

the HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills

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No excuses for flooding in Glen Williams

There appear to be two predictable aspects of the highly unpredictable Credit River — it will flood relatively regularly in Glen Williams and the responsibility for the flooding will be passed among the various levels of local government with about the same regularity.

Last week's flooding in Glen Williams should not have happened. The Credit Valley Conservation Authority claimed they had the water level of the river under close scrutiny before it happened yet the river still flooded. Although there was rainfall in this area the Tuesday night of the flood, the rain was not exceptionally heavy. It should not have wreaked havoc with the CVCA's ability to predict the likelihood of the river flooding.

When The Herald initially discussed the possibility of flooding in the Glen with Joan Rollings of the CVCA, we were told that the river was being almost constantly watched at this time of year and that a work crew would be ready to dynamite the ice with one hour's notice if a danger was perceived. But they still didn't manage to do it.

Last week after the flood, Ms. Rollings was saying that the decision to dynamite lays with the town of Halton Hills and must be approved by Halton region.

If that is the case, it's a ridiculous state of affairs and one that is totally unworkable.

As Glen Williams residents witnessed once again last week, the state of the river can change relatively fast.

There is no time for CVCA staff to go through the widespread bureaucracy of the region and the town for approval. When the river is ready to flood, fast action is necessary to stop it.

The CVCA came into existence to avert flooding. That's their job and they supposedly hire experts to ensure they can do it.

If the reason they failed to do this last week is that they do not have the necessary authority to dynamite, or take whatever action is necessary, they should have been fighting for that authority long ago.

If the reason the flooding took place is because CVCA staff were unable to perceive the danger, they again failed and are deserving of the criticism being levelled at them by some Glen Williams residents.

The CVCA say that work will begin shortly on a flood control spillway in Glen Williams to avoid further flooding. We hope it works and is ready in time for the next flood season.

It has been too easy for local governments and conservation authorities to ignore the problem of flooding in Glen Williams. After all, at worst, flooding only takes place once a season. That provides a long time to brush off residents' complaints, and a long time for Glen Williams residents to cool off about the problem.

It's not good enough for conservation officials to say the river is 'unpredictable'. Their job is to find solutions. Let's hope the planned spillway works. If it doesn't or won't the CVCA should get busy finding other ways of eliminating the problem.

Congratulations to tourney organizers

Our congratulations go out to Harry Levy along with everyone else involved in organizing this year's highly successful international bantam hockey tournament.

The tournament proved as popular as ever as demonstrated by the often huge crowds at both local arenas.

It was not surprising that a lot of local youngsters decided to spend a good part of their March break taking in the top quality

minor hockey. We even noticed a few older fans who managed to slip out of work during the day to take in the play.

It's events like the international bantam tournament that remind us that entertaining and exciting hockey is not only to be found at the professional level. The well-matched teams that provided local sports fans with good hockey proved that.

Again, our congratulations to all involved.

Crazy Boat Race should be a winner

If you are searching for something to do this weekend, search no more.

The Georgetown Jaycees twelfth annual "Crazy Boat Race" takes place on Saturday and organizers are promising a bigger

and better race than ever before.

The boat race is definitely the type for which the spectators are always winners. The race proves a hit each year and attracts spectators and television and newspaper media from far afield to this area.

Registration for the race gets underway at 10:30 am at the Terra Cotta Inn parking lot and the first racers, in the two man canoe class leave their starting point in Chellenham at 12:30 pm.

The rest of the racers start at the Terra Cotta Inn with the four remaining classes leaving at 15 minute intervals starting at 12:45 p.m.

The entire, ridiculous collection of boats heads down the 'wild' Credit River and wraps up in Glen Williams.

The fun is free and all you and your family or friends need to do is take a seat somewhere along the river's edge to catch the show.

The day will be topped off with a dance, buffet and awards presentation at the Way-Jay, starting at 8:30 pm.

So why not take in a little sun and some fun by attending the Jaycees' Crazy Boat Race this Saturday afternoon.

And congratulations Jaycees for all the work that's gone into organizing what promises to be another fun day.



Trudeau ready for campaign, attacks Clark's accountability



Ottawa Report

By Stewart MacLeod

The official election campaign may not have started, but Prime Minister Trudeau gave us a clear preview of the Liberal campaign during that practice run before 3,000 party faithful in Montreal. And, as widely predicted, the prime minister is going to be spending a great deal of time over the next two months asking Canadians "who will speak for Canada?" The Liberal strategists — they obviously include Trudeau himself — have decided that the most vulnerable flank in the Tory armor is Joe Clark's alleged appeasement attitude toward the provinces.

What Trudeau contends is that Clark is being "hamstrung" by six Tory provincial premiers, all with divergent interests, and all needed by the national leader in any successful election campaign. Clark, declared Trudeau, "is so concerned with making everybody happy that he won't make any bold statements". Some 3,000 Quebec Liberals paid \$125-a-plate to hear the prime minister reveal his campaign tactics.

