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Weekend

Council Notes

Where were you when the arena lights went out

While there appears to be some disagreement (Coun. Russ Miller says the emergency lights weren't on, arena manager Doug Vivian maintains they were), it was dark inside Gordon Alcott Arena following Saturday night's power failure which blacked out half of Georgetown and a large part of Esqueping township. The emergency lights, which switch on automatically when the power fails, last only 30 minutes, and town recreation director Tom Shepard suggested they may have summed rapidly while spectators attending the Midget hockey tournament failed to clear the arena quickly after the blackout. In fact, he said, hockey fans were so determined to wait out the power failure inside that the fire department was called to bring in extra emergency lighting. Council asked that emergency lighting in all municipal buildings be checked.

Interest dropping

A town law is being prepared for approval by council sometime this month lowering the interest rate charged on overdue municipal tax bills. The interest rates which, under the provincial Municipal Act, may closely reflect the nation's prime lending rate, plus one and one-half per cent, are now 22.75 per cent per year on overdue bills, or 1.896 per cent per month. The new rates, to go into effect Feb. 1, are expected to be pegged near the current prime lending rate of about 16.5 per cent, plus the additional penalty.

Just in case

While town treasurer Ray King told council Monday night that most Halton Hills residents pay their municipal taxes on time, council voted to borrow \$5 million to cover operating expenses until all town revenues are collected before the new budget is passed later in April. Borrowing funds before the final tax levy of the year is not unusual, Mr. King noted in a letter to council, and the amount is the same as has been borrowed in previous years.

Wetting their whistle

Two local restaurants have applied to the provincial liquor licence board for dining lounge permits. Georgetown's Hunter's Inn Country Restaurant, which has been closed for several months, appears ready to re-open, seating 80 people. Michael's Family Restaurant, operating from the former Wimpey's outlet in the Halton Hills Plaza on Guelph Street, has recently expanded and the owners have also applied for a dining lounge licence. The notice about the applications came before town council Monday night; there were no concerns raised.

Conference-bound

Town officials will be sent to about \$3,000 worth of conferences and seminars throughout the winter and into the spring. The seasons range from the \$45 per person registration at the Municipal Engineers' Association meeting in Toronto to the \$250 registration for a one-day session discussing the proposed changes to the provincial Planning Act. Clerk-administrator Ken Richardson has been given permission by council to attend the latter, privately-sponsored conference.

No comment on sales tax

Unwilling to enter the sales tax fray which has whipped up an unprecedented amount of consumer rancor in Peterborough, town council Monday night decided not to support a resolution from the township of St. Vincent (surrounding Meaford, Ontario) calling on Canadians to stop paying sales tax. Council followed its usual practice concerning resolutions from other communities and "received and filed" the proposal.

Mike back in chair

Coun. Mike Armstrong will once again chair the town's planning board along with vice-chairman Ross Knechtel. Although Coun. Armstrong was absent from Monday night's council meeting, his colleagues unanimously supported his reappointment. He will also chair public meetings called to discuss planning matters. Town council also voted to keep planning items on the general committee agenda, a practice which began last fall. Formerly, the planning board met Tuesday evenings, following the Monday night committee meeting.

Police Beat

Video burglars net \$2,000

Stereo components including a television were taken from the First Line Television shop on Acton's Mill Street East early Saturday morning. Total value of the loss is \$2,000.

Thief had chutzpah

Undeterred by the fact that somebody was at home, a thief entered a Delrex Boulevard home early last Tuesday afternoon by the unlocked front door, scooped up the keys to a 1977 Pontiac Volare from a table, and drove off. Halton regional police say the car hasn't been recovered yet.

Busted for break-ins

Three young men will appear in court Jan. 18 to answer charges of break and entry and theft in four illegal house entries early this year in Georgetown.

He who hesitates...?

A vehicle that had stopped on the Ninth Line to allow another car out of a driveway was struck from behind by a vehicle. There were no injuries, only \$1,500 worth of damage to the cars, Saturday afternoon.



THEY'LL PLAY A NEW TUNE IN FALL

It's a little more complicated than the recorder, according to Margaret Zebede (left), a Grade 10 student at Georgetown District High School. She was showing the fingering on the clarinet she plays in the school orchestra to Denise Duffie and Jane Tunney (right). The two are Grade 8 students at Centennial Public School in Georgetown, planning to attend GDHS next year, and both play recorders now. The high school held an orientation night to acquaint parents and Grade 8 students with facilities and programs offered by the high school Wednesday night. Over 300 students and parents filled the cafeteria to listen to principal Don Baker and staff members' welcome and advice, then they were invited to tour the school and talk with area teachers and GDHS students.

(Herald photo)

Local Lions search for year's top Georgetown citizen

The Georgetown Lions Club is currently in the process of selecting Georgetown's 1981 Citizen of the Year. As in the past, we are asking for nominations from the citizens of Georgetown to enable us to honor that person or persons deserving of such recognition.

The person we seek is someone who has shown outstanding achievement in the recent past, or over a period of years and has contributed to the betterment of our Community and the welfare of our citizens.

