

Litter problem on rural roads worse than ever, Morette says

By PAUL SARGENT
Herald Staff Writer

Despite investigative efforts by town works employees, a critical situation continues regarding discarded garbage alongside Halton Hills' rural roads, according to town officials.

Town works superintendent Frank Morette told The Herald last week that, since the closing of the Georgetown landfill site on Armstrong Avenue, the amount of garbage strewn along the shoulders of Halton Hills' country roads has increased dramatically.

"We've received a sharp increase of calls from residents complaining of garbage littering the ditches along the road," Mr. Morette said. "Works department drivers have been tearing open the bags and searching for names, addresses or anything that might determine who left the trash. If anything incriminating turns up, we'll telephone them and tell them what we found."

Ward 2 Coun. Russ Miller, himself a rural resident, believes that the closing of the dump in town has made the garbage problem worse than ever. He told The Herald he's advocating a better waste transfer system in Halton Hills so that people will not have to drive "20 to 25 miles just to deliver their garbage."

Judging from the response citizens offer to town officials who have traced their garbage through discarded "clues", few urban people care about the problem, Mr. Morette commented.

WORSE THAN EVER
"Most people deny that they ever left their garbage there," he said. "Some argue that their garbage was stolen and then dumped. One guy had the nerve to say he wouldn't leave his name and address in the bag next time."

Police have indicated to the town that there is nothing they can do about the problem unless they catch the person in the act of dumping trash. If officials do observe the act, the

accused is liable for a fine of up to \$100 under the highway litter act.

The only action an uninvolved citizen can take would be to record the licence plate number of the car whose owner is committing the crime. The witness then has a choice: he can choose to go to court and see that the accused is convicted or found innocent, or he can report the incident to police. In the latter instance, however, there is little if anything police can do.

GO TO COURT
"The town needs someone who'll go to court and make an example for those who wish to

prosecute and don't know what to do," Coun. Miller said.

"The type of garbage left on the side of roads is wide-ranging, involving everything from car transmissions to fridges and stoves. On one occasion, a works department crew removed three truck loads of refuse from a five-lot area north of Highway 7."

According to Mr. Morette, the Ninth Line north is a "public dumping ground", although the problem is not just a matter of isolated incidents.

COST RISING
Mr. Morette emphasized that the cost of picking up this

extra garbage is rising rapidly and that the town cannot afford to continue.

"It costs us money in man-hours and in salaries," Mr. Morette explained. "It will eventually come back to the taxpayer."

Clean living in Halton Hills could become a thing of the past if this dramatic increase continues, he added. If an alternative transfer site is not found in Halton Hills, town officials agree that local residents pursuing one of the area's most popular pastimes, during their Sunday afternoon drives in the country,



Credit Valley Conservation Authority chairman Howard Stewart talks with the authority's newly-elected vice-chairman, Bob Harrison at the CVCA inaugural meeting Thursday. Mr. Stewart was appointed chairman of the authority by Natural Resources Minister James Auld, while Mr. Harrison was elected by the authority itself.

(Herald photo)

Howard Stewart CVCA chairman

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald Staff Writer

Howard Stewart of Huttonville has been appointed the new chairman of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) following the resignation of former chairman Grant Clarkson.

Mr. Stewart, former vice-chairman of the authority, was appointed chairman last week by minister of natural resources, James Auld. The authority elected provincial councillor Bob Harrison as vice-chairman at its inaugural meeting Thursday.

It was also decided at the inaugural meeting to ask the minister to allow the authority to choose its own chairman in an election, rather than having

the choice made by the minister. Mr. Stewart pointed out that the CVCA is one of only two Ontario conservation authorities which have their chairman appointed.

Mr. Stewart noted that it is customary for the new chairman to make "enthusiastic" promises for his term in office, but said he did not intend to do so.

"I shall perform my official duties as efficiently as possible and with a keen sense of pride," Mr. Stewart said.

On first hearing of his appointment, which was made February 1, Mr. Stewart said now is the time to make decisions and "get on with the business of conservation."

"It is imperative now that

we tie up all the loose ends, keep costs down as much as possible and get on with completing ongoing priority projects such as the Waterfront and the Paper Mill Dam in Georgetown," he said.

DIXIE AREA
Mr. Stewart's family lived in the Dixie area of Toronto Township, now Mississauga. In 1951, he, his wife Margaret and their family moved to Huttonville, where they established Hilltop Orchards, which Mr. Stewart still operates with his sons.

Mr. Stewart was one of the members of the Credit Valley Lions Club, which initiated the conservation movement in the Credit River watershed. He has been a member of the Peel Memorial Hospital Board, the Peel Branch, Victorian Order of Nurses Auxiliary, the Masons and the Mississauga Shrine Club.

The authority also chose the members of its five committees at the inaugural meeting. The chairman of the historical records committee is Henry Wheeler of Erin Township with Evelyn O'Sullivan, Erin Village, as vice-chairman. The chairman and vice-chairman of the information and education committee are Jim Dods of Orangeville and Peter Novak of Mississauga, respectively.

Chairman of the parks and recreation committee is Gail Malby of Acton, with vice-chairman Clark Glassford of Peel. Chairman of reforestation, land use and wildlife is Harold Darragh of Orangeville, with Charles Bryan of Amaranth serving as vice-chairman. Chairman and vice-chairman of the water management committee are Ken Williams and Harold Kennedy, both of Peel.

Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy will serve again on the water management committee. Oakville Coun. Laurie Mannell will serve on the parks and recreation committee. Halton Hills Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson, a new Halton appointee to the authority, will serve on the information and education committee.

