

## About the Hills

### Garage accident burns man

A resident of Margaret Street, Georgetown, was set aflame Saturday when the lacquer and thinner he was mixing set his clothes on fire. The electric mixer the man used to combine the chemicals set off sparks which caused them to ignite. When the man rushed outside his garage, a neighbor tackled him to subdue the flames. The man, unidentified in a fire department report, is in intensive care in a Brampton hospital.

### Arts centre forum

Halton Hills Arts Council is holding an open meeting next Wednesday (April 15) at 7:30 p.m. at Centennial Public School in Georgetown, which will provide a forum for residents of Halton Hills to ask questions about the Library-Cultural Centre.

Mayor Pete Pomeroy, architect Keith Wagland, Rex Heslop, chairman of the Fund-raising Committee, and Betsy Cornwell, Chief Librarian, will be participants of a special panel available to answer questions and present a progress report on the building of the complex. The meeting will be chaired by Fran Barnes.

This is an excellent opportunity for anyone who has any burning queries or doubts about certain aspects of the complex to receive some answers. It will also give you a chance to put forth any personal points of view.

### Silver Creek store

Town planning board has approved a proposal to build a convenience store in Silver Creek. Located above the Highway 7-Regional Road 3 junction, the store would serve people outside the Ballinacree area, mainly residents living in a relatively dense rural setting. In approving the proposal, the planning department noted that there were no other similar stores in the area.

### Expand land use

An application to broaden the uses of industrial land which Cherry Tree Developments of Toronto is readying along Guelph Street has been given tentative approval by the town's planning board. While the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and the local ratepayer's association have strongly opposed even limited commercial use of the nine-acre property, situated south of Shoptrie, the board decided the land is suitable for such enterprises as private gyms and health clubs, manufacturing, retail warehousing, clubs and restaurants. The chamber and ratepayers say board members should adhere to policies suggested in the recently completed Highway 7 corridor study, preserving the town's limited industrial property for manufacturing only. Both groups suggest that some of the proposed land uses require more definition.

### Moral support from region

The Georgetown and Acton Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) have received regional council support for plans to bolster the commercial viability of their downtown cores. Studies of the two areas funded partially by the town of Halton Hills, with the remainder coming from the provincial government, will eventually enable the town to apply for further government assistance to enhance the downtown Acton and Georgetown business cores. Council appointed planning director Raj Mohammed and newly-posted business development director Matthew Fischer to act as the region's representatives on the studies' steering committee.

### Bright BIA idea

Continuing with plans to revitalize the community's downtown business section, the Georgetown Business Improvement Area (BIA) board of management has been given permission to install decorative street-lighting along Mill Street. The eight new lights, styled like 19th century gas lamps, will be located along both sides of the street between Park Avenue and Market Street. In addition, the BIA will go ahead with plans to erect four-color display banners on street lamps located along Main Street at the James, Mill, and Church Streets intersections. The banners will promote the downtown shopping area and each is about two feet wide by seven feet long.

### Social planners meet

The North Halton Social Planning Council will be holding its first annual meeting at 8 p.m., April 23 at Hillcrest Church on Trafalgar Road. All interested citizens, members of special service agencies and local organizations are invited to attend. The evening's programme will include a summary of the group's activities since its inauguration last November, a presentation of current projects in the area and a keynote speaker. Refreshments will be served. Plan to attend this informative meeting.

### South Halton VD clinics

Supporting family planning clinics in Oakville and Burlington, regional council has also approved venerable disease clinics for the two cities if the provincial ministry of health foots the bill. At its regular meeting last Wednesday, council passed a motion calling for the VD clinics to be established immediately when government funding arrives. In addition, council has also given tentative approval to hiring a full-time VD counsellor if it gets 100 per cent funding from the health ministry.

## British Club plans pub

The British Club of Georgetown will be getting in the swing of things with a pub night May 2.