TORY BODYGUARDS
They cheered and laughed when the prime minister talked about Clark's "bodyguard" of provincial premiers which keep the leader hamstrung in Ottawa. It's now up to Clark to convince us that Trudeau's policy of potential confrontation with the premiers is unnecessary, divisive and opportunistic — a rather difficult assignment when faced with the simultaneous problem of establishing his own non-appeasement approach.

Trudeau can be a potent campaigner, as he proved in that 45-minute Montreal curtain-raiser. Listing off all the problems and potential problems that will require a firm national stance against provincial

interests, the prime minister kept hammering home the message that only a sturdy Liberal government could face the challenge with confidence. What he might have mentioned in fairness is that many of these problems arose while his Liberal government was in power.

But who expects fairness in a political campaign?

"We are living in a country where freedom is no longer assured... what kind of country is it when laborers are not even free to move across provincial borders...?"

"We know also that we don't have freedom of movement of capital" and he told about how the Stanfield government in Nova Scotia refused to let Bell Canada buy the telephone company there. He also referred to the fact that the Quebec government would not allow a New Brunswick firm to take over a trust company in the province.

HAMSTRUNG AGAIN
Then there was the question of oil prices, the prime minister declared. Tory Premier Peter Lougheed in Alberta wants higher prices and Tory Premier William Davis in Ontario wants lower prices, so what does Clark do? "He does nothing". He claimed that Clark was even hamstrung in criticizing Quebec's education policies because he would be faced with asking Tory premiers to protect French-language educational rights. "He knows he can't state any strong policy".

The prime minister referred to Clark's recent speech in Montreal which dealt with language rights, but he said the Tory leader could not say much because five Tory premiers "were watching over him".

The Liberal approach to the forthcoming election campaign was predictable since last year when Trudeau and his ministers began taking advantage of every opportunity to accuse Clark of being "soft on separatism". And Finance Minister Jean Chretien even accused him of "being cozy with Rene Levesque". Since then, the prime minister has been emphasizing the "forces of regionalism", a phrase that seems to come out whenever Lougheed talks about oil and natural gas. The stage is obviously being set for the

scenario that only a tough, uncompromising federal government can deal with the situation.

At least, he has given Clark ample warning of his intentions.

Letter to the editor

'OHIP pays too little'

To the editor of The Herald:
Members of the Medical Profession in Ontario have a governing body - The Medical Association. This association has a fee schedule to which its members must adhere.

Ontario Hospital Insurance Plan does not reimburse the doctors accordingly, therefore many have chosen to "opt out" of OHIP.

In the U.S. there is Blue Shield to which most employees contribute on behalf of their employees, the latter paying a portion of the cost. The same applies to OHIP.

There is a difference, however: OHIP pays a surgeon \$217.00 for performing a Splenectomy whereas Blue Shield pays \$688.00. An anesthesiologist receives \$66.04 from OHIP in comparison to \$236.00 from Blue Shield.

The cost of belonging to OHIP exceeds that of medical plans in most other provinces. For example, in B.C., medicare costs the individual less than OHIP and yet the coverage is superior and the doctors receive higher fees.

Mrs. E. Patterson stated physicians have an annual income of \$60,000.00 - approximately forty percent of this figure is absorbed by taxes.

In my opinion, Ontario has the highest cost of living in Canada and I feel that members of the Medical Profession are entitled to a fair reimbursement for their services.

I am certain no physician would deny treatment to a patient who is unable to meet the new fees.

Sincerely,
Patricia McCutcheon
(Mrs. A.D. McCutcheon)

Halton's History

From our files

NEW NORMANDY PHONES
THIRTY YEARS AGO — Georgetown's new sewage disposal plant is one of the finest in Ontario, according to engineer C.H. Hagey who has submitted a synopsis of the construction of the sewerage system to the town council. The town has officially taken over the new system and has instructed householders anywhere in town to hook into the system.

Residents of Normandy Boulevard, whose only telephone service since the houses were built in 1947 has been a pay telephone on the boulevard, now have personal service available. Last week the Bell Telephone Company completed installation of service into the district, and already telephones have been installed in 34 of the 48 houses. Total installations recently, including these, are 40 in the rapidly increasing local system.

Strike up the band! Sing out the news! It's "My Merry Oldsmobile" in a triumphant new tempo as the line of Futuramics swings by on dress parade! There's a brand new Oldsmobile Futuramic '76... With Fisher's newest body, panoramic vision, plus a remarkable new "Big Six" Engine. And leading the parade, a newly styled Futuramic '88", with the revolutionary new Rocket engine! Yes, you'll experience "The New Thrill" the moment you first set eyes on a 1949 Oldsmobile. There's fleet-flowing smartness, inside and out — an eager for action look that's backed up by performance.

Advertisements from Malson's and The Royal Bank of Commerce welcome Newfoundland into Canada.

