



Wanita Tarrant registers for a yoga class during night school registration Thursday at ADHA. More than 75 people registered but there is still room for late comers in bookkeeping, drawing and painting and yoga. Woodworking and

ballroom dancing are completely filled, while disco, typing, cake decorating and sewing were dropped. ADHS students Michel Donet (centre) and Ray Muller help the new student choose her course.

Sewer costs up water bill

Councillor Harry Levy asked Halton Hills general committee Monday night if anyone could explain why the new water bills with the sewer rates included have included part of 1979 when the increase was not supposed to go into effect until 1980.

Treasurer Ray King said there was pro-rating on the bills, so it would simply depend on the individual billing date.

Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson stated Regional Treasurer Don Farmer said the region needed their whole budget for the year.

Serjeantson said the regional treasurer claimed very few people would be paying more this way.

Trustees move towards adopting discipline policy

Halton Board of Education took another step towards adopting the first discipline policy and guide to student behavior in Ontario.

A draft policy statement was presented to trustees for consideration at Thursday's meeting.

The eight-page draft zeros in on 18 "problem areas" such as fighting, drug and alcohol use, disorderly conduct, arson and theft. Cheating on exams was noticeable by its absence, according to one trustee.

Special program superintendent Ron Chapman, who presented the draft, indicated cheating, like some other problems named by trustees would be taken back to the draft policy committee.

Acton-Esqueing Trustee Betty Fisher, who started the work on the discipline policy six months ago, informed other trustees that such matters as the courts were indeed discussed in committee. "I felt we did a top-notch job; but one can't cover everything," she said.

Drafts will be circulated to the principals' association for comment; then returned to the board for decision.

Burlington trustee Noel Cooper was one who indicated he did not think the proposed policy went far enough.

Cooper wants the board to seek restitution in all cases, not just theft, destruction of property, arson and explosive devices which the policy mentions. Cooper's sentiments were echoed by Milton trustee Ivan Armstrong.

The least action authorities could take, under the proposed policy, is either an informal talk with an offender or discussions with parents. Ten of the offences carry the maximum penalty of expulsion.

Tardiness, truancy, dress code, verbal abuse, destruction of property, smoking, physical assault, weapons, threats and misuse of vehicles are other problem areas of student behavior included in the policy.

Halton's discipline policy and expectations for student behavior is a first for the province as far as superintendent Chapman has determined.

"Nobody has a discipline policy and guidelines in Ontario," he said. Twenty-five boards were checked while Halton's policy was being researched. Some had position papers on discipline, but none were elevated to policy status.

Much of the board's expectations for student behavior is rooted in the province's Education Act. Under general conduct students are to behave themselves in a responsible manner and be respectful, courteous, and considerate of others. Also included is respect for other students' rights to an education.

Clinic needles way to health

One shot and you're good for years.

The Halton Regional Health Unit will conduct another immunization clinic in the Community Services Centre on January 23.

Clinic staff will inoculate against the following diseases: polio, tetanus (lockjaw) and diphtheria. For youngsters, there is vaccine against pertussis (whooping cough) and a combined shot for children against mumps, measles and rubella.

Typhoid and cholera vaccine is available for people who will be travelling abroad. There is a charge for the cholera shot. Small pox vaccine is no longer given.

The clinic will be held two-and-a-half hours, starting at 1:30 p.m.

The Community Services Centre prefers clients to make an appointment rather than drop by for inoculation. The phone number is 853-3310.

Another clinic will be held March 26. The last clinic was in November.

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MTC lists pits overruling council

Overruling the objection of Halton Hills council, the Ministry of Transport and Communications has decided to list the Odorico and Vincent pits on the Sixth Line, and recommended the issuance of way-side pit permits to the Ministry of Natural Resources, if the successful contractor wants to use these sources.

The contract covers the extension of Highway 400 from Highway 401 south to Eglinton.

Last week, in response to strong opposition from Sixth Line residents, council passed a motion objecting to the listing of the pits but set out conditions in the event the MTC proceeded with the listing.

The MTC removed the Cohoon pit from the list for this contract, and agreed to most of the conditions sought by council.

