

More money for police programs

Halton police prefer to prevent crime and highway accidents from happening in the first place rather than to react to them once they have, says the region's chief of police.

Putting some more muscle into preventative policing accounts for part of the 6.3 per cent increase in the 1984 Halton Regional Police budget said Chief James Harding at Wednesday's meeting of the region's Administration and Finance Committee.

Regional police want to pump \$227,690 into new programs this year out of a total budget of \$17,890,250 and this creates a 1.3 per cent budget hike over last year. Salary increases account for the remaining 5 per cent budget increase.

Over \$140,000 will be allocated to a five man traffic bureau that will aim to reduce traffic fatalities and drinking drivers in Halton.

That is imperative, said Harding, because the region's road fatalities in 1983 jumped 41 per cent over 1982 figures. While 13 per cent fewer drivers were charged with impairment, alcohol was still involved in over 70 per cent of all accidents.

Harding also noted that charges and cautions for drivers exceeding the speed limit were up over 16 per cent.

Over \$16,000 will pay for a community relations officer to co-ordinate traffic safety and crime prevention programs, and \$27,000 will go towards additional school safety programs in Halton Hills and Milton.

The remaining funds for new programs will go into computer servicing, new duty personnel at the Milton detachment and a stores clerk.

The Halton force is stressing preventative policing partly out of necessity.

Ontario Police Commission statistics indicate the force is undermanned in comparison to other regional police forces in the province with a ratio of one officer to every 871 citizens. Other forces average a ratio of 1.701.

In order to concentrate on the more vital areas of policing like crime prevention, detection and traffic surveillance the Halton force has tried to steer calls of a minor nature to other agencies.

As an example Chief Harding cited bark-

ing dog complaints and parking violations which are referred to municipal officers for by-law enforcement.

"We've been successful in diverting calls that previously would be dealt with initially by police," he explained, and this resulted in a 10 per cent workload reduction last year.

Halton taxpayers are paying less for police than their other regional neighbours, Chief Harding was pleased to note.

Ontario Police Commission figures indicate that Halton Regional Police cost the region's taxpayers \$68.36 per capita compared to \$132.22 in Metro Toronto, \$76.40 in Peel and \$99.42 in Hamilton-Wentworth.

Regional council must approve the police budget today.

ASSE needs rep here

"Local area representatives are being sought for ASSE, a non-profit high school exchange program," said Cindy Boyce, a director of the organization. "Area Representatives are needed to recruit / SCREEN HOST FAMILIES AND Canadian high school students to study in Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, West Germany, Switzerland, and Great Britain."

"ASSE has over 300 Area Representatives in North America," continued Boyce, "who consider working with outstanding ASSE Canadian and European young adults a rewarding and enriching experience. Area Representatives establish lasting friendships in their community, throughout Canada, and in Europe. Area Representatives are reimbursed for their expenses, and have the opportunity to travel overseas."

The ASSE exchange program enables qualified students to live with Canadian or European host families while attending local schools in order to learn from cultures other than their own.

For more information please contact: Cindy Boyce, Canadian Director, 616-530-0698. Please call collect!

Deer bag best in '83

Last November's four-day shotgun for deer in the Ministry of Natural Resources Cambridge District yielded the highest harvest yet with a total of 273 deer taken. The Halton deer hunt was part of the Cambridge District hunt.

Harvests in 1982, 1981 and 1980 were 179, 207 and 128 respectively. The hunter's increasing familiarity with local deer habits and their habitat, the occurrence of the rut (a pre-breeding stage when male deer are less cautious) during the hunt and the mild, sunny weather all contributed to this increased harvest.

Approximately 1,000 of the 1,250 hunters who received validation tags for their deer licences participated in the hunt, generating a total of 3,050 recreation days. Farmer-landowners and residents accounted for 78 per cent of the harvest, with the remaining 22 per cent taken by non-residents of the hunt zones.

Average field-dressed weights of the deer were 30 kilograms (66 pounds) for female fawns and 33 kilograms (73 pounds) for male fawns. Male and female adults averaged 76 kilograms (167 pounds) and 50 kilograms (110 pounds) respectively. The fawn weights were slightly higher than in previous years probably due to last winter's mild weather which resulted in the does coming through the winter in good condition. The largest deer harvested was an 8-point, 95 kilograms (209 pound) buck taken in Flamborough Township.

