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Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Since 1866

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1981

DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN

No need to roam...
It's right here at home!
All the shops and services you need!
There are 106 good reasons
to shop Downtown Georgetown
FREE PARKING

Police charge driver in Guelph St. tragedy

A 32-year old Toronto man has been charged with criminal negligence causing death, impaired driving and driving over 80 kilometres per hour in a 60-kilometre zone following the death of Georgetown resident William Smeaton Thursday morning.

Jorge Vicente was charged by Halton regional police after the 1975 blue Chevrolet Monza he was driving struck and killed Mr. Smeaton.

Mr. Vicente was driving west on Guelph Street at approximately 6:30 Thursday morning when he crossed into the lane of oncoming traffic and struck Mr. Smeaton, who was riding his bike eastbound on the south shoulder.

Mr. Smeaton was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident by coroner Ivan Hunter.

Products (Canada) Ltd. on Guelph Street. The accident occurred at the intersection of Armstrong Avenue and Guelph Street just yards from the entrance to the Standard Products property.

Halton Hills firefighters were called to the scene approximately 15 minutes later to pry open the car door and remove Mr. Vicente. Mr. Vicente suffered head injuries and minor cuts and abrasions and was rushed to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital. He was released from hospital three days later. The car sustained \$2,000 damage.

Praised as devoted worker, victim well-known in sports

Bill Smeaton had worked at Standard Products (Canada) Ltd. on Guelph Street for about seven years, holding down an office job and earning perennial company praise for never missing a day's work and never arriving late. Several months ago, the firm's staff lay-offs prompted him to take a job in the plant as a production controller.

Four years ago, his wife Marion told The Herald this week. When eldest daughter Sherry turned 16, she recalled, she got the family car and Mr. Smeaton was content to pedal the bike daily from his Byron Street home to Standard Products at Guelph and Armstrong.

The Smeaton family moved to Georgetown 17 years ago, when Sherry was still a baby. Mr. Smeaton worked for Compair in Clarkson after jobs with Litton Systems, Arenda Engines and the Toronto Telegram, for which he managed the Orillia-Midland district. In Georgetown, his love of sports eventually got him involved with several local clubs, including the industrial hockey league and the Kinsmen Club's softball league. Daughter Leah got her wish to play ball for her dad this season when she turned 14 and moved up to the senior Kinsmen team, which her father coached.

Along with Sherry, the Smeatons' third daughter, Cathy - now 16 - loves to skate, something the whole family did together occasionally. Always a hockey fan, Mr. Smeaton had played the game in his younger years and, when at home, would cheer on the Montreal Canadiens. In football season, Mrs. Smeaton said, it was the Alouettes.

Mrs. Smeaton, a local teacher, and her husband would often enjoy golf and curling together and for many years were members of the North Halton Golf Club.

As well as Mrs. Smeaton (nee Kirkwood) and his daughters, Mr. Smeaton is survived by his mother, Mae Belle Smeaton of Inglewood.

After resting at the Leo Archdekin Funeral Home in Brampton, the body was cremated following a private service Saturday morning.



LIMBER UP FOR GYMNASTICS WEEK

Watching the enthusiasm and energy of the Halton Hills gymnastics club as they prepare for Gymnastics Week in Canada is one sure indication the fall season is approaching. Starting next week, the Jills will be holding their own week-long schedule of tryouts and open house workouts for those interested in the sport. Throughout fall and winter, the girls will be training hard in their efforts to compete in local meets plus provincial qualifying

meets. Seen here at a practice are some of the Jills anxious to start the 1981 season: Nina Fear, Kristine Krusek, Natalie Andrew, Lisa Graham, Lianne Graham, Jodie Earle, Norina Andrew, Wendy McIsaac, Faith Richardson, Lucia Borotak, Lynda Shaw, Claire Preece, Vicki Lavette, Laura Groskorth, Kim Dryden and Gail Cook. See Sports Week for a special feature on the Jills. (Herald photo by Dave Rowney)

Croatian priests trial Nov. 26

Croatian priests Father Mladen Chivalo and Berto Dragicevic appeared in Milton provincial court Monday morning to set Nov. 26 as the date for their trial.

