

"Do I smell liquor on your breath?" the employer asked. "Yes," the employee replied, "I'm celebrating the 20th anniversary of the last raise you gave me!"

The big paper with the big circulation read first by everyone. Reaching more than 13,350 homes in Halton Hills

Police raid firemen

Three Toronto women have been arrested on charges stemming from a performance at a stag party sponsored by the Georgetown Volunteers Firefighters' Association Friday evening at the Georgetown Golf and Country Club.

The three women have been charged with performing an indecent act in a public place with one or more persons watching, and taking part in an indecent, obscene or immoral theatrical performance.

HEARING DATE

A hearing date has been set for December 11. If the crown attorney chooses, he may decide to press for a summary conviction on the charges, which, on conviction, would result in imprisonment of up to six months and fines of up to \$1,000.

Police estimate about 400 men attended the party, which was for the purpose of raising money to restore an original Georgetown antique firetruck. Constable L.A. Smith, one of the investigating officers in the case, said it is unlikely any charge will be laid against any of the men in the audience.

Fire chief Mick Holmes, who said he did not attend the party, said he had no comment to make on the situation. A spokesman from the Firefighters' Association also declined to comment, "until we see how the chips fall."



FIRST SNOW FROLICS

Halton Hills got its first snowfall of the year Monday and these two Georgetown girls couldn't wait to enjoy it. Tina Vandantop, 12, (left) of Market St. lets her friend, Renata Zmija, 11, also of Market St., have it with a face full of snow as the two young women dig in for one of the season's first snow fights.

— Photo by Michael Hollett

Residents object

OMB approves Jehovah's Centre, appeal planned

By PAUL DORSEY
Herald staff writer

Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) approval has been granted for the construction of a \$5 million national headquarters for the Jehovah's Witnesses in Georgetown, but at least two neighbors of the proposed site are already planning to appeal the decision.

Representatives of the town of Halton Hills and the International Bible Students Association successfully defended the proposal against objections by abutting landowners at the OMB's Toronto offices last Monday and Tuesday.

Soon after OMB vice-chairman A.H. Errell and board member J.E. Hendy handed

down their decision in favor of the proposal, however, Sidney Heller, who is opposing the project along with his wife, Janet, told The Herald that he will appeal the ruling first to the OMB itself and, if necessary, in a court of law.

NOT CONVINCED

Mr. and Mrs. Heller expressed their objections to the proposal before the OMB last week, but failed to convince Mr. Errell and Mrs. Hendy that a project of such magnitude warrants full public participation in its planning and an amendment to the Official Plan for the former township of Esquesing.

At stake is the Bible Students Association's intention to relocate the national headquarters for Canada's 65,000 Jehovah's Witnesses on 64 acres of presently commercial and recreational land off Regional Road 32 near Highway 7, in the valley area known as Wildwood.

Halton Hills council has already approved the Association's application for an amendment to the municipal zoning bylaw that will allow the site to be used for commercial and residential purposes. Plans call for a 153,000-square foot residence with 140 rooms to accommodate on-site employees and students, a 109,000-square foot printing and publishing plant where the Witnesses' religious literature will be prepared for international distribution and a 21,000-square foot administration and educational centre.

The complex is intended to replace the Witnesses' existing 23-year-old headquarters located on a four-acre site on Bridgeland Avenue west of Dufferin Street in North York. Eugene Housam of the North York centre told the OMB last week that the present site offers no room for expansion.

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Taxi union defeated

By MARGIE HANNAH
Herald staff writer

A bid by local cabbies to affiliate with the Ontario Taxi Association (Union) in Georgetown must await the decision of the Ontario Labour Relations Board as the result of a tie vote taken Saturday in the Glen Taxi offices on Mill Street.

The vote, by secret ballot, was conducted by the Ontario Labour Relations Board and resulted in five votes for the union, five votes against it, and two spoiled ballots.

