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Friday, February 5, 1982

Rising costs, inflation mean fewer services - Austin



STARDOM!

Drastic cuts forecast by town engineer

Herald Special
 Rising costs and inflation will force drastic cuts in the level of municipal services making the cutbacks obvious to the public, the Halton Hills town engineer predicted last Friday.

Bob Austin was invited to the Acton councillor's drop-in to answer residents' concerns on street plowing and sidewalk maintenance rising out of recent storms.

Mr. Austin said his costs have risen 12 per cent in the past year, but ministry of transportation and communication grants rose only five per cent in that time. Cuts have already been made in levels of

service. So far no one seems to have noticed.

"But there's no doubt people are going to start seeing a decrease in services in the future," he said.

Mr. Austin denied that his department has surplus cash if the winter turns out to be a mild one and should therefore save up the money to use in bad winters.

If the heavy snows don't materialize and eat up the roads budget for snow plowing and snow removal (as happened the last couple of years) the works department will do a lot of salting and sanding and culvert thawing in rural areas because of ice and freezing

runs that come instead of snow, Mr. Austin said.

The town never lays off any of its work crews. If the roads aren't demanding the men's attention then many of them are working on recreation-oriented jobs like refinishing the community centre floors or mending picnic tables.

Mr. Austin stressed that Georgetown and Acton each have their own snow plowing and sanding crews. Those men have assigned routes and if work needs to be done they know exactly where to go.

The difference in conditions above and below the escarpment is something many residents fail to take into account,

he said, and therefore they misunderstand why one urban area is getting maintenance done while another is not.

For example, he said, while Friday seemed a beautiful day in Acton snow drifting on Sixth Line South of the escarpment was so bad the road had been blocked twice during the day. Plowing was going on down there but it certainly wasn't necessary in Acton.

Mr. Austin took the blame for a recent snow build-up in Acton which had apparently upset residents.

Since the only really effective time to clean streets is at night when traffic is low and parking is banned on main arteries, works crews receive overtime pay for much of the snow removal that gets done.

Keeping these expenses to a minimum, Mr. Austin said the decision was made to hold off snow removal in Acton after one weekend storm because a storm was forecast for later in the week. If they waited, the crews should be able to make one clean up.

In response to questions by Churchill Road resident Anita Ockenand, Mr. Austin said it is a residents' responsibility to shovel sidewalks, not the town's.

—Courtesy Guelph Mercury.

Slip-slidin' away across Halton Hills

A generous dumping of snow on Halton region over the weekend resulted in a number of auto collisions in Halton Hills.

A man reversing his Dodge pickup onto Sideroad 22 was struck from the rear by another vehicle Monday evening. Due to the road conditions, the driver had been unable to stop while coming

down a hill in the road. Neither of the two Acton drivers, or their passengers were injured, and no charges were laid by police investigating the incident, due to the poor road conditions.

Earlier in the day, a Guelph man slid into a gas pump, knocking it over and causing \$1,000 damage when entering Gary's Gas Bar on Guelph

Street. Covered with snow, the lot was slippery. Neither driver nor passenger were injured, but there was \$300 damage to his vehicle.

Sunday appeared to be a good day, despite the treacherous blowing snow conditions, in that no accidents were reported by Halton regional police. Radio stations were advising citizens to stay put.



The first Acton Scouts, calling themselves "Russia South" for the occasion, emerged overall champions at the Olympic winter games for North Halton District Scouts held Jan. 30 and 31 on the Nash property on the Tenth Line. Snowshoeing was one of many activities that tested the boys' outdoor skills on a chilly weekend that also featured a sub-zero camp-out and a whole lot of fun. Nearly 100 Scouts, Venturers and leaders attended.

Acton's 'Russia' team best at Olympics

By JEAN LAYMAN
Herald Special
 Olympic Winter Games were held Jan. 30 and 31 for North Halton District Scouts on the Nash property on the Tenth Line.

1st Acton Scouts, known as "Russia-South" won overall in the different events.

Other troops taking part were 1st Georgetown known as "Poland", 2nd Georgetown "Russia-North", 4th Georgetown "West Japan", 5th Georgetown-East Japan, 8th Georgetown "Sabbia Arabia", Limehouse No-Name.

Following registration Saturday morning, camp was set up. All troops marching to music paraded for the opening. District Commissioner John Sharples was on hand to take the salute, at this time the presentation of the country flags was made.

Events for the day included the obstacle course with 1st

Acton first, 1st Georgetown second and 5th Georgetown third. Shiny Pole - First was 1st Acton, second - 5th Georgetown and Third 4th Georgetown and third 1st Acton. Snow Shoe Endurance 1st Georgetown first, 1st Acton second, 4th Georgetown third. Snow Shoe Spring - 8th Georgetown first, 1st Acton second, third 4th Georgetown. Courser De Bois race was won by 1st Acton - First, 4th Georgetown second, 1st Georgetown third.

