

Police chief, Actonians to 'hash it out'

Herald Special
 An Acton merchant who suggested vigilante help for Halton regional police patrols has had a conversation with Police Chief James Harding and expects to meet him personally to discuss matters within the week.

Lorne Doberthien, president of L. and L. Ford Ltd., said he expects to accompany Ward 1 Coun. Dave Whiting when he takes concerned residents to meet Chief Harding tomorrow (Thursday) but he will probably have already met privately with the chief to "hash things out".

Mr. Doberthien said his original letter to Chief Harding, which he released to the Acton Free Press, was written in frustration.

"If I hadn't included the word vigilante I don't suppose much would have happened," he said, "but I'm kind of glad I did. It stirred things up and maybe now we can get some action on our problems."

ANY HARDER
 Mr. Doberthien said he doesn't feel he's being hit any harder than any other car dealerships by thieves and vandals. He may in fact be getting off more lightly than some of his competitors.

But the frustration remains with the fact it is happening and there seems to be little police can do about it, he said.

In his letter Mr. Doberthien suggested caring citizens could form vigilante groups with citizens' band radios to notify patrolling police officers of problems which have occurred or are in progress in another area of the town. He wasn't implying citizens with guns or any of the connotations usually associated with the term vigilante group.

STIRS FUROR
 The publication of his letter has stirred a furor as other newspapers picked upon his suggestions as well as angering Chief Harding over a comment that Halton regional officers aren't involved in Halton Hills as citizens.

Coun. Whiting, a former constable with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, hopes an exchange of information and concerns may begin to correct problems which apparently exist between the force and town residents.

Mr. Doberthien said he feels the reason his letter drew such reaction was that he was simply saying what many others also feel.

Now he hopes this reaction can be turned to some advantage. Perhaps the chief can take this reaction to the Halton Regional Police Commission and use it to increase the budget or whatever it takes to get more for the force, he said.



STRIKE!

Golden Ager, Nora Tuck shows championship cheering style after making a good score. Nora and the rest of her team found themselves playing against a tough youth bowling team, but walk until next year! The fun of the "Battle of the Ages" will hopefully become an annual event. Mrs. Tuck said she'd "never felt so young in my life."

(Herald photo by Dave Irbony)

Study sets guidelines for town's growth

Confident that Georgetown's sewage treatment plant can handle a population greater than 30,000, town council is proceeding with a planning study which will set guidelines for the community's future industrial and residential growth.

Five major developers, including Focal are funding the first part of the two-phase study aimed at establishing an urban plan for the community.

The study will provide the town and the region with unbiased evidence in case developers decide to challenge the town's urban development policies before the Ontario Municipal Board.

The sewer study will continue throughout the next year to establish how much capacity is wasted on handling groundwater and rain which seeps through aging sewers. If studies show that Roger's Creek can safely assimilate additional treated waste flowing from the plant, the consultants may suggest that it should be expanded.

In addition, Mrs. Hamon said, Pro-Life objects to the inclusion of addresses of two homosexual groups, Toronto Area Gays and the Canadian Homophile Association of Toronto, as "useful numbers" listed by Toronto's family planning services (FPS) under Dr. Cole's directorship.

SOME SANITY
 Female students, Mrs. Hamon told council, have complained to school principals that they resent family planning's interference with their private lives by assuming they have active sexual relations and are in need of counselling.

Although regional council rejected Mrs. Hamon's request to defer Dr. Cole's appointment, regional personnel director Dennis Cramm told The Herald Friday that pressure from the provincial ministry of health had nothing to do with council's eagerness to fill the MOH position.

Had there not been an incoming council, Mr. Cramm said, Dr. Cole's appointment might have been dealt with a month ago.

In a letter to regional chairman Jack Rafits, health minister Dennis Timbrell expressed his concern that the region had not managed to fill the MOH position, and warned that he would no longer approve Burlington coroner Dr. Gordon Inglis' appointment as acting medical officer.

Of the approximately 15 candidates who applied for the position over the past year, only seven were interviewed by the health committee. Mr. Cramm attributed the delay in filling the vacancy to a province-wide shortage of doctors qualified to handle the job.

"I think the committee decision was based on what it saw as Dr. Cole's good medical background as a family physician," Mr. Cramm said. "He has some distinct administrative abilities, and will work aggressively in the community to bring the message of community health."

Mr. Cramm added that council "knew from the onset" of Dr. Cole's family planning background and his involvement with the Canada's pro-natalism lobby.

Not unfamiliar with controversy, Dr. Cole became the centre of a stormy, Toronto city council debate when he was appointed as the city's family planning director in December 1974.

While some councillors objected to his involvement with Doctors for the Repeal of the Abortion Law (DRAAL), Dr. Cole said that he was not so much in favor of abortion as he was in controlling unwanted

urban area review last August to assess the town's potential for, and limitations to, industrial or residential growth.

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Mayor Pete Pomeroy admitted that the planning study would normally follow the sewer study once it had finished.

However, he said, there are no guarantees that the region would be able to pay its share of study next year.

Challenged by the threat of a \$27 million Focal Properties Ltd. lawsuit charging the town with breach of contract by refusing to let it develop 1,740 homes in Georgetown's southeast end, the town and Halton region embarked on a joint

No apology for false arrest

Charges against Georgetown resident Ken Diamond in connection with the theft of six kilograms of gold at Toronto International Airport have been withdrawn.

The gold, valued at \$170,000, was en route to London, England from Buffalo Sept. 6 when they disappeared. The theft was not discovered until Metro Toronto police found five of the six kilograms in the possession of a couple who had been arrested on drug charges.

