

Your Morning Smile

After struggling for several minutes with an uncooperative operator, the gentleman finally raged. "Am I crazy or are you?" "I'm sorry, sir," was the reply, "but we don't have that information."

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the HERALD

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The full-size paper reaching more than 13,000 homes in Halton Hills

In Passing

Artist wins prize

Lotte Zonnenberg of Georgetown won a prize for the best print at the Mississauga Library System's third annual juried art show on the Jan. 29 weekend. Mrs. Zonnenberg's print was entitled "Peace and Quiet", and will be displayed in the Gallery of Central Library, Mississauga until March 10. Juror A. Peter Harris of Rodman Hall Arts Centre selected the works to be displayed, awarded prizes of art books to the winners and offered a critique to the artists.

Guards salary increased

School crossing guards in Halton Hills will have their pay upped to \$10 per day from \$8 on March 1 if Halton Hills council approves a recommendation made Monday by finance administration committee. The raise would bring Halton Hills guards' pay into line with what other municipalities in the region are paying.

Meet the nominee

The committee to nominate Everett Biggs as the Progressive Conservative candidate in the federal riding of Brampton-Georgetown has announced two Meet the Nominee nights to be held at the North Halton Golf and Country Club. The first meeting will be held Feb. 22 and the second March 15. Both start at 7 p.m. Mr. Biggs is one of two persons declared to be seeking the Tory nomination. He is a former Ontario deputy minister of environment and presently holds a directorship, and is a vice-president, of the Canadian National Exhibition.

Insurance explained

Arthur W. Despard, vice-president of Reed, Shaw, Stenhouse Ltd., a ranking insurance agency, will speak to the Peel-Halton Chapter of the Society of Management Accountants of Ontario at its meeting Feb. 22 on the topic of liability insurance. The meeting will be held at the Ramada Inn on Dixie Road.

Permits drop

The value of building permits issued by Halton Hills building department in January was \$150,925 less than the total value of permits issued in December, 1977. The January total of \$59,100 showed a substantial drop from the December total of \$210,025. Nine permits were issued in January as compared to fourteen in December. Three permits were issued for signs, and five for residential alterations.

Only one permit was issued for a single family dwelling, while three were issued during the month of December.

Anti-smoking winners

Winners in Centennial Middle school's anti-smoking poster competition received their prizes from Halton MPP Julian Reed at an assembly last week. Four overall winners were chosen as well as a best poster from each grade level. Overall first prize went to Debbie Osborne and Brandon Ferguson (grade 8) for a combined effort. Second was Carolyn Whitaker (grade 7). Third was Sandy Gimple (grade 7), and fourth, Wayne Griffiths (grade 8). Best posters for grade level were won by Stephen MacLeod (grade 6), Tracy Klavakins, (Grade 7), and Malcolm MacLeod (grade 8). Prizes were donated by the Lung, Heart and Cancer Association of Halton.

Skin care, make-up

Students in Sheridan College's cosmetology course are again offering a skin care and makeup service to students, staff, faculty members and the public, one day a week at the Oakville Campus. Every Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Ten to Four Boutique, which is operated entirely by students, will provide beauty advice and skin analyses in addition to full skin care and makeup treatments. All the services provided come with written instructions. Members of the public can make appointments in advance by calling the modelling department at 845-9430, extension 298.

YM-YWCA meeting

The 16th Annual meeting of Georgetown and District YMCA-YWCA will be held Feb. 21 at St. Andrews Church, 89 Mountainview Road S. Coffee and dessert will be served at 7:30 p.m. and the business meetings is to get underway at 8 p.m. Guest speaker is Al Whittall of the Guelph YMCA-YWCA who will give a slide presentation on Peru.

Tax tips, information

If you are trying to pay as little income tax as possible this year, and who isn't, some free information is available. Three two-hour programs on income tax will be broadcast by the Open College division of radio station CJRT-FM, which is 92.1 on the FM channel. The first program is Feb. 19, the second on Feb. 26 and the third on March 5. The programs run from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. and will be moderated by Lyle Hepburn, who with tax lawyer Wayne Beach, co-authored a book, Are You Paying Too Much Tax? The format of the program is a 30 minute talk with Open College Director Margaret Norquay and then the phone lines are opened for people to call in with specific questions. There will also be an tax accountant in the studio to answer questions.

Windfall '78 May 13

Windfall '78 Dinner-Dance-Giant Draw will be held on Saturday, May 13. Georgetown Lions Club is organizing its second windfall buffet dinner, \$3,000 dollars worth of prizes, ranging from colour television to fishing gear. Music will be provided by "The Group of Four" from Brampton. Tickets will go on sale shortly and will be available from any Lions club member.

