

## Third reading despite ICG appeal

# Bylaw opens town's door to hydro line



OLIVER!

(Herald photo by Maggie Hannah)

Hal Porter as Fagan, the professional pickpocket who schools young boys in his art, extols the accomplishments of his favorite pupil the Artful Dodger (Ken Kuel) to his other young pupils. The scene is part of *Oliver*, a Broadway musical based on Charles Dickens' book *Oliver Twist*, which

Georgetown District High School Students will be presenting to the public at 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings (Nov. 22-24), in the school cafeteria. Teachers Judy Gooding and Ralph Ursel are directing the cast of more than 30 young students.

By RICHARD PETRASHEK

Herald staff writer

After having its wires crossed for years by public and municipal opposition, the controversial 500,000-volt Ontario Hydro transmission corridor has been given a cautious and somewhat reluctant seal of approval by the town.

Town council passed the Official Plan and Zoning bylaw, permitting the connecting line between the Bruce Nuclear Station and the Milton receiving station to pass through the town, as ordered by the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) during Monday's meeting.

A number of councillors expressed reluctance to endorse the bylaw, particularly Coun. Russ Miller, who said, "I am not very happy that we've been asked to pass this bylaw."

At the meeting were several members of the Interested

Citizens Group, an organization which has for six years questioned the need for the corridor. Their spokesman, John Mims, asked whether the town could legally rezone lots 16 to 26 of the 42-lot corridor, since they were within the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) development control area.

**LITTLE TO DO**  
 Mayor Pete Pomeroy said that while he agreed with Mr. Mims, there was very little the town could do.

"The town has no right to pass a bylaw affecting property within the NEC," he conceded, but added, "if we do not pass it, we will be in contempt."

Brian Kropp, the town's deputy planning director, had answered the same question during last week's planning board meeting. He responded

that the OMB was aware lots 16 to 26 were in the NEC control area and had included them in its ruling. He said it was his understanding the NEC had approved the rezoning and that the OMB "considers the question academic."

Mr. Mims, also present at the board meeting, expressed concern that by rezoning NEC land under its jurisdiction, the town might be setting a precedent.

Coun. Roy Booth, a member of the NEC, agreed with Mr. Mims that the possibility existed that others owning property on the escarpment might request a rezoning from the present rural-agricultural or hazard land to industrial or residential.

A Hydro spokesman explained that the rezoning was "site specific" as a "utility corridor," which placed "no specific use on the land."

### NOT PRECEDENT

Mr. Kropp added that the rezoning was a special amendment which would not be used as a precedent for further rezoning since it applied only to this particular case.

While he agreed the present situation is somewhat difficult, Mr. Mims stated that the ICG is ready to continue the battle, which has gone on for six years and cost the group an estimated \$145,000 to date.

Last week, the ICG presented a petition to the Ontario Cabinet requesting it to rescind the OMB decision and launch a study on the necessity of the corridor.

"There has been no study done as yet to indicate that there is a need for the corridor," Mr. Mims told council Monday. "We object to being guinea pigs."

The ICG is also concerned about how Hydro is handling financial compensation for expropriated properties.

"Hydro has gone back into the area with five-year-old figures offering only one-third of what the properties are presently worth," Mr. Mims told reporters outside the council chambers.

The ICG sees the cabinet petition as its final opportunity to stop the corridor, he said.

## Strikers are penalized

Some union members involved in last week's wildcat strike at Smith and Stone have been penalized while efforts are still underway to resolve the dispute, according to a union spokesman.

Harry Dewhurst, president of United Auto Workers Local 1421, said that one to five-day suspensions have been levied against 12 union members, including himself, following Friday's labor board hearing on the matter. Another meeting with management is set for Thursday and it is hoped that some problems can be ironed out at that time.

Mr. Dewhurst persuaded the 350 employees to return to work early Thursday morning in spite of a vote taken late Wednesday in which 131 employees favored continuing the walkout and 107 opposed it. The illegal work stoppage closed the Glen Road factory down late Sunday night.

The dispute arose over a supplementary contract agreement which granted pay increases of \$1.50 an hour to about 20 skilled tradesmen but offered nothing to other employees.

The company agreed to the increase to win union support for an apprenticeship program designed to alleviate a shortage of skilled labor.

Smith and Stone, which makes wiring devices and porcelain products, has operated in Georgetown since 1919.

## This Week

### Ronald's hostel

Georgetown McDonald's franchise owner Richmond Chandler is in the thick of the fund-raising to establish Canada's first hostel for families of children being brought to Toronto Hospital for treatment of leukemia and other cancer-related diseases.

Page 3

### Herald history

Newspapers not only tell you what's happening today, they provide a record of events which speak of community attitudes and customs. A Herald series begins this week recalling this newspaper's history over the past 113 years and explaining the background in which it functioned.

Page 11

### Fair winners

The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto attracted many Halton exhibitors including a number who came home with wins. Others placed well in various competitions including many junior entrants in 4-H classes.

Page 21

### Sabres lose coach

The Aton Sabres lost their coach in the middle of Saturday night's game. However, their luck may change since they found a new coach before the game ended. To get all the facts straight see Sports Week.