Mr. Diamond told The Herald Monday he had been falsely accused. At the time of the theft, he was working for Air Canada shipping cargo.

"The gold came in as a transfer. I counted the pieces and signed for it when it came in and obviously the police thought I had something to do with the theft," he said.

Mr. Diamond said he was in jail for two and a half days before his parents could put up the required \$50,000 bail. He appeared in court five times, the case never reaching a preliminary hearing to determine if there was sufficient evidence to hold a trial.

It was during Mr. Diamond's fifth court appearance that the crown attorney requested permission to withdraw the charges. He gave no reason for his request.

Mr. Diamond and lawyer Bill Belleghem sought disclosure of the evidence against the accused but failed. Mr. Diamond still doesn't know what evidence they had against him, and he hasn't received an apology for being falsely accused.

"I was a victim of circumstances," he said, "but I'd like to thank all my friends and family for their support and for pulling for me."

Mr. Diamond has met with officials at Air Canada, and says he may be back at work by the end of the week.

Pro-lifers oppose choice

Region's new MOH centre of controversy

By CHRIS AAGAARD
 Herald Staff Writer

Arguing that the "failures and hazards of family planning are well-documented in Canada", a Halton anti-abortion group says it will continue to oppose the appointment of Dr. Peter Cole, Toronto's former director of family planning, as the region's new medical officer of health (MOH).

Bette Hamon, a spokesman for Halton Pro-Life, told Council Thursday that Dr. Cole's past affiliation with birth control programs, and his activism in having Canada's abortion laws removed from the Criminal Code, make his appointment "unacceptable to the 2,300 Pro-Life members".

Nevertheless, council unanimously approved a health and social services committee decision reached Dec. 5, calling for the appointment of the 35-year old former family physician to fill the vacancy created by last year's retirement of Georgetown physician Joseph Chamberlain.

"Council must be given the opportunity to examine the credentials of Dr. Cole," Mrs. Hamon said, later pleading with council to delay its decision on the appointment for two weeks.

The Pro-Life group argues that the family planning program which Dr. Cole helped implement while associated with the Toronto department of public health contributed, rather than curbed, epidemic venereal disease, increased sexual promiscuity among teenagers and adverse physical reactions to female contraceptives, including the birth control pill.

births through sound family planning.

In an April, 1979, bulletin published by the Toronto family planning services division, Dr. Cole writes that "unwanted pregnancies, especially among teenagers, indicate an important role for therapeutic abortion in our health care system".

But, Dr. Cole later adds, "We occasionally look upon repeated abortions in our clients as personal failures".

Mr. Cramm stressed that while Dr. Cole has some innovative ideas for Halton's health department, including a long-awaited population profile of the region, any new policies dealing with family planning will have to be approved by council.



A LITTLE CHRISTMAS PAST

Scott Brander, (rear), learned a little of what Christmas was like in the younger days of Alan Harrop and Mac Alexander at the Norval Women's Institute's annual Christmas dinner and meeting. WI members and their guests enjoyed a turkey dinner with all the trimmings and exchanged gifts.

(Herald photo)

Challenge from south overcome

Council affirms faith in surcharge system

Despite Burlington's second attempt in less than a month to settle region-wide financing of sewer services, regional council confirmed its support Thursday for higher water and sewer rates next year as well as maintaining the "surcharge" method of raising sewer revenue in Halton.

During a special session requested by Burlington Coun. Joan Allingham to discuss the issue, council backed a Nov. 24 resolution passed by the former regional government calling for a 25 per cent increase in sewer rates and 10 per cent hike in water rates for 1981.

Burlington has lobbied throughout the year against regionalized financing of sewer services whereby its residents, through the sewer surcharge system, help fund sewer service projects in north Halton.

Although some southern councillors would prefer to see sewer revenues collected on a "chargeback" basis by which Halton's municipalities would only pay for services in their own areas, regional solicitor Dennis Perlin has warned that council could be challenged in the courts if it opts out of regionalized sewer funding.

Left alone to pay for services in its own area, Halton Hills could face an enormous increase in property assessment to help pay off the \$5 million expansion of the Georgetown sewage treatment plant completed two years ago.

FUND OPTIONS
 Mr. Perlin urged council Thursday, as he did the outgoing council Nov. 19, to maintain the sewer surcharge

Concerned that the rate increases will force commercial and industrial developers to look at other regions for more competitive rates, Burlington Mayor Roly Bird urged councillors to defeat the proposed hikes and "get back to some kind of sanity" with the sewer rates issue.

"If municipalities can control their own growth, then they should pay for their own growth," he said.

Similar sentiments were echoed by Coun. Allingham, who said that Halton Hills is actually paying only for the sewer services that it uses while Burlington is paying

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HALLOW END



COUNCILLORS CREATE A SPLASH

Some "wild and crazy" special guests dropped into the seventh annual Halton Hills Christmas Water Show held Friday night in the McKenle-Smith Middle School indoor pool. Believe it or not, that's Mayor Pete Pomeroy in the middle, dressed in a rather revealing bathing suit. Mayor Pomeroy is braced by Acton recreation co-ordinator Joy William and Ward 1 Coun. Terry Grubbe perched on the diving platform. The stage entrance of the motley cast of town staff and members of council took the audience completely by surprise, but their pool side antics were greatly appreciated.

(Herald photo)

DON'T FORGET - TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT

Turn on your Christmas lights for the Kin-Seniors tour, 7-9 p.m.