The evening's entertainment will include songs and comedy by "Pearly Queen", a dart competition, spot dancing, door prizes and an excellent buffet, at a cost of \$15 per couple. Call Barbara Phillips at 877-8555 to reserve tickets. Members paying in advance get a \$2 discount.

The annual family bowling night will take place this Saturday (April 11) at 7:30 p.m. at Georgetown Bowl. On Monday, club president John Paterson will be presenting slides of his recent trip to California at 8 p.m. in the Glen Williams Town Hall.

Group members will inspect the wine vats of Winona-St. Catharines April 24. Andre's Winery has produced some of the most exquisite Retalings, Moels, and Bordeaux in existence. A group bus will leave

Zellers car park at 6:30 p.m. at a cost of \$3.50 per person. For reservation, call Joan Hayes at 877-5797.

For more information about any of these events, contact John Paterson.



THE EASTER BUNNY'S LITTLE HELPERS

Preparing for the Easter bunny (or is it the Easter beagle?), these youngsters at the Limehouse Public School whipped up a clutch of chocolate eggs and other goodies last Wednesday. Pausing from their candy-making

efforts are (left to right) Lori Anne Foster, Danny King, Allison Dewanapp, Brian Wheeler, Marry Jane Hill and Andrea Leferink. Inez Curichton and Linda Hill conducted the kids' efforts.

## Province should have taught public about regional government--Morrow

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abilities were supposed to be turned over to the region and the municipal staff members would presumably have shifted with them, that didn't happen. Municipalities hung onto their staff and the region had to hire additional people to fill spots existing staff were expected to fill when the region was first envisaged.

A study by former Milton mayor Don Gordon proved that to be the biggest reason for higher costs as a result of regional government back in 1977, Mr. Morrow said.

MISTAKE  
In hindsight probably the biggest mistake the provincial government made when regional government was instituted was not spending money to educate the people on the need for the new system.

Mr. Morrow started as a Georgetown councillor in 1969, then spent three years as reeve before becoming a regional councillor in 1974 and regional chairman in 1977. During that time he saw what was happening to the 100-year-old county system.

Georgetown needed a new landfill site desperately, but Esqueping Township wouldn't let Georgetown dump its garbage out there. In the end, the now closed site on Armstrong Avenue overlooking the Credit River had to be approved whether it really was environmentally safe or not.

"We had an environmental hearing of sorts," he recalls, "but the board knew before we started that we had to keep the dump within the boundaries of Georgetown and that was the only vacant land we had. What choice did they have about approving it?"

Conversely there was a move among Georgetown councillors at one point to bar Esqueping youngsters from town recreational facilities because they were being heavily used by rural people but the town received \$200 or some equally small grant as the township's supposed share of its cost.

The old system was virtually forcing the township to permit indiscriminate strip development because that was its only means of increas-

ing assessment and keeping taxes down. With no services available industry couldn't locate in the township and residential development was the only alternative for increasing the tax base.

The county system was literally breaking down around council's ears at the time regional government was set up, he said. Another example was the need for water pollution control plants. They are expensive to build and require highly skilled, expensive operators.

A number of such expensive personnel may be required for each plant but only for a brief period each day in any one plant. While each municipality operated independently such people were still essential but could only be hired for one plant.

Under the region such people rotate between each of the plants and one salary meets the needs of several municipalities.

Prior to regional government the province was sending in its staff to do more and more things which were really municipal concerns

but the municipality couldn't afford to look after them. With provincial staff came provincial control and less and less local authority over what happened locally.

NOTICE  
As the county system broke down local citizens didn't see what was happening. Even local councillors weren't aware of the problems in many cases because only the reeve and deputy-reeve of each municipality sat on county council.

Money spent on educating people about the need for change would have paid dividends, because although no one likes change, it is much easier to accept if you know the reason for it.

The province didn't educate people and if local politicians had tried to do it, residents wouldn't have believed them. They'd have felt it was being done to

further the politicians' careers.