They refused to have the pit operations closed on Saturdays, as had been requested by residents and council, claiming it is a normal working day in the construction business.

The MTC agreed to the pit operations being limited to no earlier than 7 a.m. and no later than 8 p.m., and hours of truck haulage from 7 a.m. in the morning until 6 p.m.

They also agreed to supply a liaison officer on the site, and to be responsible for any road damage caused by truck traffic to the pits being used for Ministry contracts, but emphasized routine maintenance is the town's responsibility.

Similarly the MTC said it is the responsibility of appropriate authorities to deal with traffic violations, but said any legitimate complaints would be forwarded to the contractor "for remedial action."

According to the letter, rehabilitation plans will be outlined on the permit applications, with the minimum requirements as set out in the Pits and Quarries Act, with any further requirements to be mutually agreed upon by the town, the MTC and the MNR.

MTC reply not enough

In response to news of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications listing the Odorico and Vincent pits, over council and resident objections, Ron Johnson, a member of the Sixth Line residents' committee made the following statement:

"The MTC has been fair and complied with the conditions council made, but the old question of how much aggregate and how long the pits will be in operation has not yet been answered."

"The MTC has qualified people on staff who will be able to answer these questions, and we wonder why no-one had attempted to do so."

"This has been the question from the beginning, and the answer might make the pill easier to swallow."

Conflict of interest puzzles

Councillors who sit on outside boards and commissions have been confused by the legislation on conflict of interest, and to quote Councillor Roy Booth further confused after explanation of the law by the town solicitor.

The question first arose when the rest home was being discussed and applicant charged members of the hospital board who also were members of council had a conflict of interest.

Town solicitor Ray Steele said if a member is involved in something with council and is involved in another capacity at the same time there is a conflict. He said each case would have to be looked at individually.

Citing membership on the Credit Valley Conservation Authority as an example, Steele said the interest as a member of council, could be different from the interest as a member of the CVCA.

Booth said he was less clear than ever on what members of council who also sit on boards should do, and wondered if they were supposed to sit and say nothing on one or the other.

Steele agreed council's asking for a change in legislation might be a good idea, since he felt it is too restrictive.

"Sometimes the law is an ass," commented Councillor Ross

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Merchant's objections delays sign by-law

The town has deferred giving third reading to its new sign by-law to give merchants in both Acton and Georgetown a chance to respond.

It was brought to the attention of Halton Hills General Committee Monday night that letters of objection to the by-law have been filed this week by Acton Chamber of Commerce and Halton Hills Furniture and Appliances. Also the Acton Business Improvement Area members would like some input.

In a letter from Acton Chamber of Commerce, president Jake Kuiken stated the organization is in disagreement with the proposed by-law for regulation of business signs. Kuiken notes in the letter that the Chamber agrees "certain guidelines should be made to maintain sign erection in good taste and that it will not obstruct traffic."

However, the Chamber says use of signs as promotional material shouldn't be denied when the signs are in good taste, clean and well displayed.

Kuiken observed there are signs in existence now, such as the ones at the Bank of Montreal, L and L Ford Sales and Canadian Tire which would be illegal under the proposed by-law. The Chamber feels these signs shouldn't be removed.

In a letter from his own firm, Halton Hills Furniture and Appliances, Kuiken said he was concerned the by-law will ban the flashing sign he has used on Highway 7 in front of the plaza his store is located in for the past seven years.

Kuiken observed the sign isn't used just to promote his store's products, but also to advise the public of events like hockey games and blood donor clinics. He said many customers can't see his store from the road but do spot the flashing sign, warning his business will be affected if he can't use the flashing sign in the future.

The Acton merchant added signs like his flashing signs are in use in municipalities all over southern Ontario and as long as they are clean and well-displayed "we should not remove that freedom of promotion and advertising."

Clerk-administrator Ken Richardson noted the Acton BIA wants to meet with staff and get some answers regarding the by-law.

Councillor Ross Knechtel said he has discussed the by-law with the Acton BIA and in general they like it. He assured councillors the BIA won't "crucify" the existing signs.

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