

Want longer hours

# Poolhalls' request deferred to study

Claiming that a municipal bylaw regulating the operating hours of pool halls is discriminatory, and Etobicoke lawyer tried unsuccessfully Monday night to convince council to extend the hours of a local games room.

Hired by Howard and Lucia Oram, owners of "Games People Play" on Guelph Street, Victor Slater argued that the operating hours of business should be no different than those of area restaurants and added that people are unjustifiably concerned that the games room will become a hang-out for kids because of the inherently bad reputation "pool halls" have. Council referred the matter to a staff study.

Unlike other communities nearby, games rooms in Halton Hills are required to close at 11 p.m. every day except Sunday, when they must close at 10 p.m. The Orams had requested that their business should be allowed to remain open until midnight during the week and to 1 a.m. Saturday and Sunday mornings.

"Forcing the Orams to close at 11 p.m. isn't going to prevent kids from hanging out," Mr. Slater said. "It's only going to affect the Orams trying to earn an income. You won't solve the youth problem by closing the pool halls."

Running over a long visit of community events and projects the Orams have been involved with recently, Mr. Slater said the games room is always supervised by an adult and no alcohol or drugs are permitted on the store premises.

"Pool is enjoyed by young and old alike," he said, "and the store is always crowded with people. It's harmless entertainment."

Mr. Slater confirmed that the games room had incurred two bylaw infractions in 1980, at one time conducting business beyond its closing hour

and then remaining open during Easter this year.

Referring to an in-camera session of council three weeks ago which heard an undecoded police report concerning the establishment, Mr. Slater said it would be highly

unusual for council to act on the basis of that report alone. Mrs. Oram was unsuccessful in getting the hours extended at that time.

Indicating that his clients were flexible, Mr. Slater said the Orams were willing to sit down and discuss alternative

hours, possibly remaining open until midnight Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

"The kids are better off at the (games room) than hanging around restaurants," he said. "But over the years a built up prejudice to pool halls

exists. I would submit that this is not the case anymore and the bylaw against poolhalls is outdated."

Staff will examine the operating hours of pool halls in neighboring communities and results could come before council within a few weeks.

# Refuse from fuel studied

Halton region's solid waste management committee has made a major stride towards implementing a "refuse derived fuel" (RDF) program in Halton following a meeting with government officials Monday.

While not a new idea, the region hopes that sifting through Halton's garbage output and separating refuse which could be used as fuel will help cut down on the bulk of

meeting that an investigative sub-committee has been appointed to study the prospects for refuse derived fuel in the region.

Halton's garbage now being transported to Burlington. Halton Hills has been operating a "Divide and Conquer" program separating glass, tin and newsprint from town trash but the RDF proposal forecasts major savings in heating costs if large factories or institutions adopt as part of their heating program.

Carmen Rowan (ministry of energy), West Williams (ministry of environment), and George Stone of the region's planning department will sit on the special committee which will review studies previously done on waste derived fuel and present its own report on the feasibility of such a program in Halton by January.



Approximately 25 youngsters turned out for a jointly-sponsored Herald-McDonald's Halloween party Friday afternoon to warm up for a night of trick or treating. Pictured above (clockwise from left) are Michelle Sekabovich, Barry Keen, Davey Boere, Mark Boere, Mark Dykun, Mike Van Den Top, Darlene Ross (McDonald's manageress), Bernard Venditti, David Finch, Charlene Kile and Natalie Venditti.



Pumpkin-carving and decorating has been elevated to an art form by the students at Centennial Middle School. Six prizes were awarded to students who had the best overall, best carved, most gruesome, best dressed, most original and funniest pumpkins. Danny Shier and Scott Campbell are examining some of the entrants, perhaps checking out the competition. (Herald photo by Lori Taylor)



Local youngsters prepared for Halloween a few hours early last Friday, invading McDonald's Guelph Street outlet for a special party to mark the occasion. Sponsored jointly by McDonald's and The Herald, the party attracted about 25 kids, who turned out in full costume (plenty of ghosts, princesses and assorted ghouls) to play games and feast on McDonald's sandwiches. Pictured above (left to right) are Marcia Struiker, Molly Hyland and her brother Peter and, in the front row, Stanley McDonald and Duane Markle (seated in the high chair). (Herald photo)

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