

An Ohio newspaper reported that one generous gentleman had made a strange donation to his church upon the death of his wife. Seems the gentleman donated a new loudspeaker in her fond memory.

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ALL IN FUN

That's not snow folks. That's water. There was lots of it flying at the fire fighters' water polo competition in Prospect Park Sunday as 16 teams staged the battle originally scheduled for the week before during Acton Fall Fair. Acton, Georgetown and Milton were all represented by both men's and women's teams while Hillsburgh and

Rockwood only entered teams in the men's competition. Winners in the men's competition were Georgetown 1, Milton 2, and Acton 1 teams while the women's competition went to Milton 1, Milton 2 and Georgetown 1 teams.

## Report sought on petition to take over private road

Works committee sent a petition asking Halton Hills to take over a private road off 22 Sideroad west of Glen Williams to the town engineer for a report Monday evening.

## Further meetings set for Focal

Releasing a report on what Focal Properties has offered Halton Hills during an in camera meeting will depend on whether council seeks a legal opinion on the effect this will have on the town's case in the event of court proceedings later according to the chairman of planning board.

Roy Booth said that a group consisting of himself, Mayor Tom Hill, and councillors Mike Armstrong, C.F. Patterson and Marilyn Serjeantson was formed to get a written account from Focal's representatives of what the company was prepared to offer the town since there seemed to be considerable confusion among councillors as to exactly what had been meant during the in camera session two weeks ago.

Mr. Booth said that while the content of the report was not on the planning board agenda last night he would be raising it himself under new business. "At this point I can't see why the matter would stay in camera," he said yesterday. "The goal is to get it out to the public so people can attend the meeting when we discuss it and know the reasoning behind any decision we make on Focal."

Speaking on behalf of the 10 or 11 property owners on the road Nick Hunsley told committee members the group are willing to pay their share under a local improvement project or whatever it takes to bring the road up to an acceptable standard so that Halton Hills will take it over.

Mr. Hunsley said residents approached the former Esquimaux council in 1973. At that time the ministry of transportation and communications (MTC) looked at the road prior to approving a subsidy for upgrading it.

"We had that subsidy almost in our hands but Esquimaux council turned us down," Mr. Hunsley said. "We're not second class citizens and we do pay our taxes in Halton Hills. We get very little in return."

Ward 4 Coun. Mike Armstrong wanted to know if residents were requesting snow removal this winter even though it is now so late in the year that it is unlikely that the road could be brought up to MTC standard before the snow falls. When Mr. Hunsley said they were, Coun. Armstrong said he wouldn't vote to put a plow on the road so long as it was a private road and until it was brought up to standard he wouldn't favor any takeover of it by the town.

Residents originally chose to live on a private road, he said, and just because they've changed their minds isn't enough unless they're prepared to pay to bring the road up to standard so it can be accepted.

"It's only two and four weeks ago we went into capital budget and next year's subsidy is already overspent on capital project," Coun. Armstrong said. "We can't commit next

year's council on this." "This road has been a thorn in council's side since way back," said Mayor Tom Hill. "Esquimaux council asked then (1973) and you (residents) absolutely refused to bring it up to MTC standards."

Mr. Hunsley denied the mayor's charge and said no one on the road had refused to pay their share. "I take exception to this," he said. "We came for a solid year and every time we can you told us to do something else. We were turned down. We never said we wouldn't do what you requested."

"Why didn't you do it then?" the mayor retorted. Ward 1 Coun. Les Dudy wanted to know which would be the better route to follow. To have the residents bring it up to standard and then let the municipality take it over or to have the municipality take it over and bill the residents for upgrading it?

## People's commission organized on food

A local working group of the People's Food Commission is organizing a public meeting in St. Andrew's United Church on Oct. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in order to get community response on their inquiry into the Canadian food system.

The commission is a nationwide, independent of government influence, which plans to hold hearings across Canada at which information and concerns of "everyday people" can be voiced.

At the completion of the hearings a popular report and

Town engineer Bob Austin replied that private industry can often work more cheaply than the municipality. If the work was done under local improvement the MTC gives no grant on it, he said. If it was done as a works project the town would receive no extra subsidy for it. It would simply come out of the subsidy already allotted to the municipality.

The question of what standard the road would have to meet in order to be acceptable was one of the stumbling blocks and Mr. Austin noted that it might be taken over now if it met certain criteria.

"I understand from what I hear that it does," he said, "but I've never seen any papers to prove that."

