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Friday, April 3, 1981

Perlin denies predecessor a 'scapegoat'

## Farmer quitting treasury



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Don Farmer, Halton's former treasurer who fell from grace following last summer's disclosure of a \$500,000 shortfall in the region's operating budget, has decided to leave the region to seek a senior management position elsewhere.

The announcement of Mr. Farmer's imminent resignation was made after a 20-minute closed session of council Wednesday afternoon, during which councillors deliberated over a proposal for Mr. Farmer's temporary status under the re-organized treasury department.

Prepared by chief administrative officer (CAO) Dennis Perlin, the confidential report, eventually accepted by council, suggested by Mr. Farmer remain with the treasury department while it is reconstructed.

In his advisory position, Mr. Perlin told reporters later, Mr. Farmer will receive his regular \$42,000 salary until the end of 1981 and his duties will include helping to implement treasury department changes recommended in a recent consultant's study, as well as working with the local Hydro commissions on sewer rates and water rates billing.

While Mr. Perlin explained that details of Mr. Farmer's departure were worked out by the CAO alone, he said the former treasurer accepted the proposal and announced plans to actively look for other employment.

"He has indicated that he feels he's being treated fairly," Mr. Perlin said, denying that Mr. Farmer is being made a "scapegoat" for last year's deficit fiasco.

"He's a hard-working and dedicated individual," Mr. Perlin added, explaining that Mr. Farmer decided to leave when he didn't see "anything in the new structure" to keep him at the region.

In the ensuing debacle over the deficit, discovered last July, Mr. Farmer decided to step down from his treasurer's position to assume a "lesser role" within the department. Shortly afterward, Ernie Reid resigned as CAO, a post which was officially filled by Mr. Perlin, Halton's former treasurer, last month.

### BUY OR RENEW SUBSCRIPTIONS, HELP ARTS COMPLEX

One of the best features of Georgetown District High School's fourth annual magazine subscription drive, which begins Tuesday with some proceeds going to the new library-cultural centre, is the fact that residents can support the campaign just by renewing their current subscriptions.

You don't have to buy a new magazine subscription to support the arts centre fundraising drive, GDHS marketing teacher Charles Genore explained. The program allows students the same sales commission (about one third of the income) even if they talk you into renewing a subscription, he said.

Virtually all of the school's 1,700 students will be having the magazines - popular titles from around the world - in an effort to top the current scholastic record of \$25,000 in sales set last year by a Nova Scotia high school. If GDHS is successful, they could once again be declared the top high school salesmen in the country and, at the same time, raise up to \$2,000 for the arts complex. The campaign continues until April 21.

### Kitchener-bound

The Georgetown Choral Society is travelling to Kitchener Sunday for a special benefit show in the Bingeman Park Concert Hall. Sponsored by the Kitchener's Civic Club, funds raised from the show will be used to help the physically disabled. Magicians and dancers will join the Society for the show, scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door. Bingeman Park is located on the north side of Highway 7, past the Breslau turn-off.

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Yep, it's that time of the year again, folks. Normally a pretty staid old waterway, the Credit will be churning with the likes of the above boats again tomorrow (Saturday) in the annual Jaycee Crazy Boat Race. Ontario's Lieutenant-Governor, John Aldr (inset), will be on hand to launch the event from the Glen William's Tenth Line bridge at 12:30 p.m. Last year, about 450 participants entered a bizarre variety of boats, helping to raise approximately \$2,500 for Jaycee-sponsored community projects.

## Award for local cop

Herald Special  
When the Halton region safety council present its award today (Friday) one of Acton's policemen will be among the recipients.

Constable Bill Cunningham, a Georgetown native and 14-year veteran of the force, will receive an award for his part in rescuing a resident of the McGibbon

Hotel from her smoke-filled room in November. Constable Cunningham said he was on the desk in the old district 1 police headquarters across from the hotel when a citizen reported smoke in the hotel.

It was around 9 a.m. when he went across to investigate and found Dave Crichton, another hotel resident who

proved most helpful. Constable Cunningham knew the hotel and had a better idea of the location of the room from which the smoke was coming.

The pair kicked in the door of the room and it was Mr. Crichton who actually found Margaret Herrington. Constable Cunningham said he

Continued on Page 3



### GENEROSITY TIMES THREE

Elks Lodge 540 of Halton Hills donated \$200 to the Canadian Cancer Society, \$100 to the Georgetown and District YM-YWCA and \$100 to the Georgetown Little Theatre's seat plaque campaign raising funds for the new library-cultural centre Monday night. Seen here (left to right) are Michael Brady, director of the YMCA, John Sharpe, Leading Knight of the Elks, Derek Joyne of the Little Theatre and Bob Burns of the Cancer Society.

(Herald photo)

## No result in phone threat check

Herald Special  
An investigation into a telephone threat made on the life of a Toronto lawyer who recently won an acquittal for his client charged with manslaughter has proved inconclusive, says a Halton Crown prosecutor.

Paul Stunt said the call, telling David Humphreys before the trial was over that his life would be in danger if he successfully defended his client, "definitely was not made by any of the families involved in the case."

Humphreys was defending Toronto car dealer Robert Marshall Esplen, 50, in an Ontario Supreme Court jury trial. Esplen was charged with the shooting death last May 11 of Andre Wysman, 24, of Milton.

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