The two priests were charged with extortion, use of a firearm during the commission of an offence and possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace June 22 after Halton regional police received a complaint from several employees of Fairmount Amusements.

The amusement firm had been operating carnival rides during the Feast of St. Anthony celebrations at the Croatian Centre on Winston Churchill Boulevard during the weekend of June 13. Several employees returned to the centre June 15 to pick up some equipment they left behind when they were met at the gate by two men carrying a shotgun.

The employees told police they were denied admission to the grounds and decided to register a complaint. Halton police seized two rifles and a shotgun from the premises and charged the two priests later that week.

New business development proposal could double region's investment

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

Halton's business development department has unveiled what could be the region's most dramatic bid to attract industrial growth to the area since regional government began in 1974.

The plan, proposed by business development director Matthew Fischer during last Wednesday's administration and finance committee meeting, would increase the region's financial commitment for promoting business growth from 68 cents per resident to \$1.49.

Regional expenditures for business development are falling well behind those of other regional governments in the province, Mr. Fischer said. The new approach, involving aggressive advertising and newsletter promotion may raise the department's budget in the next two years to \$390,000, from 1981's \$180,000.

Reluctant to support the proposal without knowing how the budget will look at the end of the year, the committee instructed Mr. Fischer to study how the campaign can be gradually phased in over a two-year period in case council is unable to accept the substantial increase proposed for the department's budget in one year.

"It would be ludicrous to adopt the \$1.49 figure when you really don't know what you're buying," Oakville Coun. Carol Gooding said.

Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy admitted he was "a little bit gun-shy" about accepting the program without seeing suggestions for slowly adding it to the region's budget. The financial commitment sought by the business development office could come at the expense of program funding for other departments if council decides to maintain business development's "high priority" in next year's regional budget.

Mr. Fischer said he was not yet expecting approval of the program from council but hopefully some endorsement of the idea. He indicated the \$1.49 per resident figure will be necessary eventually if the region is to continue to entice businesses.

A commitment of less than this level would be ignoring the potential which exists for the region's economic development," Mr. Fischer said in his report to the committee.

Halton's 68-cent per capita commitment to business development is the lowest among five other regional administrations: Hamilton-Wentworth, Sudbury, Windsor-Essex, Ottawa-Carleton and Durham.

Operating somewhat like a "crown corporation", Ottawa-Carleton's business development office spends about \$2.05 per resident on promoting its area in the nation's business community. Halton's proposed \$1.49 figure would "put us in the mainstream," Mr. Fischer said, neither higher nor lower than financial commitments made by most regions.

He has suggested that the region spend about \$100,000 on advertising in such business-oriented publications as the Globe and Mail, extolling the opportunities Halton offers for growth and development.

Although committee members appeared hesitant about spending that much on media promotion, they were enthusiastic with Mr. Fischer's proposal for a regional business newsletter. Newsletters, he said, can promote more complex business ideas better than advertising and editorial copy in newspapers.

"We want to present ourself as a progressive region committed to growth," he said. "A newsletter is better suited to convey complicated ideas. If it's professionally done, it will be read and it will be kept."

Seminars, social gatherings and even golf days are also recommended as part of the region's business offensive. Halton may purchase audio-

visual equipment to aid its promotional campaign and Mr. Fischer strongly suggested that the region streamline its filing system by using a micro-processor, enabling business development staff to almost instantly retrieve information for callers.

Established businesses will provide the biggest promotional boost for the region, he added. In order to enhance "word of mouth" public relations, Mr. Fischer said his department will be closely working with local chambers of commerce, Business Improvement Area boards, and special organizations like

Acton's Leathertown committee.

In the future, Mr. Fischer stressed, the region should be prepared to help these groups and "lend them manpower", especially where there is regional, as well as local, benefit.

Anticipating the workload of his department to increase sharply within the next two years because of the campaign, he told the committee he would like to hire an extra business development officer, a secretary and a clerk-typist. The additional.