Mr. Hunsley indicated that residents would be willing to pay the cost of adding more gravel to the road but whether they would foot the bill for chip and tarring it he couldn't say.

plan of action will be compiled which will identify the common interests of farmers, consumers and industrial workers.

Monday's meeting will feature a film, Food: Who Pays, Who Profits?, and commission staff member Michael Carr to speak and answer questions. Organizers hope that a commission hearing can be set up in the area, probably in late winter, but will need community support at Monday's meeting to gauge the extent of community interest in the project.

# Last regional frontier issue under attack

The ongoing debate over a proposal to equalize water and sewer rates across Halton region culminated at last week's regional council meeting when, in the space of

about three hours, regional chairman Ric Morrow ignored charges of political manipulation and cast the deciding vote to endorse a policy of uniform water rates

for all four Halton municipalities contrary to his election promise of two years ago.

A council approved an opposing motion by Burlington Mayor Mary Munro that contradicted its previous decision to support uniform rates, leaving the entire issue in a state of utter confusion; - Milton Coun. Jim Watson demanded that regional treasurer Don Farmer should be fired, stating that some other regional municipality might do better with him on its payroll;

- Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett and Coun. Gord Reade indicated that their opposition to the uniform rates system is so strong they will take the issue before the courts and the provincial cabinet to protect Oakville's interests.

Many observers regard the issue of uniform water and sewer rates as the "final frontier" for regional council that has pursued its mandate to the point where health care, social services, police protection, conservation, road use and waste disposal have all been centralized under regional jurisdiction.

Halton council's handling of the uniform rates issue, however, has become so contentious that the ball is now in the court of regional solicitor Dennis Perlin, who must decide which of the two opposing motions approved last Wednesday by council will take precedence in accordance with Halton's procedural bylaw.

Mr. Perlin reported to The Herald this week that he has not yet had the chance to study the procedural problems that have left such an important issue undecided. Mr. Perlin was unsure whether his report on the matter will be forwarded by chief administrative officer Ernie Reid directly to council or to a standing committee.

Confusion already dominated the issue when it was first placed before council Wednesday. The week before, two separate committees had recommended conflicting approaches to the matter, with the administration committee voting to continue under the present "charge-back" system and the public works committee favoring a comprehensive schedule of uniform water rates and an additional sewer surcharge.

Despite the two recommendations, council members were in general agreement that additional information is needed before a final decision can be made. Debate ensued nevertheless, centered primarily on the respective inequities intrinsic to both the uniform rate system and the present charge-back system.

Many councillors sided with Coun. Walter Mulkwich of Burlington, who contended that the principle of uniform rates is in itself a sound one, but studies are needed that will

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## CVCA REJECTS BID TO DISBAND NEC

Special to The Herald

A resolution to call for the end of the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) was defeated at a meeting of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) Thursday.

The call originated with the Halton Region Conservation Authority (HRCA) who sent out the resolution to the nine conservation authorities that have land on the escarpment.

"Five authorities have responded," said Murray Steven, general manager of the HRCA Friday. "Four agree with the resolution. We are waiting to hear from the North Grey and Simcoe authorities who are having their meetings the end of September. The CVCA is the only one to disagree."

"Our conservation acts don't cover what the Niagara Escarpment Commission mandate covers," said Joan Hollings, a spokesman for the CVCA. "The NEC goals are a good idea. In fact, our goals and objectives parallel each other."

The resolution was defeated by majority of the members present at the CVCA full authority meeting held at the authority offices at Meadowdale. After the NEC issued its preliminary report late in the spring, the Halton Region Conservation Authority had its staff prepare a report on the NEC report, said Murray Steven. "We were dissatisfied with the NEC's progress and with its report," he said, "we think that the individual authorities could do a better job."

Once the response is returned to the Halton authority the submission will be made to provincial government and the Conservation Authorities' Chairman's meeting to be held in November. At that meeting the chairmen of all conservation authorities in Ontario will meet with the provincial government and the issue will no doubt figure in the discussions.

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## Early start out for ravine work

Erosion control work on the Metcalfe Court ravine is expected to get underway Nov. 1, members of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) learned last Thursday.

The Authority accepted a water and related land management advisory board budget for 1979 totalling \$1,697,400, of which approximately \$88,000 will be allocated to the Metcalfe ravine program. The water management budget will be forwarded to the provincial ministry of natural resources, along with three other CVCA advisory board budgets, for final approval.