Dinner tickets available

Georgetown Citizen of the Year, Walter Gray, will be honoured at a dinner-dance in the Lions Hall on Feb. 24. Friends and interested citizens wanting to be present at the award presentation can do so by reserving their dinner tickets by calling Chairman Ernie Sykes at 877-3481 or any of the other committee members: Ray Harlow - 877-4863; Jon Zorge - 877-0155; Terry Peer - 877-2413; Fred Zorge - 877-7284.

New summer program

Health and Welfare Minister Monique Begin has announced the details of the department's Health Activities Summer Employment Programs for Students, which will enable health-related organizations and other voluntary groups to hire approximately 450 students across Canada this summer. The \$920,000 program is to be administered by the department's Health Programs Branch, and organizations wishing to take part in the program should apply to the Branch before Feb. 28. The address is: Health Programs Branch, Department of National Health and Welfare, Room 623, Jeanne Mance Building, Ottawa, K1A 1B 4. Interested students can get more information by contacting Canada Manpower.

37 Metcalfe residents petition council

Ravine resident to be informed of development

A delegation of Metcalfe Court homeowners bearing a petition signed by 37 of their neighbors were assured Monday that they will be kept informed about upcoming developments in the town's approach to an erosion problem behind their properties.

The petition, presented to works committee by homeowner Dave Stewart in response to a suggestion by Coun. Pete Pomeroy, called for appropriate and expeditious action to stop the erosion of Metcalfe ravine and complete notification of any forthcoming action stemming from a recent report on the situation.

The Metcalfe residents were told that the town's draft 1978 budget has \$40,000 designated for work on the ravine, but were warned at the same time that, even if it is accepted by council, the expenditure must be approved at other levels of authority.

Coun. George Maltby predicted that the "bureaucracy" beyond council may slow the proposed work down by two years, with approval first needed from the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, which has jurisdiction over the ravine waterway itself. Brian McCluskey, spokesman for the homeowners, reminded the committee that the erosion began after the houses were built and sold in 1969. Since the town owns the ravine

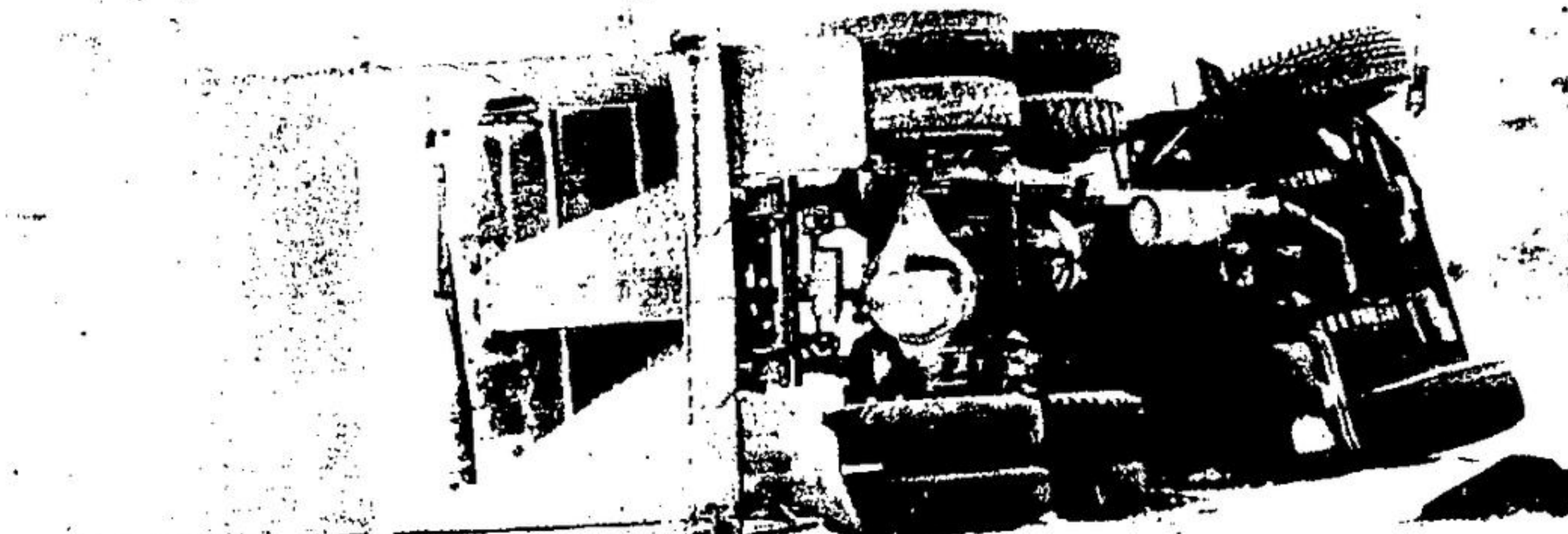
property, excluding the waterway, he contended, the town should have the authority to repair its deteriorated condition.