Mr. Morrow hopes someone will listen and agree with him on what should be done. Halton's vast rural area makes it different from its more urban neighbors and perhaps that is one of the biggest reasons why things haven't gone as smoothly here as in Peel and Hamilton-Wentworth regions.

But urban development all around Halton is going to cross its boundaries in the near future. With that growth will come an even greater reliance on the regional system.

The system was built for modern society to give local councils the opportunity to solve local problems without going hat-in-hand to the province for help, he says. In a few years people will look back and wonder how the old system worked as well as it did for as long as it did.

## Section 86 scuttled by council deadlock

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system, he added.

Councillors Armstrong and Booth expressed concern that the older residential areas would suffer most under equalized assessment, as taxes there rise substantially to share a comparable level with newer developments.

A councillor in Georgetown's modern, commuter-oriented east end, Coun. Armstrong said tax rates in his ward would not likely change much under equalized assessment. However, he warned, some senior citizens living in the older sections may be forced from their homes as tax levels rise, despite a \$500 seniors' tax grant from the province and a further \$150 subsidy from the municipality.

"Where will the majority of increases take place? In older homes," Coun. Booth maintained. "Who owns those homes? Senior citizens... That's the segment of society who you're going to stick with the highest tax bill."

Commending the efforts of the special Section 86 committee, Mayor Pomeroy maintained that it had only "skimmed the surface" of the equalized assessment proposal.

"It can be very inequitable in its own respect," he said, adding that he would rather

subsidize townhouse owners who pay more taxes for less services under the present tax system than switch to equalized assessment.

Coun. Grubbe applauded equalized assessment as a "giant step" towards property tax reform in the province and both councillors Whiting and Blinn agreed that, while it may hurt some residents, it appeared the fairer choice over the current system.

"The (Association of Municipalities of Ontario) supports Section 86," Coun. Levy said. "It urges implementation as the first step towards comprehensive tax reform. It is not necessarily a popular move but we've got to have the guts to do it."

Councillors have blamed the

government's own assessment offices of adding to the confusion involved in studying proposals to switch to Section 86.

Although Coun. Miller feared equalized assessment would harmfully raise farm taxes, he shared equalized assessment support. Coun. Serjeantson's disappointment about the lack of information from the assessment office.

"If (Section 86) is so good, why can't we get information?" Coun. Miller commented.

Meanwhile, Section 86's defeat may not be final. There is some speculation that disgruntled Acton residents, who attended Monday night's session will ask councillors to reconsider their decision.

### HOME POOL SERVICE

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"Pool equipment & chemicals"

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### Maintenance Programs

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Robert Platts 877-9101

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FRI., APRIL 10th - SAT., APRIL 11th

10-6-4 Reg. \$5.75 SALE \$4.75

10-6-4 (25% CRN) Reg. \$6.50 SALE \$5.50

7-7-7 Reg. \$5.25 SALE \$4.25

Special Lawn Mix Reg. \$1.50 lb. SALE \$1.25 lb.

3 Miles North of Silvercreek Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.  
On Halton Rd. 3 Ballinacree Saturday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

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## OPEN HOUSE

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A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BASED ON CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1981

7 P.M. - 9 P.M.

(for registration for Sept. 1981)

- qualified staff
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FOR INFORMATION CALL:

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## NOW OPEN!

### "SUPERIOR SHOE REPAIR"

GEORGETOWN MARKET PLACE

(NEXT TO THE BARBERSHOP)

## About the Hills

### Reid faces jury trial

Brian Reid of Georgetown, accused of second degree murder in the Feb. 1 death of Herbert Wild at the Meadow Glen Mushroom plant, will go on trial before a jury in the Supreme Court of Ontario, a Milton provincial court judge decided last week.

Mr. Reid appeared before the Milton court for a brief hearing Thursday, at which defence counsel John Smith requested and was granted a ban on publication of the trial's proceedings. Mr. Smith agreed to let the evidence be published after the trial begins, once the jury is familiar with it.

Crown prosecutor Anthony Vale said the trial, referred to the Supreme Court by Judge D.B. Latimer, "may be as far as five months away" because of the court's scheduling.