DELREX CONSTRUCTION PLAN
... TWENTY YEARS AGO — Permit for a \$100,000 two-storey office building in the eastern part of town was issued yesterday by building inspector Joseph Gibbons to Delrex Developments Ltd. According to Harold Baird, general manager of the company, an immediate start is planned on construction of the building which will be located in a triangle of land backed up by shopping plaza now being built on Highway 7 and the 9th Line, across from Lincoln Motors.

The Lions Club of Georgetown has decided to make the Georgetown Hospital Fund its major project for the coming years. The members have set out to raise \$25,000 during the next few years. The Lions Club members feel that the most urgent need of Georgetown and district is its own hospital.

Statistics compiled by Georgetown Employment Service were revealed to council at their March 23 meeting by Kelvin C. Brown, one of a group of ex-Army men who had volunteered to assist in classifying unemployed residents and making this information available to potential employers. Mr. Brown said 415 of a total of 440 registered with the service are Georgetown residents, the balance living in the surrounding rural areas. He estimates that some 25 per cent of this total have become employed, and said that 12 to 18 people are being placed in new positions per week.

GEORGETOWN'S BITTER PILL
... TEN YEARS AGO — A 50 per cent jump in public school costs over last year was termed "an inequality" and "a bitter pill I intend to fight" by Georgetown's representative on the Halton County board of education, Ernie Bodnar, at a council meeting Monday night. Public school costs to the town are set at \$691,610, which is a \$230,260 increase over last year's \$461,350. High school costs also increased, but more modestly.

Two juveniles have been charged by Georgetown police in connection with a theft at R and B Milk Centre Thursday night. \$118 was taken from the store after it was locked up at 11 p.m. Police believe the thieves hid in the washroom until the store closed. The arrests were made the next day. Police are still investigating a break-in at Caruso's Fruit Market on the weekend. Police Cadet Brian Farrell discovered the break-in Sunday. The thieves gained entry through a back door.

A delegation of French-Canadians from Georgetown made their second request to the Halton separate school board for a French language elementary school here last week. School board chairman Peter Waiters would not allow any questions or comment on the request until the education committee has studied it and presented a progress report on their findings at next month's board meeting.

Council has decided to ask the County Board of Health to re-consider their decision to eliminate plumbing inspections as part of their duties. The Halton County Health Unit notified all municipalities they planned to discontinue plumbing inspections as of September 1, and asked each to make its own arrangements.

OMB'S LIBRARY DECISION
... ONE YEAR AGO — An Ontario Municipal Board decision regarding the proposed new library building was handed down yesterday. But the contents of the decision will not be made public until the parties involved in the hearings have been notified of the board's findings.

Fire Chief Mick Holmes and the volunteer firefighters of Acton have been named Citizens of the Year, after "an enormous response" of ballots from Acton residents in favor of the firefighters. The Acton Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors the award, announced that the firefighters were selected after 400 of the 600 or more ballots received by the chamber nominated the firefighters.

Credit Valley Conservation Authority has decided to instigate a seasonal camping rate on a trial basis at Terra Cotta this summer from June 1 to August 31. A 30-day period will cost campers \$60 and will only be sold in conjunction with a season's pass. It was decided to limit the number of sites leased out in this manner for a month at a time to 50 until the authority could judge the success of the program.

Paddock Pools of Detroit claimed the Grand Championship at the eighteenth annual Georgetown Bantam International Tournament by defeating Belleville 5-1 in the final Saturday night at the Alcott Arena.

Perennial liquor law battle surfaces at Queen's Park



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

TORONTO — That ancient Ontario pastime, arguing about liquor laws, appears ready to make a comeback after years of quiescence.

Gone, mind you, are the days when the premier of Ontario could be toppled by a candidate running strictly against booze.

(The last time was 1948, when George Drew lost Toronto High Park riding to temperance knight Bill Temple of the CCF).

But the current holder of High Park, NDP'er Ed Ziembra, is no less a crusader against the evils of demon rum.

He's called for a five-year moratorium on the issuing of new liquor licences. Ziembra claims the Liquor Licence Board of Ontario (LLBO) is but a rubber stamp at the hands of drink interests,

approving more than 1,000 applications a year for licenses while denying 20-odd.

At one hearing, for example, a temperance group found it had only six days to mobilize opposition to 59 applications, "an impossible task", he said.

DREA RESPONSE
Consumer and Commercial Relations Minister Frank Drea handles LLBO questions in the legislature.

He notes there's been an actual decrease in the number of pure liquor operations in the province, and that many of the new licences are for Home for the Aged and recreation facilities.

Ziembra also protests the province's allowing the sale of wine in some supermarkets, and the expansion in the number of wine stores, as well as beer and wine sales in fast food outlets, "that cater to young people".

Drea has his own concerns in those areas, somewhat different from Ziembra's. With fast food joints, for example, which sell very little alcohol, he worries the licence is simply a means of paying their staff the lower minimum wage rate that applies to licensed establishments.

HIM TOO
And he isn't happy that wine stores in supermarkets pocket all the mark-up as profit rather than giving it to the government.

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