The union requires 50 per cent, plus one vote, in order to be accepted, said union president Jack McDowell. "The fifty per cent holds true to a penny," he said, "but when we're such a small group the board will have to make a decision on it. They'll have to figure out why the two ballots were spoiled and what the vote means."

Mr. McDowell said that he expects the company to be served with section 79s within the next couple of days. These are papers listing the alleged violations by the Glen management of legislation, guaranteeing employees the right to form a union without repercussions. "I expected them to be served before the vote was taken," he said, "but they weren't."

Once these papers are served by a person from the Labour Board then the reasons for the organizers' appeal to the Labour Board can be made known, he said.

"At this point saying anything more might jeopardize our chances for an appeal."

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Balkind's parenting course gets approval in principle

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald staff writer

Halton board of education has, in effect, voted to conduct a feasibility study into a proposal by a Georgetown public school principal that the board operate a mandatory course on effective parenting in its schools.

Eric Balkind, principal at Howard Wrigglesworth Public School in Georgetown, recently made a presentation to the board recommending that the board begin a course in the practical and theoretical aspects of being an effective parent. The report was forwarded to the board's executive committee for their study and recommendations.

The executive committee came back with three recommendations at Thursday's meeting: the board should support, in principle, investigation of ways and means of implementing an effective parenting program; the ministry of education should be asked to state its position with respect to mandatory courses in parenting education; resources from the ministry of education should be sought for the appointment of a consultant for parenting education for the school year 1979-80.

The board voted to carry out the first two recommendations and to table the third until the results of the first two are known.

Mr. Balkind's basic recommendations are as follows: the board should create a position, such as co-ordinator-consultant, in Early Childhood Education to carry out the implementation of a pilot project involving development and/or adaptation for use through the grades of an appropriate comprehensive parenting and human relations program; pursuit of the cooperation and approval of the ministry of education in working towards acceptance of such a program as a mandatory component of every student's basic education; investigation and planning for effective training and in-service about teaching parenting education for classroom teachers; the establishment within existing facilities of a centre for human development a meeting place and resource centre for use with and by the community; communication with existing ministries on collaboration and mutual development in existing middle and high schools of teaching centres, and care and nursery centres for young children.

'SWEAT BOX' TRIAL DATE SET

A hearing date of January 15 has been set for the two Halton Regional Police officers who have been charged under the Police Act in connection with alleged mistreatment of prisoners.

Constables Raj Swaminathan and Arnold Vanciel, both stationed in Milton, face charges of discreditable conduct and neglect of duty in connection with an incident which took place August 11.

Prisoners being transferred from Milton provincial court to a regional detention centre in Toronto in a police van on that date alleged that the windows on the van were rolled up and the heater turned on, in spite of temperatures in excess of 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

Lawyers met with county court chief judge William Coulter for pre-trial discussions on the case last week. Douglas McDonald, QC, will be acting as prosecutor, and William McDonald will be counsel for the defence.

The hearing is expected to last five days, and witnesses are expected in number 30 or more.

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This Week

Santa in Acton

Santa Claus paid a pre-Christmas visit to Acton on Saturday as the town held its annual Santa Claus parade on the weekend. Our photographer was on hand to record the event in pictures.

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Fence Viewers

Ever wonder what a fence viewer is? This week Herald reporter Paul Dorsey speaks with three of them and finds out their opinions on the rapidly changing rural scene.

Page 11

Family law seminar

Three local lawyers were on hand last Wednesday night at the Knox Presbyterian Hall to explain the finer points of Canada's family law. Did you know Ontario courts are now upholding legal separation agreements?

Page 15

Donnelly horrors

Sorting the legend from the history surrounding the infamous Black Donnellys, one of Canada's most notorious families, is not an easy job. Writer Ray Fazarkas explained how he did it to a curious crowd last week at the Georgetown library.

Page 3

John McDonald

Ward 3 councillor elect John McDonald tells how he started his historical research that resulted in a book and still goes on in "Halton's People".