Mr. McCluskey expressed specific concerns over water-main leaks that have occurred in front of the Metcalfe homes during past years and have resulted in the escaping water finding its way beneath the houses to the ravine, causing more erosion. The spring thaw, he speculated, could create or worsen problems if such leaks continue.

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson commented that she had asked regional works crews to examine the storm sewers last week, but the homeowners were unaware of any such visit.

Town engineer Bob Austin challenged Mr. McCluskey's assertions that major works projects have been undertaken in Ward 4 during the past few years and that projects in other wards are contributing to the ravine problem.

"Hundreds of thousands of dollars" have been spent in Ward 4, he said, and only Ward 4 water is entering the ravine. Mr. McCluskey commented that last year's "solution" of installing \$8,000 worth of gabion dams to control the ravine water flow has not ended the erosion, and may have, in fact, accelerated the process. The summer months, he added, brought in an abundance of mosquitoes breeding in the small ponds created by the dams.



This truck, owned by Oscar Young, of Toronto, and carrying gravel from the Indusmin Quarries, overturned on 17 Sideroad Monday morning, spilling its entire load of gravel on the road. Traffic on the road was halted, since the truck lay across both lanes. Police diverted traffic between the 5th and 6th Lines.

... NEVER RIDE BUS AGAIN. ...

Mother concerned over truck danger

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald staff writer

"Our children will never be allowed to ride the school bus again," Joan King told The Herald after a truck carrying a load of gravel overturned on the spot where her children had been waiting for a bus an hour earlier.

The truck was carrying a load of gravel from Indusmin Quarries and was travelling on 17 Sideroad between the 5th and 6th Lines when the accident occurred.

Mrs. King said a number of children wait for the bus on the spot where the truck overturned.

"But it doesn't matter if it was one child or fifty—the dump truck could have killed them," she said. The children wait for the bus at around 8 a.m., and the trucks begin their trips to and from the gravel pits at about 6 a.m., she said.

This is the fourth accident on 17 Sideroad this (winter) season, Mrs. King said. The children have to stand on the road to wait for the bus, she said, and this is particularly dangerous when the snow is piled along the sides of the road.

"We're just sick of this," she said. "Our kids will never be allowed to ride the bus again."

My husband and I will be driving them to school. And if the car isn't available, I'm not going to send them by taxi—I'm going to keep them home."

Mrs. King said she and her husband will go to the Halton board of education to explain why her children won't be in school as much.

"But there's no way we will allow them to go to school on that bus," she said. "I'll educate my own children at home if I have to. I'm a qualified teacher."

"They said in the paper that people's jobs would be in danger if the trucks weren't allowed to use 17 Sideroad," Mrs. King said. "That's

balderdash—no one's going to lose his job because he has to go an extra six miles per trip. They get paid by the load."

"The jobs will be there because the stuff still has to be quarried, and it still has to be carried out," she added.

The Kings' dog was struck and killed by a truck a month ago, in front of the house, Mrs. King said the dog didn't wander off their property, but was accustomed to crossing the road with her to get the mail from the mail box. She said the driver of the truck didn't stop when the dog was hit.

"There is someone who lives close to us, and has lost eight

dogs," she said. "A dog is one thing, but a child is something completely different."

"I'm angry—something's got to be done," she said. "They (Halton Hills council) have to

decide who they're representing—the taxpayers who elected them or the truckers who go back and forth. The future of Canada doesn't lie in gravel trucks—it lies in our children."

Road needs study unveiled for council

The findings of a study needs study covering the next eight years was recommended for adoption by works committee Monday.

Don Tefft of Phillips Planning and Engineering, the firm which conducted the study for the town, and the ministry of transportation and communications, presented and outlined the report for the committee. Halton Hills, he explained, was one of 120 Ontario municipalities that made up the 20 per cent that were collectively spending 80 per cent of the ministry's road work funds.

The report was undertaken in the hope of trimming provincial expenditures by helping the municipalities to plan

road construction and maintenance more efficiently and will, according to Mr. Tefft, be an important factor in obtaining ministry subsidies.

The amount of the subsidies for road improvements will be based partially on road deficiencies, as listed in the report, he said.

Mr. Tefft added that the report will "probably" need a yearly updating, with the results being fed into the ministry computer system each spring.

MIREX CHEMICAL BANNED

The use of Mirex, a chemical used by Inmont Presslite Ltd. of Georgetown to make products flame retardant, will be banned in Canada, the federal ministry of environment announced Monday.

Officials of the company were not available at press time to make comments on the ban as were spokesmen of the provincial ministry of environment.

However, tests conducted on fish in the Credit River about one year ago by the provincial ministry indicated the fish were not contaminated by the chemical.

It is believed that the Mirex may have gone into the Credit River from traces left in bags disposed there following use by the firm. The empty bags were discarded at the landfill site on Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown above the Credit River.

