



Fire Chief Mick Holmes with police officer.

Hydro office entry, fire nets \$1,200

Unknown persons who broke into the Georgetown Hydro Commission's offices early Friday morning got away with \$1,200 of an employee's money and caused an estimated \$10,000 in fire damage.

Bill Smith, chairman of the commission, said the sum was to be used by a Hydro employee as a mortgage payment the following day. All Hydro moneys are stored either in the vault or in a bank, he added.

Commission chairman Bill Smith said nothing was destroyed but the interior of the building sustained extensive smoke damage.

Police and Ontario Fire Marshall's Office investigators spent Friday morning combing the building seeking information on the fire. It is believed to have started from a welder's torch and may have smoldered for up to three hours before being discovered by office staff reporting for work about 7

a.m. "It appears almost a vandalism thing," Mr. Smith said following a morning at the scene of the fire, "and it looks like the people were looking for money."

He said all desks in the offices and some lockers in the storage area of the building were rifled but no records, money or hydro equipment was taken.

The incomplete estimate of damage results from uncertainty over how much equipment may have to be replaced, or how much redecorating may be required.

"We don't anticipate any delay in billing," he told the Herald, "since the next one is on the first of the month (September)."

Hydro offices have been shifted temporarily to Peter Heslin building, 45 Guelph St. until the massive clean-up has been completed. Mr. Smith said he expects to be back into the offices within a month.

Picked Up in Passing Library study costs OK'd

The cost of preparing a study of the structural adequacy of the present Georgetown library is \$200 over the limit of \$1,000 set by Halton Hills council, finance administration committee learned Monday. The committee has recommended that council approve the entire cost of the study and award the project to Phillips Planning. The firm also has been asked to comment on the feasibility of adding an addition to the existing library similar to the plans on file.

View hockey finances

The financial status of the Acton Sabres, the Georgetown Geminis and the Georgetown Raider Hockey clubs will be discussed by Halton Hills council. On Monday, finance-administration committee elected that the matter be handled by council because only it has the authority to set the rates for ice time, a major factor in the club's financial picture.

Acton rezoning

An open space at Acton Boulevard and Mill Street will be rezoned residential if Halton Hills council follows a recommendations made Monday to give third reading to bylaw 77-67. Coun. Peter Marks predicted that nearby property owners likely will object to the rezoning.

Metric fines different

Halton Regional Police are in the midst of changing its fine rate on summary ticket offenses to match the change from miles to kilometres on road signs. The rates now read \$1 a mile for the first 10 miles; but Supt. Floyd Schwartz said it is not certain if the new rate will be about 62 cents when dealing with kilometres, but no clear legislation has been sent. When the new signs come into effect Sept. 6, Supt. Schwartz said, "drivers will not be given a free day to get used to the metric system if caught speeding. Everyone knows the proper speed on roadways and highways," he added.

Corn roast

Corn lovers and naturalists will enjoy "Corn Cob Capers" at the Mountsberg Wildlife Centre at Mountsberg Reserve, Town Line and Fifth Sideroad near Hamilton. The special fall program from August 27-Sept. 25 includes a pioneer corn festival, special wildlife demonstrations and horse drawn wagon rides. Films and slides will be shown.

Chicken bar-b-que

A chicken bar-b-que is being sponsored by the Brampton Flower Festival Association. The bar-b-que will be held in Gage Park, Main Street, Brampton on Sunday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets are available from Brampton Flower Festival Directors, Brampton Board of Trade and Fendley Florists stores.

RIA course intro

Peel-Halton chapter of the Society of Management Accountants of Ontario will be holding an information night Aug. 29 for potential students wishing to enrol in the registered industrial accountant program. It will be held at the Bramalea Civic Centre from 6 to 9 p.m.

Bicycle auction

A bicycle auction will be held in Burlington at Area 3 Halton Regional Police headquarters. Chief Ken Skerritt said there are about 160 unclaimed bicycles being held and 200 bicycles are anticipated to be in police possession by the end of August.

Eight-year-olds register with Manpower

By GEORGE EVASHUK
Herald staff writer

Students as young as eight-years-old have registered for and got jobs from Canada Manpower Centres for Students, says Wendy Andrews, coordinator of the Brampton office.

It is the first time students so young have registered, she told the Herald in an interview. "It's unusual." In the past the age range of students

registering has been 12 to 16 years, she said.