The Metcalfe project will see an estimated \$83,000 spent on a two-phase reconstruction program aimed at stopping the extensive erosion that continues to threaten hilltop homes and swimming pools. Another \$3,000 will be allocated for general erosion assessment.

Mayor Tom Hill grimly acknowledged the fact that work cannot begin at the site until Nov. 1, once tenders for the work have been accepted and the contract awarded. He nevertheless obtained a Queen's Park phone number, apparently in the hopes that he can persuade the approving authorities to rush the project.

CVCA chairman Grant Clarkson reported that the designs for the Metcalfe project are completed and the authority is ready to go to tender. He expressed disappointment that the project has been delayed so long.

Ministry representative Frank Shaw indicated that he would also attempt to expedite the project through his own contacts with Queen's Park. Also included in the water management budget is \$65,000 for planned alterations to the paper mill dam at Glen Williams and another \$5,000 for studies on the dam and the effects of those alterations, which are aimed at eliminating ice-jamming and flooding at the dam.

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## About The Hills

### Wins plowing award

Earl McLean, of RR2 Hillsburgh, placed first in the Tractor Safety Rodeo in Caledon on Sept. 9 and represented Halton at the Provincial Tractor Rodeo at the International Plowing Match yesterday.

### Tree program

The Halton Region Conservation Authority is accepting applications from rural residents interested in its two treeplanting assistance programs. The Farm Tree Replacement Program is designed to help rural landowners with a minimum of 10 acres in replacing trees lost to Dutch Elm Disease. Planting begins in mid October. Trees cost \$3.50 each. The minimum order is 25 trees and the maximum is 100. A wide variety of tree seedlings is available to rural landowners through the Reforestation Assistance Program designed to reforest non-agricultural land and establish windbreak protection. For a nominal cost authority staff will plant a minimum of 1,000 or a maximum of 20,000 trees. Application forms and advice on both programs is available immediately at the Authority office, 878-4131.

### Region anniversary

All current and former members of Halton regional council will be on hand at council's Oct. 18 meeting to celebrate the fifth anniversary of its first inauguration. Regional chairman Ric Morrow informed council members last Wednesday that he has invited all citizens who have held seats on council since the first inauguration Oct. 14, 1974, to attend the anniversary observations next month. At that time, Mr. Morrow said, they will be presented with rings bearing the Halton coat of arms.

### Women's workshop

The University Women's Club invites the public to attend a presentation and workshop on Women's Goal Aspirations and their Realization in Centennial Middle School Library at 8:45 p.m. Oct. 3 Lynn Tribbling runs the Centre for Rational Living in Toronto where she offers courses and lectures to women seeking goals.

### Fire prevention

Works committee approved a recommendation Monday which will see the week of Oct. 8 to 14 proclaimed as fire prevention week in Halton Hills.

### Donations made

The North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded received donations of \$100 from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 120 and \$450 from Georgetown Post Office employees. Postal employee Bob Landry explained that the money was the proceeds from the Post Office's annual slow pitch tournament at the Glen Ball Park earlier this summer. Neil Best who runs the booth at the park donated \$30, he said and the rest was gate receipts from the tournament organized by himself and Blake Inglis.

### Improve lighting

Works committee accepted a recommendation Monday to spend \$1,945.18 on improving the street lighting on Maple Avenue from Mountainview Road east to the Firehall.

### Standard trash bins

Works committee accepted a recommendation Monday that will give the town a standard policy for garbage pickup receptacles in all future condominium developments. In future all developments are to have flat concrete pads constructed adjacent to public road allowances where garbage will be deposited for pickup. The developments that have some sort of fenced area for pick up are the type that create problems said deputy town engineer Ted Ballinger, since people seem to think they can deposit garbage there at any time and it isn't offensive.

### Ice scraper bought

At a special meeting Monday night council authorized the purchase of an ice resurfacing machine from Resurfice Corporation at a cost of \$18,866. Delivery date is set for January 1979. Council also authorized the spending of \$3,000 to do maintenance and repairs on the ice machine presently in use at Georgetown Memorial Arena. Since it costs \$50 a day to rent such a machine council felt the purchase would save funds in the long run. Recreation director Glen Grey said it would cost \$6,500 to repair the machine at the Acton arena and repairs could not be completed by the end of the week when it is needed. He said that the new machine will not necessarily go to Acton. Since the Alcott arena has ice on a year-round basis the new machine may well end up there and the other machines will be shifted around according to the decision of the arena managers.

