watch for it!



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