This year marks the tenth time that the Lions Club has honored Georgetown's outstanding citizen and we can be

proud of the accomplishments of those honored in the past: 1972 - Peggy Treahy, 1973 - Georgetown volunteer firefighters, 1974 - Rev. Peter Barrow, 1975 - Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service, 1976 - Connie Nieuwhof, 1977 - the late Walter Gray, 1978 - Irwin and Joy Noble, 1979 - Karen Harrison, 1980 - Violet Haines. These people have all served their community well.

The 1981 Citizen of the Year will be honored Feb. 26 at a dinner and dance in the Lions Hall. Citations will be presented to the recipient on behalf of the federal, provincial and municipal governments as well as a special presentation of the Lions Citizen of the Year plaque.

To make this a successful event, we need your contributions of nominations with supporting resumes. We have many letters on hand, received from citizens over the years, which are still under consideration by the selection committee. To those who have taken the time to submit nominations in the past we offer our sincere thanks with the assurance that their nominees are being continually reviewed.

Deadline for nominations is Saturday, Jan. 30 with the winner to be announced during the week of Feb. 1. Send nominations to: Georgetown Lions Club, Citizen of the Year, P. O. Box 73, Georgetown.



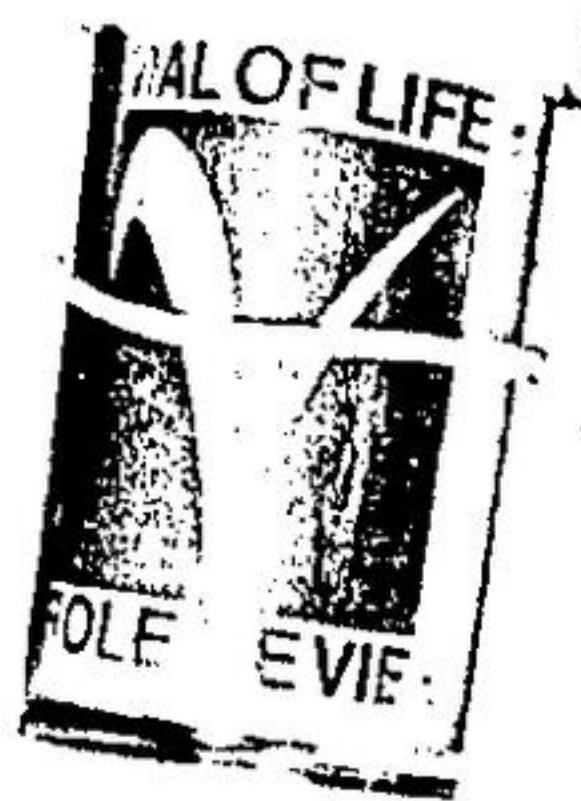
Vials of Life distribution continuing slow but steady

Distribution of the "vials of life", a unique home emergency precaution was slow but steady over the Christmas holidays and the sponsoring Georgetown Lions Club is planning to meet with local senior citizens' clubs to promote the campaign.

In addition, campaign chairman John MacIver told The Herald last week, the club hopes to encourage town doctors to distribute the vials and advise patients that the program is going on in the area.

The vials, similar to pharmacists' pill bottles, are stored inside the household refrigerators and contain pertinent medical information about the residents to help ambulance crews responding to an emergency in the home. Decals notify emergency crews that the household participates in the vial of life program.

Mr. MacIver explained that the program covers the area served by the town's fire and ambulance services and is free of charge. When the vials are distributed, a pamphlet on how to fill out the information sheet and attach the bottle to the fridge is included. As soon as meetings can be set up, Lions members will be talking about the campaign and distributing



The vials are available at several Georgetown outlets. Interested residents of the Main Street area can pick them up at Akers and Clark Real Estate. The Dairy Queen on Guelph Street also has the vials and they are available at two locations in the Georgetown Marketplace, The Cooking Emporium and Co-op Insurance.

Here are some simple pointers to keep in mind if you decide to participate in the Vial of Life campaign:

- fill out the form included with each vial in pencil and in block letters to ensure that the information is legible. Pencil allows easy changes for future medical information.
- attach the vial with the information sheet in it to the underside of a fridge shelf so that it will be easy to find and not hidden by the contents of the fridge. Don't forget to affix the Vial of Life decal on the outside of the fridge door.
- While the emphasis of the program is on getting the vials into the homes of senior citizens and handicapped residents, perfectly healthy people shouldn't shrug off the program. Knowing whether or not the patient needing emergency care has a medical condition which should be considered can help speed treatment and recovery.

Burn victim's condition fair

In fair condition with a favorable prognosis, Kalvin Ferguson, 21, of Georgetown's Ewing Street, is now undergoing reconstructive surgery at Toronto General Hospital.

Mr. Ferguson suffered third degree burns to 50 per cent of his body in a fire Dec. 30 at his home. He had apparently been working alone on the gasoline tank of his motorcycle in the family room when a fire caused by an explosion brought firefighters to the scene.

Police seek young suspect

King Variety Store robbed at knifepoint

The King Variety store on Georgetown's King Street was held up at 8:35 p.m. Wednesday night by a loose thief wielding a knife with a three inch blade.