The young students were placed in casual jobs such as strawberry picking, grass cutting and helping around the house, she said.

Although final, exact figures were unavailable, the total number of students registering at the Brampton office, which covers Halton Hills, Orangeville and Brampton was "well above 2,500" she

said.

The placement rate is the same as last year's and in light of the increased unemployment in the country, she feels the Manpower Student Centre has "done quite well." In Ontario, staff of the Manpower Centres for Students have visited over 60,000 potential employers. By the end of July, an all-time record of 76,445 placements were made, exceeding a

record established in July 1974, according to the Department of Manpower and Immigration.

The Department of Manpower and Immigration's two new job creation programs, Young Canada Works and the Summer Job Corps, have been plus factors for students seeking employment this summer, the department says. Total placements for these new activities were 6,500 by

July 29.

The Ontario Government's Youth Employment Program has also provided a stimulus to the summer labor market and many employers have taken advantage of the program to hire students.

The department says response from employers and homeowners has been very positive this year, according to the fine staff of the 120 student

offices in Ontario.

"Perhaps they can't provide full time employment for students," says John Henderson, Ontario Regional Student Summer Employment and Activities Coordinator, "but they do take on these young workers for casual or part-time work and for odd jobs around the house."

"We find that the students

available for work now, especially those in the high school group, are willing to undertake most kinds of work."

With the continued support from their various communities, the Canada Manpower Centres for Students in Ontario are optimistic that they will exceed their goal of 85,000 placements by September.

Glen residents dissatisfied with vague assurances

The Glen residents were dissatisfied with vague assurances offered by works committee Monday that their problem of dry and polluted well may be on the regional works agenda Wednesday (today).

Town engineer Bob Austin said the cut off date for an item to be brought up at the region for Aug. 24 is Aug. 15. However, a meeting was held by the residents to inform Halton Hills works committee on Aug. 10.

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson asked why regional councillors hadn't contacted the region to ask for permission to make sure the issue was brought up at the region.

Mayor Tom Hill said he will try to get the item on the agenda, but "it depends on how heavy the agenda is." He added, it will be brought up in new business.

Coun. Pat McKenzie said he wants the Glen residents to be aware the problem won't be solved overnight, even if it is discussed at the regional meeting. The region will be concerned with its financial responsibility and money is not included in this budget for the extension of piped water to the affected streets.

Stan Marcinuk, 2 Karen Dr., asked to see the report given to works committee from the solicitor, but works chairman Mike Armstrong said the report is confidential.

Mr. Marcinuk said because of the lack of rain, his well has dropped three to five inches.

Mr. Marcinuk then passed out three letters from the Glen's lawyer David Estrin to the board of health, George Kerr, minister of environment, and Fred Zorge, of Mountclair Developments.

Mr. Estrin asks the Halton regional board of health to recommend to the region approval of piping water to the affected streets and houses.

George Gray, said Mr. Estrin's letter has been forwarded to the Mountclair's lawyers. He added he understands it will also be on the agenda for the next board of health meeting.

Recent water samples taken from the wells on Karen, Park, Erin, Alexander, Confederation and Beaver Streets showed seven wells unsatisfactory and three wells doubtful.

Mr. Estrin asks that Mountclair Developments enter into an agreement no later than Sept. 30 with Halton Region to pay whatever the region requires to extend a piped water supply to the affected streets, if water is not returned to normal quality and quantity by Sept. 15.

If the region does not pass the necessary resolutions and bylaws to provide piped water starting on Sept. 16 to be completed by Oct. 31, Mountclair Developments will be asked to pay the cost of drilling wells on the affects properties.

Mr. Estrin called for "no further digging or road construction or foundation excavation to occur without a piped water supply or drilled supply being installed."

Although most of the affected homes have been temporarily connected to the town water supply with fire hoses from a hydrant and by garden hoses, these are "unsatisfactory both in the short and long term," Mr. Estrin states in a

letter to George Kerr, minister of environment.

Also, he said, he questions whether the developer has undertaken the connection of various houses by way of fire hoses and garden hoses with approval of a director of the ministry of environment.

He calls for action under section 80 of the Ontario Water Resource Act stating this situation should be considered as an emergency "because of the danger to health and the impairment of water that has been caused by the developer's construction and the past damage to property that has been caused."

Under this Act the ministry has the "power to order the developer to take immediate action to install an underground water supply to these houses," Mr. Estrin asks the ministry to use this power after Sept. 15.

