

Georgetown population drops 189 since 1974

The population of Georgetown has dropped over the past five years. It is now 189 less than it was in 1974, according to a report from regional planners.

Over the whole of Halton Hills, including Acton and Esqueping areas, the population has increased by only 1,300 in that time, with most of the increase in Acton, which has grown from 5,886 to 7,088.

The report emphasizes the actual loss in Georgetown could be as high as

1,000, when a natural increase projection is put between 800 and 1,000.

The planners suggested the reason for people leaving Georgetown or not being attracted here in the first place is due to lack of housing, because of lack of sewage plant capacity before the expansion was completed, and the fact there has been reductions in jobs in the town. They speculated the 18 to 30 year old age group born and educated here have had to move elsewhere

for jobs and housing. The lengthy report puts the number of people per household at 3.8 in Georgetown and 3.5 in Acton.

In a five year forecast of housing, in Georgetown regional planners predicted as low as 456 units up to as high as 1,890, with 38 per cent single family dwellings. They predicted 11 per cent would be rental apartments, which conflicted with statements made by the Canada Central Mortgage and Housing representative

made earlier in the evening, at Halton Hills, planning board meeting.

Across the whole town of Halton Hills a population forecast as divergent as 900 to 2,000 was suggested for the next five years. In Georgetown the minimum is put at 19,000 by 1983, and the maximum at 24,184, if all proposals are completed. This report does not include Focal, or Paramount, and in Acton does not include Acton East. In Acton during the same period, the minimum

anticipated is 8,141 an increase of 1,059.

The 25 page report, including charts, was criticized by Mayor Pete Pomeroy. He said the length of time and number of staff taken to prepare it, added to the delay in approvals of proposals. He took aim at the 11 per cent apartment prediction, and pointed out the CIMC representative stated that right the market could not absorb more than the number underway at the McNally

project. "It blows the whole report out the window."

Pomeroy attacked the planners' jargon, saying it was difficult to read and ridiculed the projection of Georgetown's growth, saying "between 900 and 2,000 is certainly accurate". He contended by the time the planning process for a development is completed the market has changed. The mayor charged reports which can influence the town's future are being drawn up by

staff who are not responsible to anyone.

Planner Mario Venditti explained the report is used in drawing up the five year forecast for regional services. "By the time it gets back to the region some of the material is outdated."

North suffer . . .

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distant possibility because he did not think people in Georgetown would load garbage bags in their cars and drive to Site F. On this point Mrs. Allingham said, "I am not satisfied that we have done our job properly."

Region chairman Jack Hafitz said "the simple solution" would be to close the dump but keep it as a transfer station so that residents could deposit their garbage on the site "and trucks could take it to our other landfill sites twice or three times a week."

Public works director Bob Moore was blasted by councillors "for keeping hidden" a letter from the Ministry of the Environment on the possibility of municipalities allowing

transfer sites to operate. Councillor Laurie Mannell said, "This is the first time I've heard about this."

It is generally agreed Bill 151 which deals with landfill sites, does not make provision for transfer stations to operate. The region had tried an experiment with such a

station but it had resulted in several times more garbage being dumped than the one container could handle.

There are more than 100 types of arthritis and some may affect the heart, lungs and eyes according to medical advisors to The Arthritis Society.



Alfred Roffel, 18, of 4 Prince St., Glen Williams, died when the auto he was driving struck an embankment on the west side of the 4th Line early Thursday morning. The vehicle was travelling on Halton Rd. 20, Edward Van Dyke, 160 Delrex Blvd., remains in critical condition as of Tuesday afternoon in Toronto General Hospital. Another passenger, Jeffrey Schenk, R.R. 3 Georgetown, is conscious in satisfactory condition in Peel Memorial Hospital.

Car crash kills one, injures two

One Glen Williams man is dead and two others from Georgetown remain in hospital following a single car accident at the intersection of Halton Rd. 20 and the Fourth Line, Thursday.

Alfred Roffel, 4 Prince St., Glen Williams, died in the collision. He was at the wheel of the car which slammed into an embankment on the west side of the Fourth Line, according to Halton Regional Police.

Toronto General Hospital authorities state that Edward Van Dyke, 160 Delrex Blvd., is in critical condition as of Tuesday afternoon. Van Dyke was a passenger in the Roffel auto.

Another passenger, Jeffrey Schenk, R.R. 3, Georgetown, is conscious and in satisfactory condition in Peel Memorial Hospital.

All three men are 18 years old.

Alfred Roffel was the son of Harry and Betty Roffel. He was the brother of Fransina (Mrs. H. Rensink), Henry Jr., Sylvia (Mrs. R. Mulder), Gary, Margaret and Elizabeth.

Funeral service was held Saturday afternoon at the Christian Reformed Church, 7th Line. Interment was at Glen Williams Cemetery.

Need roofs for refugees

Operation Lifeline, the Acton group sponsoring Vietnamese refugee families, is desperately in need of roofs, says Steve Ormsby, accommodation chairman of the Clergy Group.

He points out that housing doesn't need to be elaborate. Refugees who have spent months in primitive camps are grateful for a couple of rooms and a cosy roof.

The families being sent to Canada, and indeed those being turfed out of their country, are upper middle class educated people who only need a few months' assistance before they are on their feet and able to support themselves. Therefore, sponsoring groups are not asking for a free apartment for years to come.

Ormsby requests people with a couple of extra rooms, a small apartment within their home, or an apartment that could be sublet for a short time, contact him at 853-2372 in order to help these "boat" families.

Both lifeline groups would be delighted if accommodation were free, but a minimal rent could be paid if necessary.

Storage space is also needed for furniture and food items. Any one with shop, warehouse, or even basement storage space to lend is asked to call Steve Ormsby at 853-2372.

Two names on ballot

There are only two candidates in next month's municipal election. Prospective candidates had until Monday to file their nomination papers. Terry Grubbe and Dave Whiting will be the only names on the ballot on October 9. Both declared their candidacy in July, even before a date was set for the election.

A by-election is necessary following the death of Councillor Les Dudy last Spring. Since then, Acton has only two representatives on Halton Hills council—Ross Knechtel and Ed Wood.

Murt Allison on new commission

Murt Allison has been named to represent the Esqueping area, and will be financed by start-up grants from the province.

With the Acton and Georgetown Commissions still in existence until April 1, the members sitting on both boards could legally be paid for serving on each. This question has not yet been settled, but will be decided shortly by the new board.

The Halton Hills Hydro Commission members will see their term expire at the time of the municipal elections in 1980. They then must run for re-election on a ward basis, just as councillors do now.

Fire damage costs up over last year

Halton Hills is receiving fewer fire calls however more damage is resulting according to the monthly report submitted by Fire Chief Mick Holmes.

Estimated damage this month totals \$710,800 compared to the \$15,000 fire damage reported in August last year primarily due to the Dominion Hotel fire in Acton. Damage to date in Halton Hills has reached a high

\$1,081,233 with only \$492,545 for the same time period last year. Only 16 calls in Halton Hills were received in August with 34 on record from the previous year. To date this year the department has received 183 calls, two more than last year at this time. One fire fatality, from the Dominion Hotel fire, one fire injury and two firefighters injuries were reported during August.

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