



SATURDAY'S TORNADO sheared off the veranda of the Len Harding home, 10 Guelph St. The remains of the veranda are piled in front of the house.



BARRICADES are up on Guelph Street near Main Street. A tree was felled, the garage tree uprooted all resulting from the tornado.

Work crews respond quickly despite holiday weekend

Service repairmen were on the scene immediately following the unexpected tornado which swept through Georgetown Saturday.

The combined efforts of the police, hydro commission, Bell Canada, the town's works department and Hulton Cable Systems soon cleared up the debris of fallen wires, shattered glass and uprooted trees.

The 20-foot-wide twister funnel left in its wake damages estimated by police between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

"Being a long weekend, and with so many men on holidays, we did the best we could," said Mayor Tom Hill, who assisted police by contacting members of the works department.

Georgetown Hydro foreman George Harrington said about 25 to 30 Hulton Hills homes were without power.

One home, in the Elizabeth-Ewing Street area in Georgetown, had no hydro for 11 1/2 hours, he said.

"Poles were torn down... trees landed on them... it took us hours and hours but all those out of power were hooked up that night," Harrington said.

Employees from hydro commissions in Brampton and Acton supplemented the Georgetown staff to complete temporary repairs to the fallen lines.

CLEAR LIMBS
Four men from Ontario Hydro arrived with a truck equipped with a 75 foot high aerial bucket to remove trees and branches leaning against the high tension line on Market Street in Georgetown among other areas.

Harrington said no damages to private property were caused by toppled hydro wires, yet it will cost hydro about \$1,000 to replace each of the three poles destroyed and to restore various new connections.

Bell Canada, on the other hand, "got off relatively easy", said Brampton public affairs manager Bill Barnes.

"All of our lines downtown (in Georgetown) are buried underground," explained Barnes.

He said about 20 down wires were down, which didn't necessarily mean that telephones were inoperational.

"Everything was restored back to normal immediately," he said, adding that at the

time of the interview Monday, no complaints about disruption of service had been received.

ONLY ONE POLE

Barnes said only one telephone pole needed replacing, at a cost of \$200 or \$300.

Hulton Hills works superintendent Frank Morette said he was "extremely surprised" when the police phoned him at home Saturday afternoon to inform him of the tornado.

Morette, who lives in the Prince Charles Drive - Rexway Drive area, said, "It was just raining up here."

He rounded up eight works department employees to clear the debris from urban roads to allow traffic to pass through.

About 20 large trees were moved out of the street using a loader he said.

This week, the works department has been cutting into firewood the trees blown down by the tornado. Morette said the wood will be available free from depots at James and Charles Streets and Morris Street near Chapel Street school.

The brush, he explained, will be used for land fill sites.

OFF-DUTY
Off-duty Halton policemen joined others on shift for a total manpower of 11 attending the post-tornado scene.

Over the weekend, one officer was detailed to patrol the Main Street area for security purposes, since some of the stores, were only temporarily boarded up after windows were shattered.

Sgt. John Barratt said the force was very impressed with the way the town's works department, hydro commissions, Bell Canada and Hulton Cable Systems—on a day off—"did a fantastic job cleaning up."

Police also thank Halton resident David Alexander, who, they say, left his car, donned a fluorescent vest and for five hours directed traffic away from a live hydro line at Edith and Park Streets.

Alexander's volunteer service freed a police officer from that duty, police say.

Ken Buijkema, Georgetown fire chief, said no fires were caused by the freak twister.

Hulton Cables Systems were unavailable for comment at press time.

Maple trees dying of old age

Trees, like people, sometimes die of old age. Education officer for the

Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) George Roberts, temporarily serving as information officer, said maple trees between 150 and 200 years old are dying throughout the area.

If a young tree has already had some exposure to sunshine, it will more readily adapt to transplanting in the open, Roberts said.

His advice is to transplant young trees now, to replace the old trees which are falling.

He mentioned private nurseries as an alternative source of young trees, and advises people to contact the ministry of natural resources for information about their program of supplying seedlings to plant on two acres or more of land.

He suggested relocating saplings from the edge of the farm woodlots, under the protective boughs of existing deciduous beauties.

the HERALD Home Newspaper of Halton Hills

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BELL TELEPHONE lineman came from as far away as Weston, to repair downed lines after Saturday's tornado. Pictured above is Doug Anthony repairing lines between Mill Street and Church Street.