## Former pro baseball player is town's new recreation director

Thomas Shepard, a former professional baseball player, will be taking over the sometimes difficult post of director of parks and recreation for Halton Hills December 14.

Mr. Shepard, who has held

the same position in Walkerton since 1974, was introduced as the new director when council unanimously passed the required bylaw Monday evening.

It is the third director that the town has employed since

formation in 1974. His predecessor Glen Gray who accomplishments included the preparation of the town's draft master parks plan and the co-ordination of existing recreational facilities in the

town, resigned from the post in October. Prior to Mr. Gray the position was held by Doug Colison.

A committee headed by Coun. Russ Miller put in long hours selecting a new director, according to Mayor Pete Pomeroy, and had to wade through "about fifty applications" before choosing Mr. Shepard.

Prior to assuming his present post in Walkerton, Mr. Shepard was the parks and recreation director for London, Ontario, from 1969 to 1972.

Mr. Shepard is a graduate of both the Recreation Leadership program at Fanshawe College and the Business Administration program at the University of Western Ontario. In addition to having once played professional baseball, Mr. Shepard has been involved in the Walkerton Little Theatre.

Mr. Shepard is 34-years-old, six foot, four and married with no children.

## Revolving sign bylaw troubles councillors

The sign bylaw proposal continued to revolve in circles at Monday's council meeting.

Council was having so much trouble with the semantics of the proposed bylaw that, at one point, Coun. Roy Booth commented, "I'm sorry, it just doesn't make sense."

The situation became more absurd when it came time to vote on a change in wording on one section of the proposed bylaw. Some of the councillors were so uncertain about what

they were voting on that they inadvertently voted both for and against the change and a second vote had to be taken.

The problems were partially due to an error by staff in preparation of the change in wording of one section in which staff had added a five-year limit for non-conforming signs to be altered.

Coun. Booth explained that what had been intended when the change was ordered at last week's planning board meeting, was that portable, mobile

and revolving signs were to come down immediately and other non-conforming signs would have a five-year limit to conform, upon enactment of the bylaw.

When the fog finally cleared, it was decided that all non-conforming signs, erected prior to enactment, would be allowed the five-year period of grace.

Before the bylaw is written into its final form, it will be published so that the public can add their comments.

## Santa's comin'!

The 49th annual Georgetown Lions Club Santa Claus parade is December 1, and the Lions are busy looking for entries and sponsors.

The parade begins at 1:30 p.m. in the Moore Park plaza and follows the same route as last year, down Main Street to Maple Avenue, across Maple Avenue to Guelph Street and along Guelph Street to the Georgetown Market plaza.

A number of organizations have already signed up for the parade, including the Shriners Club in Brampton, the Fifth Boy Scouts, the Halton Hills Majorettes, McDonald's, the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, the Jaycees, the Kinsmen and the Legion Pipe Band.

Parade committee chairman Bill Mason said the Lions are still looking for more entries "for a bigger and better parade." The parade marshal, Pearce Porter, is still accepting entries.

## GUNMAN ON TRIAL

A Georgetown man charged with pointing a firearm will appear in Milton provincial court for trial December 3.

Bary Bryant, 30, of Georgetown was charged following an incident in which two officers answering a call for a domestic dispute were warned off the property by a man with a gun.

The officers reportedly backed off and waited for the man to calm down. He left the house a short time later, unarmed, and drove to a factory on Armstrong Avenue, where he was apprehended.

## ARSON CHARGES LAID

A second charge of arson has been laid against a 16-year-old female student in connection with a fire at Georgetown District High School two weeks ago.

The fire was started in one of the girls' washrooms November 8 when someone stuffed paper down one of the toilets and set it on fire. A 15-year-old girl has also been charged with arson, and will appear in juvenile court. The 16-year-old girl will appear in Milton provincial court on December 3.

## Fifteen of 18 Maplehurst cons are re-captured

Fifteen of the 18 inmates who escaped from Maplehurst Correctional Institute in Milton during a riot a week ago have been re-captured, leaving only three escapees at large.

One of the escapees turned himself into police in Peterborough on the weekend and the rest were re-captured in Brampton, Toronto and in the Milton area.

The prisoners were watching their monthly movie, titled, ironically enough, "Escape from Athena", when the riot broke out as prisoners began destroying recreational equipment in the gymnasium where the movie was being shown.

Following prison policy, the guards withdrew to allow the inmates time to cool off, but one guard was left behind in the projection room. A

group of 18 prisoners protected the guard from being attacked by the other prisoners during the riot.

While the riot was going on, the 18 escapees escaped by making their way to the gym roof and jumping down to the ground. Halton Regional Police surrounded the detention centre once the break-out was discovered, and were assisted in their search for the prisoners by a provincial police helicopter and two tracker dogs.

Damage in the riot which preceded the break-out is estimated at between \$50,000 and \$75,000, and the prisoners who took part in the riot will have to pay for the damage out of their stipends, which range from \$3.85 to \$8 a week.



SHE'S QUITE A GIRL

Halton Regional Chairman Jack Rafits presented a \$100 bond to Lynne Cunningham, the Optimists Club's Youth of the Year, at the club's youth appreciation banquet, while Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy and Fire Chief Mick Holmes look on. Lynne was chosen from among six finalists to receive the award.

(Herald photo)