Mr. Estrin asks the director to define the aquifer referred to in Mr. Morrison's hydrogeological study of Aug. 10.

One year for fair without town aid

This year's fall fair in Georgetown may be the last one unless Halton Hills council is willing to see it survive, finance administration was told Monday.

Charles Fogel, secretary-manager of the Georgetown Agricultural Society which operates the fall fair, said the fair is running out of room for exhibits because of the inroads of the baseball diamonds and the recent renovation of the armories at the Fairground Park.

The Agricultural Society wants a commitment from the town because they are about to spend \$4,000 in the next few days to renovate a building on the grounds to allow more space for exhibitors, Mr. Fogel said.

If council is not willing to support in principle, the society's intended use of the structure, the society would rather not spend the money.

The 100 by 125 foot concrete-floored structure needs "extensive modification" but is structurally sound, he said. Other groups could use the building although heating is

not planned until 1978, the second year of a two year renovation scheme, and then only a 25 by 25 foot section.

Mr. Fogel said the entire cost of renovating the building would be about \$9,000 taking into consideration volunteer labor and possible Wintario grants. The 1977 objective is merely to get the building in shape enough so that the public will see it if it is worth saving.

At the moment the building is without Hydro although the interior has been wired, Mr. Fogel said. The agricultural society wants council to give a \$1,500 to \$2,000 grant to supply hydro to the building. This year Georgetown hydro will supply the building with a temporary line.

Without the building, Mr. Fogel doubted whether there would be a Georgetown Fall Fair next year.

Coun. C.F. (Pat) Patterson said the Georgetown Fall Fair is "deteriorating" through no fault of the fall fair executive.

The committee moved to endorse the fall fair board in principle and asked for a report on possible uses of the building from staff.

Acton core to change if plan report approved

The appearance of downtown Acton could change drastically during the next few years if a consultant's report, scheduled for release early next month, confirms that the majority of the merchants concerned favor a \$100,000 beautification project.

Henry Stachyra, chairman of the board of management for Acton's Business Improvement Area (BIA) project, said more than 90 per cent of the questionnaires circulated downtown and since returned to the board to endorse the proposed revitalization.

The questionnaires, prepared by project consultants Anthrogram Planning Ltd., were delivered to 75 downtown business late last month and returned prior to Aug. 12. Opinions were sought on a variety of innovative ideas and designs suggested by the consultants, for which estimated costs were included.

Mr. Stachyra's assessment of the results hold true, the top priority concepts will be finalized and implementation could begin next spring, following official approval by town council.

The Anthrogram planners, hired in May, saw much commercial potential for Acton in its reliance upon the leather industry, which historically provided a financial base for the young community and still employ some 375 residents.

Acton, as a result, could become known in years to come as southern Ontario's "leather town", where specialty boutiques would offer a wide range of home-made leather goods.

Along with suggestions of an annual leather festival and the publication of an informative pamphlet about the industry, the planners described in their questionnaire a number of concepts successfully implemented elsewhere in the province where BIA projects have been undertaken.

A streetscaping project would see the sidewalks, and possibly even portions of the traffic lanes, transformed into an attractive shopping area with benches, decorative light standards and refuse containers, trees, shrubs, and

flower planters installed along its length.

Storefronts could be reconstructed to depict a uniform design throughout the downtown core.

The planners also recommended the installation of parking meters in all lots and spaces in the downtown core, as well as the hiring of an enforcement officer for their supervision.

Mr. Stachyra commented that the BIA board of management may decide to hold another election of directors, despite the recent revision of the pertinent provincial legislation. Previously, BIA officers held their posts for only a one-year term, but can now remain on the board for as long as two years.

Pointing out that the merchants and residents have reached a better understanding of the BIA concept since the board's initial election last February, Mr. Stachyra speculated that the board membership may hold another election following the Christmas season.



UP IN THE AIR FIGHTING MD

A joint effort by the volunteer firefighters in Georgetown and McDonald's Restaurant Saturday afternoon raised \$181.45 for the fight against Muscular Dystrophy. The restaurant took donations from children and adults too for helium filled balloons; the proceeds of the sale of 189 sundaes also went towards the fund. Above,

Mandy Armstrong of McDonald's hands a bunch of balloons to volunteer firefighter Bill Weir to decorate the fire truck. McDonald's representative Jo Lister thanked all persons who made the event a success.

Photo by George Evashuk