Town refuses bid after it arrives late

A sealed tender on the Georgetown Memorial Arena reconstruction project was returned unsealed to the contractor last week after it arrived five minutes past the deadline.

Council refused to accept the tender supporting a precedent it set two weeks ago upholding its tendering bylaw.

The late tender is the second to come before council in three weeks. The first, brought by Coun. Harry Levy, was made on a tender for town works vehicles.

"If you accept one tender (that's late), then what's

late?" Mayor Tom Hill asked council.

Coun. Ernie Sykes supported the move saying "we have established a tendering bylaw and we could not accept it (the tender) anyway."

Coun. Harry Levy concurred adding that the previous late tender "established a principle and we have to stick to this."

"It seems that in the last two tenders we have had two people late," Coun. George Malby said. "Possibly we should extend the time to one o'clock and then let them be five minutes late."

Site bylaws ready, opposition expected

Site plan bylaws for the three areas of Halton Hills have been tabled by planning board for further study.

The action was taken last week after town planner Mario Venditti distributed the copies to council members.

The three bylaws will incorporate changes in planning policy which allows the town council of such matters as fencing, landscaping and

floodlight under authorization of Section 35 of the Planning Act.

The bylaws are modeled after similar bylaws now in existence in other municipalities.

"We are the first municipality in Halton Region processing these bylaws and I am sure there will be a lot of opposition to them from developers," Mr. Venditti said.

Hill resigns cemetery post

Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill has resigned from the Glen Williams Cemetery Board after 20 years of service.

"I was one of the original ones who started to clean it up back at the time of the first Remembrance Day service," said Hill, "but I gave it up because they had to set up meetings to coincide with my time, and I didn't think that was fair to the board."

New chairman of the six-man Glen Williams Cemetery Board, John Doherty held his first meeting Wednesday night, to discuss maintenance and budget.

In attendance were board members Ross Giles (vice-chairman - a new position), Violet Haines, (secretary - treasurer); and Alf Allen (director).

Unable to attend were newcomers to the board: directors Cy Waters and Una Wheeler.

ONLY TWO VOLUNTEERS
"The minute Cy and Una volunteered, we appointed them as directors," said Mrs. Haines, adding that newspaper advertisements yielded only two responses.

"But we gave everyone the opportunity to come forward," she added.

Giles said how the Glen Williams Cemetery Board has changed since its establishment in 1928.

"Back then," began Giles, "it used to be a big thing to be on the cemetery board - policemen, Reeves, big businessmen - everybody who was somebody wanted to be on it."

"Times have changed," he added.

However, the cemetery board has survived as a group of interested volunteers, to provide a special service to the public.

"I'd hate to see it put into the hands of town council," said Mrs. Haines.

IMPROVE GROUNDS
"Anyone who wants to come in and fix up a plot in a special way or people who have questions can come to us," she explained.

Basically, the board is responsible for maintenance of the grounds, which runs up an annual bill of about \$1,000 - most of it for grass-cutting, said Haines.

Discussed at the Wednesday meeting was the installation of a farm fence along one side of the property. The erection of a durable plaque engraved with

the name of the cemetery at the front entrance is proposed for next year.

Another idea is laying down the tall, limestone tombstones which are leaning over before they fall down and smash into pieces.

Money for these projects is chiefly raised by the annual Remembrance Day service held on Father's Day plus donations by individuals, and revenues from grave openings and plot purchases.

Reverend Ruggie of St. Alban's church has been commissioned by the board to write a book on the history of the cemetery.

Haines said he would be paid between \$300 and \$400 for the manuscript.

The board hopes to earn enough money through the sale of this book to maintain the attractive appearance of the cemetery grounds.



ALF ALLEN, Violet Haines, Ross Giles and John Doherty inspect Glen Williams Cemetery.

Board continues to hold stick over head of developer

Halton Hills planning board refused to let go of the "big stick" it holds over the developer of Marywood Meadows.

At last Tuesday's planning board meeting, developer Ben Noy asked the board to reconsider its hold up of his proposed amendment 23 to Georgetown's official plan.

Council two weeks ago held up the amendment on the grounds that cleaning up Marywood Meadows could be speeded up. They approved the amendment in principle.

Noy, who had asked for an in camera meeting, "because lately, publicity is killing me," told the planning board he had done everything to fulfil the subdivision agreement.