### Urge further work

Works committee passed a recommendation Monday calling for the preparation of a resolution to get the Credit Valley Conservation Authority working on Phase II of the Metcalfe Ravine Erosion Control Project. Coun. Les Dudy told members that the steel is already ordered to begin Phase I of the project even though it has not yet received the formal approval of the Minister of Natural Resources. Deputy town engineer Ted Ballinger told the committee that the Phase I plans received a final reviewing Monday and tenders are to be advertised on the project Friday, Oct. 12. Has been set as closing date and construction is slated to begin Nov. 1. The recommendation asks CVCA to begin discussions with respect to acquiring property needed to complete Phase II and also to get estimates ready on final costs and timing of the beginning of Phase II.

### TV show broadcast

CBC Television will broadcast an episode of For the Record this Saturday night that was filmed in August, 1977, at the Cecil Barh farm north of Georgetown. Entitled "Tyler", the episode stars R.H. Thomson, a nominee in the recent Canadian Film Awards. The 90-minute drama was named Best Canadian Film and won the Prix Internationale de la Presse at the World Film Festival held earlier this year in Montreal. Relying heavily on the factual background of Ontario's dairy industry, "Tyler" is the story of a young man's struggle to maintain his family farm in the face of a declining agricultural economy. For the Record begins Saturday at 9:30 p.m.

### Fair queen

Ruth Ann Wilson of RR1, Norval, was chosen as queen of Milton Fall Fair last weekend.

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# Two groups offer culture centre plans

By PAUL DORSEY  
Herald staff writer

Two Georgetown organizations are presently devising separate strategies to bring Halton Hills a badly-needed cultural centre that would accommodate a wide variety of public uses.

Members and supporters of the Halton Hills Arts Council became the first members of the public Tuesday to hear tentative plans for the theatre cum auditorium cum exhibit hall now being considered by both the Georgetown Little Theatre (GLT) and the Georgetown Rotary Club.

Rotary spokesman Norm Biggs told about 25 representatives of local cultural groups who attended the Arts Council meeting that the establishment of a multi-use centre for the fine arts has been designated his club's chosen community project. The club's efforts are still in the preliminary stage, however, with members still searching for a suitable site

for the centre. GLT president John Roe unveiled a more concrete proposal, drafted following town council's decision last May to support attempts to expand Whigglesworth public school in Georgetown for theatre and other uses.

According to Mr. Roe, the GLT is hoping both the town and the Halton Board of Education will endorse its plans to take advantage of the planned construction of a new gymnasium at Whigglesworth, where the club has been staging its productions for the past 10 years.

The GLT is proposing the further addition of an L-shaped, two-storey structure fronted by a stage that would face into the planned 80 foot by 40 foot gym. The GLT addition itself would house the stage and backstage areas, dressing rooms, ticket booth and cloakroom and possibly the lighting control booth.

Seating for upwards of 300 patrons is anticipated

through the use of collapsible tiers that could fold into a six-foot space which the GLT hopes the school board can provide in its gym plans.

Mr. Roe pointed out that such a centre would be for the GLT's use primarily, but suggestions from Halton Hills' other arts-oriented groups as to how the plans could be modified to suit their respective needs are invited, he said.

Mr. Biggs told those in attendance that the Rotary also has the GLT in mind as the chief user of its cultural centre, but again, plans are wide open for input from other groups.

Arts Council president Ralph Ursel explained that the two Georgetown organizations individually decided to tackle the cultural centre project before learning of the other's similar intention. The planning of each progressed far enough, however, that both organizations will continue on their separate paths until the final proposals can

be compared by the public. "If one plan proves better than the other, it's highly possible we'll get the two plans together," Mr. Roe assured representatives of the Georgetown Choral Society, the Beta Sigma Phi sorority, University Women's Club, Credit Valley Artists, Norvic Studio, Halton Hills Library Board and Arts and Crafts clubs in Acton and Georgetown.

Mr. Biggs reported that the Rotary Club created a building committee in June, with Rex Heslop as chairman, that has examined a number of alternative sites in the urban Georgetown area, but thus far without success. Land, he said, is not as readily available as members had thought.

Once an easily accessible location has been selected, though, design and finance planning will begin, with the club hoping government grants can provide the bulk of the necessary funds, Mr. Biggs said.

Mr. Ursel remarked that it is now technically feasible to combine theatre and auditorium facilities, something which was prevented until the recent development of adaptable acoustic equipment and portable sloped seating.

He asserted that the GLT is happy to welcome the Rotary's involvement in such a project and agrees that all