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Home Newspaper of Halton Hills WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1979

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Another appeal planned

Hydro fight continues despite ruling



FALL FAIR FROLIC

(Herald photo by Paul Dorsey)

Members of the McDonald clan of Georgetown visited the farm of their namesake, Old McDonald, at this year's 133rd annual Georgetown Fall Fair, where many of the animals on display appeared to be having as much fun as the

thousands of spectators strolling by. Here, John McDonald shows son Sean, 8, and daughter Colleen, 4, the best of the bunch, an amusing, though preoccupied donkey supplied by C.E. (Bud) Snow of Ballinafad.

By LORI TAYLOR
 Herald staff writer

The Interested Citizens' group (ICG) will continue to fight the construction of a hydro corridor through Halton Hills in spite of a Supreme Court of Ontario decision to dismiss the group's appeal to have an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) ruling on the corridor quashed. The appeal, which was filed jointly by the ICG and the town of Halton Hills, sought to have OMB approval of the project quashed. The corridor has received approval both from the OMB under the Planning Act and Ontario Hydro under the Power Corporation Act.

ICG spokesman John Minns said the ICG intends to seek a meeting with Hugh McCauley, the new chairman of Ontario Hydro, and lay the group's case before him. At a meeting of landowners along the corridor route in Halton Hills Monday night, the landowners voted to continue their battle in the courts, and to continue to oppose Ontario Hydro in its attempts to construct the last 12 miles of the 108-mile-long corridor from the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station to a transformer station at Milton.

The Divisional Court of the Supreme Court of Ontario, in a unanimous decision rejected the appeal of the town and the ICG, because the project has received sufficient approval for Ontario Hydro to begin construction, so that there would be no point in the court becoming involved in a jurisdictional dispute.

FINAL SECTION
 The court was asked whether the OMB had the right to approve the final section of the corridor. Lawyers for the

town and the ICG said that the Ontario government's approval of the corridor under the Power Corporation Act nullified the involvement of the OMB, which held a public hearing February 5, and approved the project on planning grounds.

Mr. Justice Steele, who heard the case along with Mr. Justice John Holland and Mr. Justice Robert Montgomery, said the applicants had not asked for a declaration that the Planning Act did not apply to Ontario Hydro once approval of the corridor had been given.

"I am seriously concerned that the court is being asked to exercise its discretion and make a decision in a matter from which no practical effect will flow, but which decision might have far-reaching effects on other persons not before the court," Mr. Steele wrote in the decision. "This is particularly so in the present application where other remedies open to the applicant were either not asked for, were

rejected or were abandoned. I would refuse to exercise the discretion of the court and would dismiss the application with costs."

Mr. Minns said the decision did not say "anything at all about our argument."

"The strongest thing they say is that they have serious doubts, but there is quite a difference between serious doubts and being wrong," he said.

Mr. Minns said the reason the ICG and the town sought judicial agreement that the corridor comes under the Power Corporation Act is so the ICG can continue to challenge the corridor. Under the Power Corporation Act, the corridor would revert to the control of Ontario Hydro, and the issue can be brought up at Queen's Park, he said.

CAN'T CHALLENGE
 "Under the Planning Act we can't challenge it," he said. "Under the Power Corporation Act, we can."

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Council says no to gravel pits

By PAUL DORSEY
 Herald staff writer

Spurred by hard-hitting presentations from two spokesmen representing at least 53 Sixth Line residents, town council has withdrawn its approval of mining operations at six area wayside gravel pits.

While officials of the provincial ministries of natural resources (MNR) and transportation and communications (MTC) looked on Monday night, council voted unanimously to rescind its January, 1979, resolution endorsing the six Halton Hills pits for use in

provincial road reconstruction projects.

A second unanimous vote will see the MTC advised "in the strongest possible terms" that the town is concerned over the scale of mining operations recently approved for the Odorico pit on the Sixth Line and wishes the ministry to build a road for exclusive use by gravel trucks between the Sixth and Seventh Lines at its own expense.

THIRD MOTION
 Coun. Russ Miller also informed council of his intention to introduce a third motion incorporating the concessions

which MTC officials offered to consider during a meeting Friday in the office of Mayor Pete Pomeroy.

In what appears to be a precedent-setting move, the MTC has indicated its willingness to provide a full-time inspector to supervise both extraction operations at the Odorico pit and the movements of gravel trucks, which in themselves created much of the controversy by allegedly speeding, running stop signs and operating at illegal hours.

A letter from the MTC which Continued on page two

This Week



Pennant fever

Pennant fever has been sweeping the country the past few weeks as Canadians watched the Montreal Expos take a whole-hearted run at the National League Eastern division pennant. One Georgetown resident who was probably more interested than most in the pennant drive is Bill Stoneman, once an over-powering pitcher with the Expos made headlines becoming the first hurler to chalk up a no-hitter with an expansion club. Stoneman talks with Herald sports editor Mark Clairmont about his old club's pennant drive. Sports Week

Published novelist

At times the world seems filled with aspiring writers but there's at least one Halton Hills resident who has succeeded in having his work published. He's Jim Henderson and his tale of espionage, Copperhead was in bookstores back in 1971. Now he writes textbooks for the Toronto board of education. He talks about it in this week's Halton's People. Page 10

CAS gets interim loan, budget status unclear

By MICHAEL HOLLETT
 Herald editor

The provincial government has agreed to advance the Halton Children's Aid Society (CAS) sufficient cash to continue operations until a final decision is made on the local society's appeal for increased government funding but they'll be expected to repay the money.