Page 14

Retail merchants

New business association formed

Georgetown merchants and professional people are banding together to gather and share information about the community which they feel is vital to their future welfare.

Regular meetings, a monthly newsletter and representation on a variety of local social and political agencies are among the plans discussed at an organizational meeting last Tuesday of what has been tentatively called the Georgetown Business and Professional Association, a division of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce.

About 30 representatives of area businesses voted to launch the association under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce after Chamber president George Gray commented that the formation of a

sociation in Acton last year weakened that community's own Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Gray admitted that he does not know how successful the Acton association has been but urged the Georgetown merchants and professionals to stick with their Chamber and utilize its "strong organization and money in the bank."

CHAIRMAN ELECTED

Murray Lawton of Canadian Tire and Rick West of R. H. West Insurance were elected chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of a temporary steering committee for the Georgetown association, which will meet again Jan. 9 at an as yet unspecified location. Last week's meeting at North Halton Golf and Country Club also saw Ernie Sykes and Noel Lewis tentatively chosen as secretaries for the associ-

tion. Treasurer's duties will be handled by the Chamber, while the task of editing a proposed monthly bulletin was delegated to Ken Banbury.

Mayor-elect Pete Pomeroy, on hand to represent his downtown business, North Halton Sports, was impressed by the turn-out at the meeting.

"To have this many people here looks to me like the light at the end of the tunnel," he said. "I can't see anything but good coming out of this meeting and it will strengthen our Chamber of Commerce."

Mr. West underlined the lack of communication that is presently dividing Georgetown's business people as a direct result of the community's geographical lay-out. Merchants' organizations have sprung up for each plaza and shopping area, he noted. "Each centre has its own

group and its own problems," Mr. West told businessmen from across the community, "but we all have some common denominators."

He cited the need for business people to have more input into discussions about and planning for the community and its future and pointed out that there are a number of issues before town and regional council of vital importance to local businesses.

NOT DUPLICATE
Mr. West stressed that the association would not duplicate or interfere with the work of the Chamber of Commerce or any other organization already formed in the community. At the same time, he said, the association would be "a forum for all."

Mr. Gray explained that the Chamber's job is "to better the lot of the businesses represented in our community" and

reported that its membership has enjoyed "very steady growth," with 164 businesses currently registered.

"The Chamber would just hate to see a splinter group heading off in another direction," he said. "We can guarantee you will have our active support and participation."

Solicitor Grant Isaac complained that the Chamber "has failed very badly," in its efforts to recruit support among Georgetown's professional people, particularly those in medical and dentistry fields.

"It has always been the Chamber's attitude to hold down our fences," Mr. Gray responded. "We operate on a small budget so we can build up our bank account and then do something really worthwhile. We've tried to do our civic duty as best we can but

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GO TRAIN DERAILS IN GEORGETOWN

A GO train was partially derailed November 22. In the Georgetown station but there were no injuries suffered in the incident.

The train was one of the regular afternoon commuter trains, and was pulling into the yard off the main line to allow passengers to disembark when the rear wheels of one car and the front wheels of the next left the rails.

A mobile crane was sent out to put the train back on the track, but traffic was not tied up, since the train was off the main line.

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GLT's Cinderella in rehearsal



All aglow over their invitation to Prince Charming's ball at the Palace of Halton Hills, the Ugly Sister - Annie from Acton (Gerry Eggleton), left, and Nellie of Norval (John Roe) - are taken in hand by their mother, Bertha, the Baroness of Ballinafad, (Vera Macdonald) in a scene from Cinderella, a fast-paced and rollicking comedy based on the original fairy tale but localized and

converted into a traditional English pantomime format by the Georgetown Little Theatre's Marg Eggleton, who is also directing the production. Produced by Enid Williams and starring Debbie Buresh in the title role, Cinderella will be staged at Wrigglesworth Public School Dec. 7 through 10. A splendid time, needless to say, is guaranteed for all.

(Herald photo)