He said work on cleaning up the park had started. Clipsham and Moreton Ltd., the consulting engineers, had redrafted grades and elevations and negotiations with CNR had resulted in the term being placed on CNR property, thus increasing the lot size.

In asking for amendment 23 to be reconsidered, Noy said: "I see no obstacle to fulfilling the subdivision agreement."

FOUR ACRE HOLDING
Amendment 23 would change the designation of a four acre, triangular parcel of land from rural to urban and

permit construction of 14 single family homes. I would also permit Noy to preservice the lots.

Noy charged the planning board that "by delaying the amendment, you are taking away my best time to do the work."

"I'm being held up with a stick unreasonably," he said.

Coun. Ernie Sykes told Noy that the engineering department would not finish examining the consulting engineer's report until this week. Hyde suggested a meeting on the site where everything will be clearly explained.

"We are wielding a big stick," Hyde said. "Now is the only time we can wield it."

"We should meet on the site, and come up with an ironclad agreement," Hyde said. "If we can, I'll be tickled pink to support the amendment."

Coun. Roy Booth, who moved to recommend council to approve the amendment in principle, cautioned that Noy might have an offer to purchase contingent on the amendment being passed which would result in dealing with two different companies, effectively removing council's stick in the Marywood Meadows clean up.

After meeting on the street, the councillors and Noy retired to Noy's office to discuss the details of the parks' condition.

At Friday mornings meeting at the site of the park at Mary and Henry Streets, Noy told the members of the planning board present and the town's engineers that he was willing to renegotiate to bring the park back to the state it had been when it was traded to him.

Although Noy said the park had no grass when he got it, he was willing, at his own expense, to seed it to conform to a report still to be prepared by town engineer Robert Austin.

Austin's report, which will state the final grades and elevations of the park, still needs council approval.

Noy said: "I'm going to comply of my own free will, not because you're holding a big stick over me. I've done things to improve the subdivision at my own expense that are not in the subdivision agreement."

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Area nurse heads for Texas because of hospital cutback

By Lynn Rhodes Herald Staff Writer

A local nursing graduate, rejected by hospitals across Canada, has accepted a position with a hospital in Texas.

"I applied to Canadian hospitals from coast to coast," Mary Jane Ballentine of Georgetown said.

"But with government cutbacks, our hospitals can't afford to hire, although they really need more staff."

Ballentine said representatives from California, Texas, Florida and other American hospitals visited George Brown College, which she attended, to recruit new staff.

"The states are just crying for nurses," she said.

About one third of her class landed jobs in the United States while only one out of 128 who did their ward work at Toronto General Hospital was hired there. Others are unemployed.

ONLY 40 JOBS

"In Ontario, there were about 4,500 grads this year but only about 80 jobs," she added.

If Toronto General was hiring, Ballentine was sure they would have chosen new staff from the student nurses who trained there.

She said Toronto General, like other hospitals, is "dependent on student nurses."

Half the course time is spent doing practical hospital work, with seven or eight girls each tending four patients in one ward.

"They didn't bring in staff nurses because they knew we were going to be there," she said.

Ballentine's first choice would not have been to work at Toronto General because she said "it's too large and impersonal."

Preferring employment at a smaller hospital near her hometown, Ballentine said she would rather work at Peel Memorial Hospital in Brampton or Guelph General Hospital.

Instead, she's bound for St. Elizabeth Hospital in Beaumont, Texas.

Because this hospital is the size she prefers, and because some of her school friends are also hired there, travelling hundreds of miles away from home to work won't be traumatic.

LUCKY

"I was lucky to get a job at all," Ballentine said.

When she enrolled in the nursing course two years ago, Ballentine said the number of nursing graduates was about equal with the number of jobs available. At that time, she never expected the imbalance in the market facing her now.

All problems aside, Ballentine does not regret her

career choice. While attending Georgetown and district high school, she worked as a candy-striper and at that time made up her mind to become a nurse.

"I like working with people," she said.

She said she prefers to work in the surgical ward where she can watch the progress of a patient's recovery. It gives her "a good feeling" when a person is well enough to return home.

After a year's experience, Ballentine said she might try to specialize or get a job in Canada.

Mary Jane Ballentine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ballentine of 425 Delrex Blvd., graduated as a Registered Nurse, July 23, at Convocation Hall, Toronto. She has accepted a position in Beaumont, Texas.



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