Winterfest success despite cancellations

By STEPHEN FROST
Herald Staff Writer

A lack of snow for the first annual Halton Hills Winterfest, coupled with a three-week postponement, left the event financially endangered, according to organizers who are nevertheless confident that Winterfest will return in 1981.

Tony Evers of the Georgetown Jaycees said he feels that had there been snow, and all the scheduled events run, the festivities would have been a success monetarily as well as socially.

Mr. Evers told The Herald last week he was "quite pleased" with the February 2 Winterfest despite problems involving a lack of continuity due to cancellation of some events and the added cost of publicizing the re-scheduled date.

More than half the events were cancelled, Mr. Evers reported, adding that had they run, there would have been continuous events all day. To add continuity next year, Mr. Evers said he would like to see the area used reduced in size, with the rinks closer to the armories.

On the whole, Mr. Evers said he feels that the events that took place were very well attended, with special mention going to the broomball tournament, which was won by the Delrex Smoke Shop team.

The top prize of a trip to the Quebec Winter Carnival was to be awarded to the winner of

the snow sculpture competition. Because it was cancelled, however, the Jaycees ran a lottery instead, which was won by Laurie Duggan. The trip includes two nights accommodation at the Quebec City Holiday Inn.

More than 50 youngsters participated in the donut-eating contest. Four children at a time tried out their eating prowess on donuts hanging from wires. The fastest two out of every four won McDonald's certificates for a Big Mac and French fries.

LOG-SAWING
In the log-sawing competition, sponsored by the Optimists, Brent Collier went through his log in a mere nine seconds to win the men's division. The women's division was captured by Sharon Malby, with a time of 33 seconds, and the children's division was won impressively by 14-year old Harold Branch in 13 seconds.

The Opt-Mrs. sponsored a curling tournament on one of the outdoor rinks, with the team of Norma Arthurton and Dorothy Inglis winning hands-

Nail-driving, which was run by the Kinsmen, consisted of driving an eight-inch spike into a large wooden beam. This event was strictly for women and, according to Mr. Evers, the hammers were a little worse for wear. Laura Woodlett was the first prize winner in this event.



The amount of garbage found on the side of rural roads in Halton Hills' Ward 2 has increased dramatically since the closing of the landfill site in Georgetown. This mess was discovered on the Ninth Line North.

(Herald photo)

Education centre is on schedule

Plans for an outdoor education centre at the Silver Creek Conservation Area north of Georgetown are "right on schedule" the former chairman of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority's information and education advisory committee said Thursday.

The centre, which is targeted for completion by September of this year, would replace the authority's current education centre at Terra Cotta, Robert Harrison said. The Terra Cotta centre will become strictly a recreational facility. There is already heavy usage of Ter-

ra Cotta just for recreation, he added.

Ministry of natural resources approval of the project, for which \$65,000 has been earmarked in the authority's proposed 1980 budget, is being sought.

Funds for the project will go to renovate, insulate and equip an old farmhouse at the conservation area so that it can accommodate school and other groups coming for a day's educational program. The centre would be used as an orientation area and for lunches, while groups would spend most of the day out of doors.

Board makes final offer to teachers

The Halton Board of Education made its final offer to secondary school teachers Monday which would give them a six per cent increase in a one-year contract.

The increase would bring an average secondary school teacher's salary to \$25,842 from the present \$24,636, according to the board's chief negotiator, Bill Lawson.

The increase, to take effect the day the contract is ratified, does not include a 2.4 per cent increment already agreed upon under the terms of the former contract. The teachers have been working without a contract since September 1.

In addition to pay, the board negotiators and a team of negotiators from the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation provincial staff failed to agree on retirement gratuity and staffing.

A fact finder's report released in late November indicated that the retirement gratuity "has outlived its usefulness" and "there are many, better ways to spend the funds which are now allocated for retirement gratuity."

In accordance with this statement, the board is proposing that there be no new entrants to the plan after September, 1980. The board

would protect the fund for teachers retiring between 1980 and 1985, but would limit a teacher's gratuity to \$15,000 after that time, Mr. Lawson said.

Under the offer, the board would add 10 teachers in 1980-81 and a further five teachers in 1981-82.

"This, in effect, would lower the pupil-teacher ratio from the current 17.7 to 17.55 and then to 17.48," Mr. Lawson said.

The board's offer resulted from a request Thursday from the provincial negotiating team for a final offer which they could take to the 1,949 full and part-time teachers in OSSTF district nine.

If the teachers reject the offer to be put to them for a vote Feb. 21, Mr. Lawson hopes they will return to the negotiating table.

"The board feels pretty strongly that we're trying to be reasonable to two of our publics," Mr. Lawson said. "We're trying to indicate to the ratepayer that this level of government will have some restrictions on spending, and we're trying to be fair to our employees by offering them a package which does include an increase comparable to that of other employees in our employ."

CORRECTION

PARK DEED ONLY

A story in last week's Herald concerning the proposed transfer of land adjacent to Acton's Prospect Park incorrectly stated that H.H. Hinton has offered Halton Hills immediate possession of his home and property. While Mr. Hinton has agreed to deed the land to the town immediately, the town would not be permitted to take possession until the benefactor's death. Town council considers the offer next week. The Herald regrets the error.

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SCOUTS HOLD CHURCH PARADE

Halton Hills Scouts and Guides will hold their annual church parade February 24 at Knox Presbyterian Church in Georgetown. The service, which will begin at 2 p.m., will include all the scouts and guides in Halton Hills. The parade is the final activity during Scout and Guide week, which runs from February 17 to 24.