Committee chairman Peter

Truck overturns

A truck carrying a load of gravel from Indusmin Quarries overturned on 17 Sideroad between the 5th and 6th Lines on Monday morning.

The truck is owned by Oscar Young Haulage of Toronto. The accident happened at about 9:15 a.m. and the road was blocked off to traffic between the 5th and 6th

Lines for about 3 hours. Mr. Young suffered minor cuts on his hands, but was otherwise uninjured. Most of the load of gravel was spilled onto the road. Once the tow truck pulled the truck around and up, Halton Hills works department cleaned up the gravel. Damage to the truck is estimated to be between \$6,000 and \$8,000.

\$62,000 fire damage, Acton home gutted

Three people were admitted to Georgetown and District

Memorial Hospital after their house received \$62,000 damage

in a fire Thursday. Cornelis Van Merksteijn, his

wife, Eileen and their son, Sean, were taken to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital for treatment. Mrs. Van Merksteijn and Sean have since been released from the hospital, while Mr. Van Merksteijn was reported remaining in improved condition.

Firefighters were called to the blaze at approximately 3 a.m. Thursday, and on arrival discovered the house to be engulfed in flames. Fire Prevention Officer Larry Brassard said.

"The people in the house are lucky to be alive," he said. "There were no smoke detectors in the home, or the fire might have been discovered earlier." The Ontario fire Marshal's Office investigated the fire, and Mr. Brassard reported that the cause is believed to have been careless smoking.

This is the second fire in the Van Merksteijn home in six months. An electrical malfunction caused a fire resulting in \$18,000 damage six months ago.



Damage to the Van Merksteijn home was estimated at \$62,000 after a fire believed to have been caused by careless smoking.

Ministry to resolve differences in plans

Ontario ministry of housing will be asked to resolve several basic policy differences between the forthcoming Halton Hills official plan and Halton region's parent official plan which was introduced in draft form to Acton residents Wednesday night.

Following the public forum, which attracted some 40 concerned citizens, town planner Mario Venditti explained that the Halton Hills draft official plan, once complete, will contain recommended policies for the municipality that will not conform to guidelines set out in the regional plan.

The housing ministry, as approving authority for both

documents, will then be required to resolve the conflict. Mr. Venditti did not specify which policy areas would need such special attention from Queen's Park.

While regional planning committee chairman Pat McLaughlin predicted that the Halton draft plan will receive council's endorsement in early June and could be submitted to the province in mid-summer, Mr. Venditti and Coun. Les Duby commented that Halton Hills will likely wait for the ministry's response to that document before finalizing and presenting the town's official plan.

A series of six public meet-

ings will likely be held in all parts of Halton Hills beginning in March, Mr. Venditti said, to introduce the Halton Hills draft plan to area residents. Once revised and adopted by council the plan will be submitted to Queen's Park, as a separate package, he said.

Mr. McLaughlin observed that the regional plan tackles general policy, while those being prepared by Halton's four member municipalities will cover specifics. Whereas the region designates land for agricultural uses, for example, the four town's must point to particular foodlands. All of the plans are in "basic agreement," despite some unavoi-

able conflicts, Mr. McLaughlin said.

General government approval of the draft plans could be granted, he pointed out, with the exception of specific policies which the ministry may ask to be revised or amended. The ministry, he warned, may choose to veto any regional or municipal recommendation if its implementation is thought to be in conflict with provincial objectives.

"If Halton wants one thing and the province wants another, and the premier and cabinet decide Halton can't be accommodated, then we lose," Mr. McLaughlin told a questioner. "But the more public

input we have on this, the better our chance of getting it approved."

Public input was invited both verbally at last night's meeting and in the form of written comments to be mailed to the planning committee before April 14. Individuals and groups wishing to submit verbal briefs to the committee are also being accommodated, Mr. McLaughlin added.

"We're looking for the ways you think this draft plan could be made better," regional planner director Ed Cumming explained. "We don't think this document is perfect, so we want you to help us fill in the gaps we've left. It's very im-

portant that what we send to the ministry of housing is what Halton wants it to be."

Those in attendance at the forum, which was the third in a series being held throughout Halton, viewed maps of the region depicting current and proposed trends in all areas of municipal development. Questions raised, mostly by a rural homeowner, concerned a variety of policy recommendations from the issue of the Niagara Escarpment Commission action over regional GO train service cannot be extended from Georgetown to Acton.

The regional draft plan, copies of which are available in all municipal offices, was about 3½-to-four years in the making according to Mr. McLaughlin with five planners spending most of their time preparing its content and dozens of other advisors contributing information.

"If this plan works the way it's supposed to work, you'll have a lot of people from Metropolitan Toronto moving here because it'll be such a great place to live," one impressed resident commented.

"If this plan works the way it's supposed to work," Mr. Cumming responded, "they won't be able to get in."