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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1981

Controversial sewer rates due for 1982

The region's long-awaited 1982 sewer and water rates, expected last week, will probably be ready sometime this week, Halton treasurer Gerry Lawson told the region's administration and finance committee last Wednesday.

Controversial and divisive, the rates issue has remained unstable ever since the region switched to an "equalized" system among the four area municipalities in January, 1980.

South Halton has long claimed that rates for its residents were artificially raised when the "equalized" system was introduced, helping to pay for sewer and water facility construction in north Halton.

This year, Halton decided to petition the province for funds to help balance out the inequities before the 1982 rates were set. Mr. Lawson explained that the delay in presenting this year's figures stems from the province which has agreed to share in the rates and is working out an acceptable grant for the region.

About the Hills

S&S situation 'beyond control'

An early Christmas return to work for Smith and Stone employees laid off about two weeks ago isn't likely, a spokesman for the company said Monday. Harry Wakefield, vice president and secretary for the firm, which manufactures electrical components for home and appliance use, told The Herald that the company is continuing to monitor the nation's economy, looking for an upswing in the currently declining new housing market to perk up orders at the Georgetown plant. Two hundred and sixteen workers, including office staff, were laid off Dec. 3. "The speed with which employees can return is not in our hands," Mr. Wakefield said, noting that the remaining employees (approximately 160) are maintaining the firm's inventory.

Face the nation

CHCH-TV's "New Faces" program features a number of Halton Hills entertainers on its Christmas show Dec. 20. Chartered buses carried dozens of local residents, including many senior citizens, to the station's Hamilton studios last month for the taping. "New Faces" chooses a different community each week to be represented through music, dancing and acting. Appearing on the Dec. 20 Halton Hills segment will be Dale Wood's Cantante Singers, a choir of young women from Georgetown; Marg Eggleton, who'll read a poem as the Georgetown Little Theatre's representative; singer-guitarist Edgar Thatcher and Phil Sykes; Nornic Studio regulars Lynn Welton and John Smedley; and the vocal-guitar duo of Mike Dine and Peter Clark, both regulars at the Rib Cage restaurant.

Holiday happenings

Attention all five to 12-year olds! Plan to attend the Y's Christmas Holiday Happenings Dec. 23, 28, 29 and 30. Join the Y for a day of activities, or for four days. Pre-register at 89 Mountainview Rd. S. in Georgetown, 877-6163.

Couldn't wait 'til Dec. 25

A Christmas parcel was opened and taken by a thief who broke into a home on James Street. The resident, who had peeked a look under the wrapping said the thief had taken an air ecologiser. As well, stereo equipment and tools worth \$375 were taken by the thief who gained entry to the Georgetown residence through an unsecured front door.

HAYSEED HOEDOWN AT HIGH NOON

Come on, Sally Ann, let's promenade! About 300 students whistled and twirled last week in the Centennial School gym to square dancing music. The noon-hour dance was organized by physical education teacher Alice Ogden to supplement dance lessons students are getting in their regular gym classes. More photos inside. (Herald photo)



FLAPPERS ON ICE

Last Wednesday night the Georgetown Figure Skating Club's girls interpretive competitors took many admiring onlookers back to the days when the Charleston was the latest dance craze and feathered headbands were commonplace. In the GFSC's annual club competition held at Gordon Alcott arena, boys and girls skated in 11 different categories in their efforts to represent the club at February's Inter-club competition. Winning

the girls' interpretive skating routine was Kathy Soal (middle) who also will represent the club in the Junior Ladies Freeskate. Trina Wasylenko (right) was second while Tammy Morrow (left) finished third. See page B1, B4 for complete results and pictures of the skating club's competition.

(Herald photo by Dave Rowney)

FULL REPORT IN SPORTSWEEK

Croatians unswayed on cemetery bid

Proponents of a new cemetery on the 160-acre Croatian Centre at Winston Churchill Boulevard and Sideroad Five near Norval have not given up on the idea, despite opposition from neighbors and the Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee (HAAC).

William Whiteacre, the lawyer representing the Croatian proponents, told The Herald that just because some people

have protested the plan before Halton Hills council and at the HAAC, his clients have not given up.