Highlighting the Saturday night events was the Torch light Klondike Sled race coming in first was 1st Acton, 2nd Georgetown Second and 8th Georgetown third. The leaders won against the Scouts in a Sled race.

Mug-up was handled by 4th Georgetown Venturers and then the boys settled in their tents for the night. Reville at 7 a.m. came with a change in the weather. Man it was cold.

"Scouts Own" Service was under the leadership of Scoutmaster Bob Baird of 4th Georgetown. Dave Shrubsole - Scoutmaster of Ballinad was "Camp Chief" with Scoutmasters Barry Gambles of 2nd Georgetown and George Henderson 1st Georgetown helping organize the camp.

Scouter Dave Shrubsole expressed a vote of thanks to 4th Georgetown Venturers and Skip Don Tipples for looking after Mug-ups and helping with the obstacle course and various ways to help make the camp a success. Thanks went out to Brian Bush 5th Georgetown and Scouters Gambles and Henderson for helping at the work parties prior to the Camp.

Nearly 100 Scouts, Leaders and Venturers attended this camp and it was a real experience for new Scouts - this being their first winter camp.

Weindl warned of mischief, Southgate testifies in trial

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff Writer
 A Halton regional police staff sergeant, who concluded that there is no substance to complaints of perjury and conspiracy to commit perjury levelled at a fellow officer, testified Thursday that he told a Brampton man to withdraw his complaints or else face charges of public mischief.

"The allegations were a criminal offence at that point. By withdrawing the allegations it would end the offence," Sgt. Ron Southgate told Judge Doug Latimer in Milton provincial court.

On the witness stand for the trial of businessman Dietrich Weindl, Sgt. Southgate said causing a police officer to enter a false investigation is an

attempt to mislead.

Mr. Weindl was charged with two counts of public mischief Sept. 25. The charges were laid a month after Mr. Weindl was allegedly convinced to withdraw his complaints against the Halton force.

Mr. Weindl laid his complaints at the Georgetown quarters of the force April 29, accusing Sgt. Jason Field of committing perjury at Mr. Weindl's divorce proceedings and of conspiring with Mrs. Weindl, her lawyer and a witness to commit perjury.

Sgt. Southgate testified that he and fellow officer Sgt. Rick Kivell met with Mr. Weindl and his lawyer Aug. 28. During that meeting, allegations made by Mr. Weindl were discussed and Sgt. Southgate

said he told Mr. Weindl that he had been unable to find any evidence to support his charges.

Sgt. Southgate said he had read through the transcripts of the divorce hearing and interviewed the individuals involved before coming to his conclusion.

CHARGE HIM
 "I asked if he could give me any evidence, which he couldn't," Sgt. Southgate recalled. "I told him that since there was no evidence, I was giving him an opportunity to withdraw his complaints and that I could charge him with public mischief."

Sgt. Southgate said he and Sgt. Kivell then left Mr. Weindl alone with his lawyer. When they returned, he said they

were told Mr. Weindl wasn't going to withdraw his complaints.

"I told him he was under arrest," Sgt. Southgate said. "They asked to be left alone again." The two officers left, and a short time later, Paul Slan, Mr. Weindl's lawyer said his client wanted to withdraw his complaints, he said.

When Mr. Weindl was signing a release form stating he was withdrawing the complaints, Sgt. Southgate said he cautioned Mr. Weindl against committing public mischief, and said he advised him that if he was unsatisfied with the investigation he could take his accusations before the police commission.

At the trial, Sgt. Southgate

Continued on Page 2

Local farmer's drainage woes seen as region shortcoming

Town council wants the region to back up its commitment to agriculture as outlined in the Halton official plan by taking care of drainage problems at the intersection of

Steeles Avenue and the Tenth Line.

Although the committee passed a recommendation which will likely be endorsed by regional council this afternoon (Wednesday) and asked regional staff to report on Mr. Branch's drainage concerns, council's resolution is seen as a "reminder" to the region of the need to preserve and not waste arable land.

Speaking on his own behalf, Mr. Branch explained that the flooding around the intersection affects about 100 acres of farmland, about 30 to 40 acres belonging to him.

"Unless the matter is dealt with there are other landowners and other farmers who will be adversely affected," Mr. Branch argued.