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Town councillor Marilyn Serjeantson must be a banana chip fiend! She bought a pound of the potato chip-like dried fruit and no doubt she didn't wait until she got home before trying some. Leathertown Market was well attended by Halton Hills residents, including the mayor and councillors from the area. A special bus from Georgetown to Acton made sure residents from Georgetown could also enjoy in the craft booths, food displays and general festivities.



Helping Dad at Acton's Leathertown Market means selling mouth-watering fruit and enticing IGA shoppers to participate in their "Lucky draw" sweepstakes. Here Tom Manes has his hands full selling watermelon and peaches to passers-by.

Been to market?

By MAGGIE HANNAH
Herald Special

Organizers of Saturday's street market to celebrate the end of a year of Actario draws feel the pessimistic weatherman was probably the worst enemy but despite the grey skies everything went well.

"I suspect weather predictions kept people away," said Actario chairman Ted Tyler. "The merchants who were there made a profit. No matter how successful you are there is always something you could have done better, but considering the weather we're satisfied."

Mr. Tyler counts the number of people from the audience who came on stage

Can't make it for Terry's run? Put your money on our team

Public interest is on the rise among Halton Hills residents in the twin Terry Fox Runs being staged here as part of national Terry Fox Day Sept. 13, according to Canadian Cancer Society officials.



Organizers say the green light's on for the Acton run on the high school track (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and the Georgetown run on the Fairgrounds track (8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). Runners in both communities are picking up pledge sheets at several locations (see below) and inviting sponsors

to commit per-kilometre funds, all of which go to the cause for which Terry Fox gave his life, cancer research.

If you're unable to enter the Terry Fox Runs yourself and haven't been approached yet to pledge a few dollars, The Herald invites you to help us help the Cancer Society. Although final details have yet to be worked out, at least five Herald staffers will participate in one, and possible both Runs, forming a relay team to cover as many laps of the track as possible in the allotted time.

Pledge sheets for the Herald "Angels" relay team are on display at our office, 45 Guelph St., in Georgetown. If you'd like to sponsor the team but can't make it to the office, give us a call at 877-2291 and we'll make special arrangements to obtain your pledge.

The Society is still working out final details of the Georgetown run and invites businesses wishing to donate refreshments for participants to call the unit office at 877-1124 or volunteer Claudette Smith at 877-7879.

Pledge sheets for the Georgetown runners are available at Pro Sports, Halton Hills Sports, Georgetown Public Library, Halton Hills Cancer Society offices, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce on Main Street, the Royal Bank on Main Street, the Toronto-Dominion Bank in the Halton Hills Plaza and the Bank of Montreal in the Georgetown Market.

Acton sponsor sheets are available at L and L Ford, Acton Home Furnishings, the Old Hide House and the Acton Free Press office.

Organizer Gordon Auty is still hoping local businesses will donate refreshments for the participants. Final details of the activities also planned for the day are still being ironed out.

Accused in parking lot brawl couples ready for Feb. 4 trial

Two couples charged in connection with a disturbance at Fong's Restaurant in Georgetown Aug. 2 appeared briefly in Milton provincial court Monday morning and agreed to reappear Feb. 4 for their trial.

Twenty-eight year old George Day of Georgetown was charged with common assault, possession of a

weapon and obstructing police. Thirty-year old Linda Burbine, also of Georgetown, was charged with possession of a weapon and pointing a firearm.

Roberta Percival, 25, of Mississauga, was charged with assault and obstructing police and 27-year old Tom Negus of Mississauga was charged with two counts of assaulting police.

The charges were laid by Halton regional police Aug. 2 after they had been called in to investigate a disturbance at Fong's early that morning. The two couples had been dining at the Mountbatten Road restaurant when an argument with a fifth patron began. A knife was seized and brandished. The five then went outside to the parking lot and were in the midst of a scuffle when police arrived.

During the ensuing scuffle with police, Constables Joseph Martin and Joseph Prasad were assaulted and Constable Martin's revolver was seized and waved at the crowd. A bystander returned the revolver to the officer.