Very few trespass complaints were received from landowners and no trespass charges were laid. There were a few incidents, however, of hunters with permission observing other hunters, presumably without permission, on their areas. Hunters are encouraged to get as much information as possible about such trespassers and report these incidents as soon as possible. This will benefit the hunters who have taken the time to get permission and especially, the landowners who have given permission for access to their property.

Aerial surveys are being conducted this winter to obtain more detailed information on the areas which deer use for winter habitat. The Ministry is planning to follow this up with a deer pellet survey in the spring to confirm the status of the deer population.

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Speed drying

To speed drying of turtleneck sweaters, roll collar into place and insert crumpled white tissue paper under collar, says Margaret Loewen, clothing and textiles specialist with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food's rural organizations and services branch.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK DAD'S COOKIES

(makes about 4 dozen)

- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 1 1/2 cups oatmeal
- 1/2 cup coconut
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 1/2 cups flour

Cream butter and sugar, add egg and remaining ingredients. Form in small balls and press flat with fork. Bake at 350° till browned, about 12 to 15 minutes.

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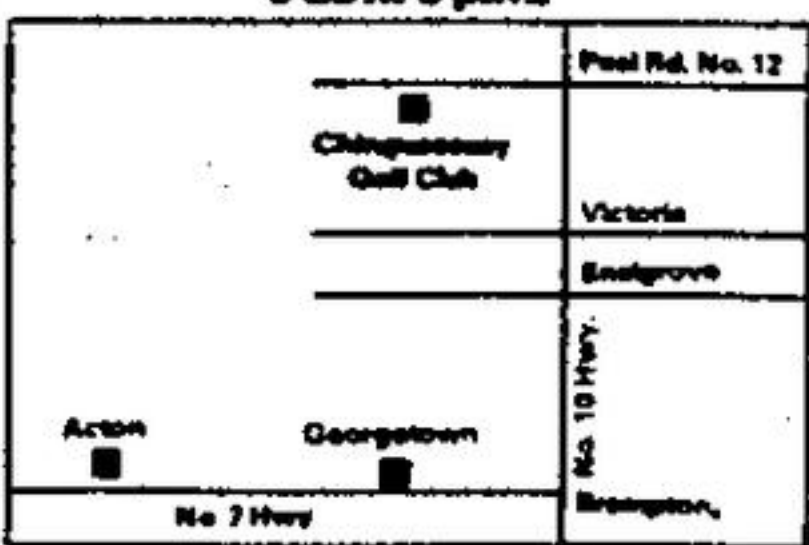
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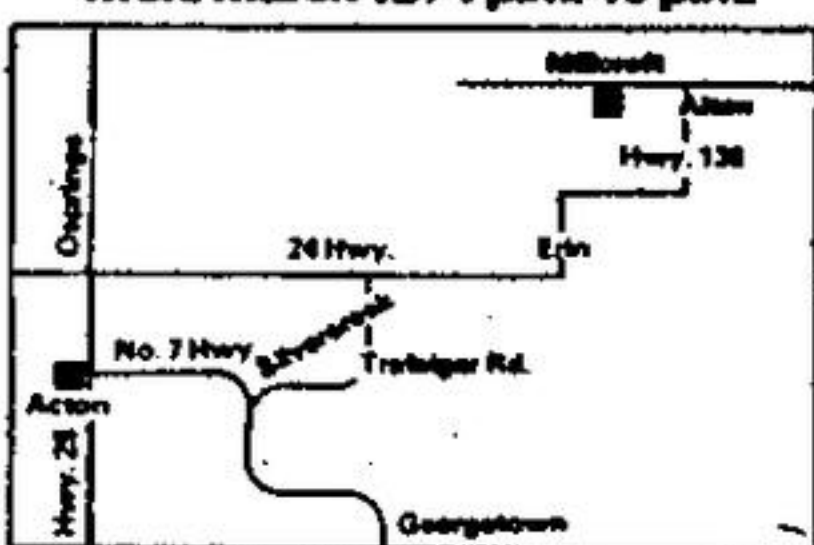
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