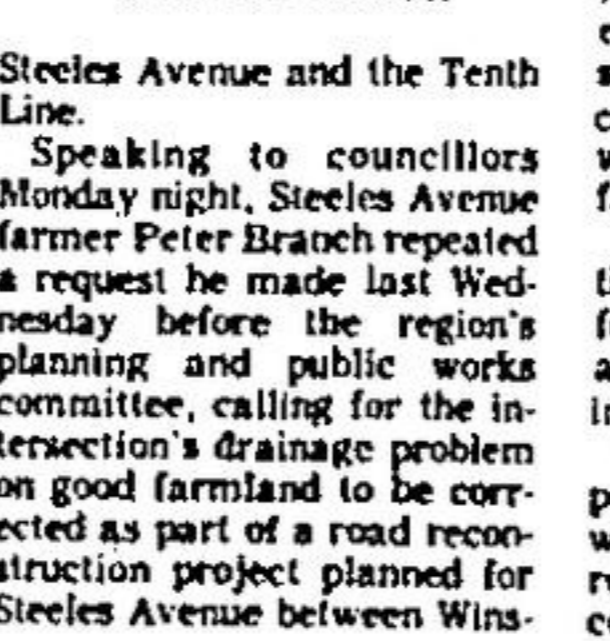
Land on the east side of the intersection is virtually reduced to swamps, he said, and suggested that run-off should be diverted westward and away from the farmland.

Mr. Branch acknowledged that the issue "is not a straight forward problem", but he added, "it should be looked into properly."

While pressing the region's public works committee last week to commit part of the road reconstruction project to correcting drainage problems

at the intersection, Mr. Branch sniped at what has been termed region-rural dialogue.

"I don't think the region has done very much for farmers," Mr. Branch said.



PETER BRANCH

Steeles Avenue and the Tenth Line.

Speaking to councillors Monday night, Steeles Avenue farmer Peter Branch repeated a request he made last Wednesday before the region's planning and public works committee, calling for the intersection's drainage problem on good farmland to be corrected as part of a road reconstruction project planned for Steeles Avenue between Wins-



RED CROSS CAMPAIGN BEGINS IN EARNEST
 About 20 volunteers showed up last Wednesday to prepare kits for the Red Cross campaign in March. The over 500 kits will be taken door-to-door by volunteers to raise money. The fund-raising goal is \$21,000, up from last year's \$18,000. Stuffing

Give... THE HEART FUND
CAMPAIGN TACKLES NUMBER ONE KILLERS
 February is Heart Month, and volunteers across the country will spend its 28 days trying to raise a \$17.5 million nationally and \$7,700,000 provincially.

Results thus far from research and treatment of heart disease and stroke - Canada's major health enemies - indicate that the public's further investment and continued support are justified. Thus, thousands of canvassers will be visiting homes and businesses and writing others to solicit donations.

A phrase often cited by the Canadian Heart Fund tells the story: "Heart disease is everyone's problem; research should be everyone's responsibility".

Alice revisits Wonderland tomorrow

Halton Hills residents are advised "not to be late, not to be late for an extra night. If you'd like to get on the list, call 877-0642. Ready and in good voice are (front to back) Jan Hillier, Alan Gotlib, Maureen Burgoyne, Bob Cuthbert and Sandra Greig - star performers in Globe Production's version of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes". They are all characters on board the cruise ship which will sail into the John Elliott Theatre next Wednesday and for the next two weekends entertain Halton Hills residents. Success has already been promised the production, as all shows, as of presstime, are completely sold out.

(Herald photo)

The Herald Monday, involving young students from the Oakville School of Dancing with more seasoned members of the company.

"It's good for children to see what they can do in ballet," she explained. "It's a little bit closer to their level."

Popular Alice in Wonderland characters will join Alice and the March Hare on stage and viewers can look forward to a "very effective" card scene with the Queen of Hearts.

Tickets are available for the show by calling 877-1581 and ticket prices are reasonable. Children, senior citizens and students will be charged \$2.50 per person while adults tickets sell for \$4 each.

Not as detailed as a classical ballet, "Alice" will be less taxing on young attention spans. It's a colorful piece, Mrs. Oldaker told

Lewis Carroll's popular classic "Alice in Wonderland" will be performed in dance at the John Elliott Theatre Saturday night at 8 p.m. It's for youngsters of all ages and features all those favorite characters like the Queen of Hearts (played by Judy Horsey) and Alice (Linda Stalter). The production is by the Elizabeth Paterson Dance Company of Oakville, (featuring youngsters from the Halton Hills School of Dance (the show's sponsors) and the Oakville School of Dance.

(Photo submitted)

the kits are (seated, left to right) Flo Street, Blanche Goodkettling, Gail Williamson, Sophia Eckroth, Bridget Byrne, (standing) Ivy Binn, Norine Miesch, Tina Yarem, Lea Douglas, Bernice Gibbs and Conale Nieuwhof.