

20 youngsters poisoned

Health Unit, doctors concerned

Approximately 20 pre-schoolers between the ages of one and four have been admitted to Georgetown District Memorial Hospital for treatment of poisoning during the late summer and early fall months. This unequalled rise has sparked a great deal of concern among local Public Health Unit officials and Georgetown doctors.

Fran Jamieson, supervisor of the Public Health Unit in Georgetown explains that, "we're trying to alert parents that this

problem isn't somewhere in Timbuktu; the problem is prevalent here."

According to the Health Unit, fifty percent of poisonings in children are caused by drugs with the principal danger being aspirins which may be good for a headache but however are also potentially lethal to a toddler.

"Aspirins and vitamins are most dangerous, especially those candy type aspirins. Parents tend to leave the candy

aspirins around the house and many think they are harmless," stated Dr. J.H. Chamberlain of Georgetown.

"This is a recognized problem. Today's children are getting into things they shouldn't but the serious part of it is that the children do not realize what they are doing. It's not the parents who are taking the overdoses, it's the children," continued the doctor.

Aspirin accounts for roughly one-quarter

of child poisonings however, many other drugs and household chemicals figure prominently in child poisonings.

Tranquilizers, sleeping pills, vitamins, birth control pills, floor cleaners, furniture polishes, window cleaners, and other such harmful chemicals are some of the most common poisons.

The Public Health Unit points out that the child who poisons himself with too many pills can hardly be blamed for his actions. The

responsibility must rest with careless adults who leave drugs or other potentially poisonous substances, within reach of children.

Poisonings occur in the home points to negligence as a prime cause.

The first preventative step is to move all potentially harmful drugs and chemicals well out of reach of children.

Ideally drugs should be kept in locked bathroom cabinets. Various household cleaners that are potentially lethal should not

be kept under the kitchen sink, but placed up high where pre-schoolers can't start playing with them.

The Health Unit also warns that care must also be taken with drugs contained in "child-proof" containers. Often they aren't all that child-proof, especially to the child.

If a poison does occur, the child is to be taken directly to the Georgetown Hospital. If possible, notify the family doctor before leaving for the hospital.

the HERALD

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1976

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills

15cents

Interim tax bills up 7 to 16 mills over 1975

Interim municipal tax bills which have to be paid by Georgetown residents by March 3 are going to increase by approximately eight mills this year.

Although budget predictions are all focusing on sizable mill rate jumps this year the eight-mill increase is, however, due to a change in the billing system used by the town.

The personnel and finance committee Monday night decided not to follow past procedures of asking for a set 30 mills in the interim bill but instead for 50 percent of last year's final mill rate.

For Georgetown that will mean a 16 mill increase in their interim bill. Esqueing resident's interim bills will increase by approximately seven mills.

The interim tax bill aids municipalities in raising money during the early part of each year before the final budget can be struck.

The penalty for not paying the interim

tax bill by March 3 will be the addition of one percent of the amount of the bill immediately plus an additional one percent every ensuing month that the bill is not paid.

Police can issue warning tags

Persons parking their cars in some illegal spots in Halton Hills are going to get a late Christmas present from the Halton Region Police Department: a one month reprieve.

Acting on a request from Halton Hills Police Superintendent Floyd Schwartz, the town's personnel and finance committee Monday night approved the handing out of "Warning Tags" to people whose cars are parked in certain areas which have recently come under the town's new comprehensive parking bylaw.

The idea is to provide an "education period", commented the town's clerk-administrator Doug Pritchard. If there's a

chance that a person was unaware that his car was parked in an illegal spot the police officer could use a certain amount of discretion and issue a warning tag instead of a \$5 ticket.

The committee members considered using a warning tag similar to those used in Oakville which require the car owner to appear at the police station within a specified period of time, but the councillors felt they would be as bothersome as having to pay the fine.

Unfortunately the warning tags will not be retroactive and will be only in effect for approximately one month while residents become aware of the illegal spots to park.

Police discover illegal Oriental weapon

Two Toronto men were charged on January 10 when Halton Region Police discovered a set of Nunchaku sticks in their car on Halton Road 3. Nunchaku sticks are two lengths of wood, about an inch in diameter and from 10 to 14 inches in length, joined by a short length of chain or rope. They are a weapon used in Oriental martial arts.

Halton Regional Police were called to Stewarttown Public School January 11 to investigate a break-in. Although nothing was discovered to have been taken, police did report that approximately \$200 damage had been done to doors and drawers in the school.

Under investigation by police is an N.S.F. cheque tendered to Zellers Department Store, Georgetown Market, January 8th.

Police charged the occupant of a room at the McGibbon Hotel, with possession of marijuana after they executed a search warrant January 10. The drug was discovered in a dresser drawer.

A Georgetown resident was charged with violating the Liquor Licence Act January 12 when police discovered a quantity of beer open in the accused's car.