Representatives of the local CAS met in Toronto Wednesday with representatives of the ministry of community and social services (COMSOC) to discuss the "critical situation" facing the Halton society. Last week, CAS director Ron Coupland told the Herald that unless the society received an increase on its \$1,635,661 from the provincial government it would be unable to effectively

implement recent changes to the child welfare act. The Halton CAS had asked for a grant of \$2,072,000 for 1979.

TRIBUNAL MEETING
 While the CAS is already slated to go before a tribunal to discuss their appeal for funds, last week's meeting was partly as a result of the Halton society's deficit incurred during the last few months.

Halton CAS treasurer William DeVris attended Wednesday's meeting and said of the government's loan, "I don't know how they expect us to repay it."

Mr. DeVris said it was not specified whether the interim financing granted by COMSOC would have to be repaid from additional funds that would be granted the CAS, whether the debt would be repaid in install-

ments over the next few years or just how it would be repaid.

"The tone of the meeting was very nice, it took a fairly light tone. The people seemed to be understanding but no promises were made of any kind."

Mr. DeVris, along with the CAS director Coupland unveiled reams of statistics to back up their contention that the local society has operated as efficiently as possible while carrying an increased workload.

BELOW BUDGET
 "They were happy with the statistics we presented but advised us they are limited by government policy to budget increases of five per cent. They didn't know where they would find additional funding."

Mr. DeVris said that as of the end of August, the CAS is operating at an expenditure level \$50,000 below the budget they originally requested but \$150,000 over the budget approved by the Ontario government.

"The major areas of expense are in salaries and the paid institution fees."

Mr. DeVris explained that while staff salaries increases have been "nominal" and no new staff have been hired, the ministry had expected the CAS to layoff staff members when determining the 1979 budget.

"Our caseload doesn't warrant letting anyone go." While the provincial average of cases per workers is 27, in Halton this average is 39, according to Mr. DeVris.

There has been a 20 per cent increase in the number of children in group care under the jurisdiction of the Halton CAS in 1979 from 1978.

"The paid number of days for children in group care has gone up 1,100 days from '78 to '79," said Mr. DeVris.

"This is partially as a result of changes to the child welfare act."

Mr. DeVris also reported a shift in the age levels of children under CAS care has led to increased costs. There has been a dramatic increase in the numbers of children in the 12 to 15 age group compared to the number in the seven to eight age group. The society now cares for more adolescent girls than before, and, according to Mr. DeVris, this too leads to more expensive group care.

Another meeting with the ministry is slated for this Friday, October 5 to further discuss the Halton CAS's funding appeal.

Local MPP Julian Reed (Halton-Burlington) told the Herald that because the Halton CAS has already demonstrated their efficiency "I'm going to bat for them."

Constable faces assault charge

A Halton Regional Police officer has been charged with common assault following an incident in Acton.

Constable Joe Prasad, 36, has been charged following an investigation into the complaint of a citizen from Acton. He will appear in provincial court in Milton October 15.

Constable Prasad stopped a car in Acton Sept. 25 and conducted a routine check. District 1 Commander Inspector Alex Terrell said. The driver complained later to police, and following an investigation, Acting Police Chief W.I. Harding directed that a charge be laid.

The Deputy-Chief said following the police commission meeting Thursday that the complaint was "two-fold". A citizen complained that the

officer had assaulted him, and the officer alleged that he was subjected to racial insults. The officer was born in British Guyana.

Deputy-Chief Harding said the officer's allegation is still under investigation, and charges may be laid once the investigation has been completed. He said there is a charge under the Criminal Code where a person can be charged with inciting racial hatred, but the charge is difficult to prove.

DISCRIMINATION EVIL
 "Racial discrimination is evil, and it is just as evil that a police officer be subjected to it as it is for a private citizen," the Deputy-Chief said. He added that he wished to remind members of the press and the public that a police

officer is guaranteed the same right as a private citizen to be considered innocent until proven guilty.

Common assault falls under the summary conviction section of the Criminal Code, and is considered a minor offence. A person charged with common assault need not have struck the complainant to be found guilty of the charge. It would only be necessary for the victim to believe he was in danger of being harmed.

Constable Prasad was born in British Guyana and has five and a half years' experience with the Guyanese police force. He joined the Georgetown force in February of 1972. Until recently, he was the youth officer for Milton and Acton. He lives in Oakville.



BUT, BOY CAN HE HIT

No wonder two-and-a-half-year-old Brent News needs help hitting the ball, he can't see the ball for his cap. His mother Deborah should have lifted the peak of his cap instead of offering to help him hit the ball. The mother and son were playing softball Sunday at Holy Cross School, a weekly ritual this past summer.

(Photo by Mark Clairmont)