### Chapel St. houses proceed

Town council appears ready to endorse a bylaw outlining an agreement with Chateau Belair Developments of Georgetown to build homes on the Chapel Street school property. Under the proposal, Belair will build 10 single-family homes, contribute to the reconstruction of adjacent Dayfoot Drive and has given a 24,572 square foot chunk of the old school property to the town to use as parkland.

### Fund-raising starts

Various community groups are embarking on spring fund-raising campaigns. Council at its Monday night session gave permission to the Halton Hills gymnastic club to sell lottery tickets supporting gymnastics in Ontario. The North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded will begin a week of canvassing to raise money for the mentally handicapped May 10 and the town recognized May 10 to 16 as National Week for the Mentally Retarded. Legionnaires in Georgetown will be out selling tags April 30, May 1 and 2 this year and the town has officially proclaimed April 26 to May 2 as Volunteer Week in Halton Hills.

### Plant 'propagation'

"Go forth and multiply," the Bible says all living creatures were told, but some plants seem to have a hard time propagating. Ray Halevard of Hamilton's Royal Botanical Gardens presents a free clinic on propagating plants at the Georgetown public library April 21 between 7 and 8:30 p.m. Outside the library's temporary headquarters in Guelphview Square, the RBG will park its mobile greenhouse between 2 and 8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to watch the demonstration inside and tour the greenhouse outside.

**TOWN OF HALTON HILLS**  
30 MAIN ST. SOUTH  
HALTON HILLS (GEORGETOWN)  
877-5185

## COACHING LEVEL 1 THEORY

An introductory Level 1 coaching course is open to all interested coaches in various sports.

Openings are still available.

WHEN: Sundays, April 12, 16, May 3 & 10

TIME: 6:30 - 10:00 PM

LOCATION: Acton Library

SEE: \$10.00

Register at either Recreation Office or call 877-5185, ext. 62 or 19.



### HALTON GOSPEL TEMPLE

1 Mile West of Georgetown on Highway 7  
PASTOR ANGUS J. NICHOLSON  
10:00 a.m. Christian Education Hour  
"Need a Ride" Phone 877-2759  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship  
7:00 p.m. "Indoor Camp Meeting"  
WORSHIP IN AN EXCITING ATMOSPHERE  
MEET PEOPLE. MAKE FRIENDS  
JESUS, HE'S THE ANSWER

## Come to Church

<p><b>GEORGETOWN ALLIANCE CHURCH</b></p> <p>Sunday, April 12, 1981</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>Morning Worship 11 a.m.</p> <p>Come and Make Our Church Your Church</p> <p>Everyone Welcome</p> <p>P. RALPH 877-8816 853-3023</p>	<p><b>MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH</b></p> <p>PASTOR EDWIN H. MITCHELL 877-8585; 877-0320</p> <p>Sunday, April 12, 1981</p> <p>Every Sunday 9:45 a.m. Family Bible School 11 a.m. &amp; 8:30 p.m. Biblical Preaching, Praise and Fellowship</p> <p>Weekly Boys &amp; Girls Clubs, Youth Activities, Ladies Coffee Hour, Recreation &amp; Prayer Meeting</p> <p>Monthly Jolly Seniors - Missions Fellowship Visitors Always Welcome</p> <p>25 Years and Growing</p>
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<p><b>ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH ANGLICAN</b></p> <p>Sunday, April 12, 1981</p> <p>8 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST</p> <p>9 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST Jr. Church &amp; Nursery</p> <p>11 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST (First, Third &amp; Fifth Sundays)</p> <p>MATTINS (Second &amp; Fourth Sundays)</p>	<p><b>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH</b></p> <p>Windsor Road at Carole St. PASTOR: REV. DR. J.M. DRICKAMER</p> <p>Sunday, April 12, 1981</p> <p>8:45 a.m. Church Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Church Service Church of the Lutheran Hou</p>
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