4-H Club first in Canada to receive Carnegie Training

Approximately 40 local 4-H Club members will be developing more self-confidence, a greater understanding of people, better communications skills while strengthening their ability to cope with the pressures of modern living, all thanks to the Dale Carnegie Training program.

The course is being offered by K. D. Krone and Associates who present Carnegie courses in this area.

Jeff Nurse, president of the Halton 4-H Club and Mark Leahy, representative of the ministry of agriculture and food, both noted that the Halton club is grateful to be the first 4-H Club in Canada to be chosen by Dale

Carnegie to make the training available to its members.

The course will be starting in Milton later this month. The training will be conducted one evening a week for a 14-week period which should give members enough time to put the training to use immediately.

Any 4-H members interested should call Mr. Leahy at 878-2314.

Meanwhile applicants are still being accepted for the new Carnegie course planned for The Halton Hills area under the sponsorship of the Herald. Enquiries are welcomed and can be made by calling the Herald at 877-2201.

Bill Herd elected vice-chairman of board of education

Two representatives of Oakville's Ward 4 now fill the top two executive positions on the Halton Board of Education.

At last Thursday's inaugural meeting of the Halton board Bill Herd of Oakville was elected to the office of vice-chairman of the board. He joins fellow Ward 4 representative Judy Alexander who was acclaimed at the meeting to her second term as chairman.

Two Burlington trustees, Neil Cooper and Tony Goodyear, ran against Mr. Herd for the office with Mr. Goodyear being defeated on the first ballot and Mr. Cooper on the second.

Mr. Herd replaces Rev. Gary Morton as vice-chairman of the board.



Judy Alexander



Sue came along

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING FOR THE YOUNG. Susan Anderson who's just five-years-old participated in the Credit Valley Conservation Authority's "Come Along" program, Sunday at the Terra Cotta Conservation Area. Cross country-skiing is one of the many activities being held as part of the weekly "Come Alongs".

Hydro line go-ahead 'nothing more than a sham'

Julian Reed, MPP for Halton-Burlington, has labelled the provincial government's handling of the Bradley to Georgetown 500kV transmission line as "nothing more than a sham."

"Unless hearings of this kind are conducted in the early

stages before money and time are committed to such projects, we will be doing no more than paying lip service to public participation" he said Monday.

He strongly criticized energy minister Dennis Timbrell for his approval of

construction on sections of the 500kV line between Bradley Junction and Colbeck and between Limehouse and the Milton transformer station.

"He has done so in spite of repeated requests from the concerned citizens for a totally independent study of this line based on premises

never allowed to be considered or debated in these hearings, nor has he taken into account the Premier's request to former minister of agriculture, William Stewart, to look in the matters, whose reply has not been forthcoming.

"Most important of all," MPP Reed continues, "he has disregarded the serious concern shown by Mr. Caverly, himself as chairman of the public hearings on how such a difference of opinion between Ontario Hydro and the public could exist at such an advanced stage of the decision

making process, bearing in mind the high quality of public participation.

"The concern expressed by interested citizens has not had a public forum because the minister of energy has disallowed their debate...We've been had," he concludes.

Most businesses are adapting

Jobs lost

Georgetown grocers are obeying the new Sunday closing law even though for some of them it has meant re-organization of the way they operate their stores.

The law is Ontario's Sunday closing law which went into effect at the start of the year and in part prohibits stores over 2,400 square feet in size to remain open Sunday's. Stores affected by the law told the Herald last week what it has meant.



CHRIS VITO: "It's the consumers who are losing."

at IGA because of Sun. store ban

"We'll be closed for two more Sunday's," notes Don Cornwell, manager of Mac's Milk in the Moore Park Plaza.

That's how long Cornwell thinks it will take until his store is remodeled to bring its size into line with government regulations. What's going out is Cornwell's meat and produce section. He'll lose approximately half of his selling space.

"I don't expect too much of a loss," he

says, adding reluctantly that if sales go down and don't recover, it may be necessary to lay someone off. "We're waiting to see."

For Chris Vito, manager of Chris's IGA on Guelp St., closing the store on Sunday has meant having to open it Tuesday night to regain lost business. To handle increased business on Mondays, Vito has had to extend closing time another hour.

"Tuesdays is a good night," Vito says. "We can work and get our displays done for

Wednesday."

But closing on Sunday has meant some jobs at the IGA store have vanished, explained Vito. Part-time cashiers who worked on Sundays and earned a total of about \$2,000 annually no longer have jobs.

George and Kay Brandford, owners of Kay's Grocery, have kept their tiny store on Guelp St. open seven days a week for the past 27 years.

The new law is "a shot in the arm for

small stores like ours," says Mr. Brandford. "All the big stores are happy too for it's what they wanted."

Brandford noted he had more business the first Sunday the law was in effect. Although he does not anticipate too much extra business, he says, "It'll pick up. It's bound to."

Sunday business picked up about 30 percent reported Gyeong Jeong, manager of Becker's on Edward St. Jeong is pleased with