Dressed in a green bomber jacket, navy scarf, and a black ski mask, the thief got away with \$100. Nobody was injured; there were no customers in the store at the time.

Halton regional police are looking for the five foot five inch, heavily built suspect they say is approximately 29 years old.

This is the first time the variety store has been robbed in the three years since David and Georgina Eckford of

Brampton purchased it. Mrs. Eckford was behind the counter and alone in the store when the robbery occurred.

"I'd love to have had a can of mace," she told The Herald Thursday. "When you're by yourself, you can't do much."

However, she said that from chats with other store owners who have been robbed and the police, having more employees in the store doesn't make much difference to thieves intent on their crime.

Mrs. Eckford said police are keeping a close eye on the store.

Trafalgar Road project may mean expropriations

Regional officials are considering expropriation proceedings to get property along Trafalgar Road between Maple Avenue and Highway 7 for a major road reconstruction project scheduled to begin in June.

In a report presented to Halton's public works and finance and administration committees Wednesday, regional solicitor Kenneth Anderson said negotiations with 12 property owners affected by the construction have been "slow and difficult."

The finance committee approved plans to begin expropriation proceedings. Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy described the stretch of road as one of the worst in the region, as bad as sections of Steeles Avenue.

Regional chief administrat-

ive officer Dennis Perlin told the finance committee that expropriation may take five or six months for roadside strips of land which will be needed for widening.

While the region has applied for expropriation hearings through the province's chief

inquiry office and will be represented at the hearings, it hopes to continue negotiations with the homeowners.

Talks with property owners began in September, 1980. Mr. Anderson explained in his report, but many of the individuals affected are difficult to

reach and some simply don't want to sell. Dates for the expropriation hearings will be announced later.

Regional council will vote on the committee's decision to go ahead with the expropriation proceedings next Wednesday afternoon.



HANGIN' UP HIS KEYS

After 15 years of turning out some of the best young drivers in the community, Georgetown's Ted Scott has put away the keys, so to speak, and will no longer head Georgetown High School's driver training program. It was somewhat fitting Thursday when he received a marble desk set from the local insurance brokers association honoring his years of service. For years, Mr. Scott (centre) and Paul Armstrong (left), president of the association, have been giving similar sets to the outstanding drivers in each of the driving program's three courses every year. Rob Quilton (right), who drove well in the fall session of the program was the last of Mr. Scott's proteges under his directorship of the driving program.

(Herald photo)

Halton's ALERT tests only one month away

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff Writer

Halton regional police haven't been in a hurry to enforce new provincial legislation allowing drivers' license suspension if a breath sample in the ALERT test shows .05 per cent alcohol in the blood. But they won't take much longer.

The roadside test, ALERT (Alcohol Level Evaluation) Roadside Tester) helps police decide who should be taken into the station for a formal breath test on the more accurate Borkenstein breathalyzer.

Halton police Staff Inspector Raymond Andress said he expects the legislation to be enforced in Halton by the end of the month.

"We're not going to rush into it. There are things the legislation isn't taking into consideration," Insp. Andress said.

"What do you do with the license if the driver doesn't pick it up after 12 hours? And do you put the infraction on CPIC (Canadian Police Information Centre) while the driver's suspended?" he asked. "It's quite easy to pass legislation, but to get it filtered down to 300 persons takes time."

Insp. Andress said he would be checking out the "pitfalls" of the new legislation with the Attorney General and Crown Attorney's offices.

"Before we start a program we want to be sure it's workable," he said. "We're talking about people's livelihood being affected in some cases."

The new legislation allows

police to suspend drivers' licenses for a period of 12 hours. No charges are laid against the driver, and no records kept of the suspension, except for a temporary one during the time of suspension.

If a driver disagrees with the reading of the ALERT breath test, he can ask to be taken to a police station to use the more accurate Borkenstein breathalyzer.

The roadside machines don't provide enough evidence for court convictions but a refusal to take the ALERT test carries the same fine as refusing to provide a breath sample at the police station.

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Help!

By JOYCE ARMOUR
HLA exec. director

The increase in postal rates has caused a sharp decline in the Christmas Seal campaign. Only once before, during the 1973 postal strike, has the Halton Lung Association been forced to ask for more help.

Halton citizens are aware that programs carried on in the community are much too valuable to be cut back. Summer day camps for asthmatic children, better breathing clubs for adults suffering from emphysema or some other respiratory disease, smoking withdrawal clinics, continuing education for health professionals, education programs in schools, family asthma programs, research, lung capacity testing in industry, rehabilitation for chronic lung patients are provided free of charge to all Halton citizens because they are supported by Halton citizens who contribute to the Christmas Seal campaign.

To date, we are \$17,000 short of our goal and the campaign ends officially Jan. 31. We depend solely on our mail campaign to finance our programs. Please help by mailing in your contribution today or by dropping it off at any Toronto Dominion Bank in Oakville or the Halton Lung Association office at 380 Sherin Drive, Oakville (E.A. Orr School).

Remember, we're the ones who care about every breath you take!