"There's a tremendous amount of goodwill throughout the town of Halton Hills," he said, "and they're not going to let a vocal minority stop them."

Two weeks ago, the region's planning department asked the HAAC to explain its opposition to the plan for the eight-acre, 1,600-pit cemetery expressed at an earlier meeting

of farm reps. Opposing the plan largely because it feels a cemetery is not good use of viable farmland may adversely affect farming operations surrounding it, the HAAC endorses the planning department's concerns that the cemetery in the area does not conform with Halton's official plan.

In addition, farm and non-farm residents living near the site have expressed concern about traffic which may collect on the roadsides during a funeral, although Croatian

representatives have assured town council there is adequate parking available on the property.

In a letter to the farm advisory committee, Mr. Whiteacre pointed out that 130 acres of the Croatian Centre is rented for agricultural use while the rest of the property serves the large Toronto-area Croatian population as a weekend recreation facility, with swimming pool and soccer pitches.

"I think the vast majority of

people in Halton Hills have no complaint against my clients merely because they are Croatian," he said. "There are a few who do, but I don't think this vocal minority should be allowed to have their way and I am not going to stand aside."

The town's planning staff is preparing a report on the Croatian proposal following council meetings last month at which the subject was exhaustively discussed. That report is expected to be presented to planning board early in the new year.

MP McDermid on committee studying Polish crackdown

By GERRY TIMBERS
Herald Special

A special committee of parliamentarians, including Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermid, met Monday afternoon to discuss the Polish government's surprise weekend crackdown on the independent trade union, Solidarity.

The Polish Committee of Concerned Parliamentarians, an eight-member group formed in mid-October, was summoned together by chairman Steve Paproski, MP for Edmonton North.

"We are quite worried for the Polish people," Mr. McDermid said from his Ottawa office. "The news coming out of Poland is not the greatest."

Mr. McDermid stressed that the weekend's events are still an internal matter for the people of Poland, and that the federal government can do little more than continue to monitor the news coming out of Western Europe.

The Polish committee has been active over the past two

months lobbying the federal government for more than \$100,000 in aid, which has already been delivered to the European nation in the form of food, clothing and medicine. It was also instrumental in persuading Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy to allow an

increased number of Polish refugees to come into Canada. Brampton Mayor James Archdekin commented this morning that the situation in Poland "appears very grave, with danger of trouble breaking out between the United States and Russia."

"I would hope the situation remains an internal one," the mayor said. "I hope the Poles can work things out. There isn't really much we can do here in Canada, other than listen for new events. We are on the outskirts of the situation."

GDHS campaign ends over dog torture

Having collected 1,000 signatures and \$130 from fellow Georgetown District High School students, a week-long campaign protesting the inhumane way dogs are taken to market in southeast Asia, where dog meat is considered a delicacy, has ended for the Grade 10 English students in Judith Rossman's class.

The students organized the campaign to make their peers aware of the cruel manner in which dogs are being treated, and to get some financial support for the International Fund for the Welfare of Animals (IFWA).

The money raised by the students will be sent to IFWA, and the signatures

are being sent to the Filipino embassy in Ottawa. The Philippines is one country where the practice exists.

Teacher Miss Rossman said the posters students hung in the school halls are all down, but that the campaign started young people thinking about how animals are slaughtered in Canada for food, and about children starving in other countries.



'WHY ME?'

"Why do I spend so much time every Christmas wearing lights and playing the fool in front of children?" That's what Georgetown Little Theatre's John Roe sees to be asking himself in this scene from "Once Upon a Time", the rollicking amalgamation of nursery rhymes and modern gags that delighted hundreds at the John Elliott Theatre over the weekend. A veteran of the GLT's perennial Christmas pantomimes, as well as their dramatic presentations through the season, Mr. Roe portrayed Robin Hood in this year's Yuletide offering. Robin Hood, Jack and Jill and Red Riding Hood joined a series of odd characters for the engaging farce about a professor's atomic popcorn making machine. Review and more photos inside. (Herald photo by Ani Pedersen)

Turn on your Christmas lights tonight
Kinsmen Club's third annual tour for local senior citizens tonight, 7:15 to 8:30 p.m., see page A3