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# the HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Since 1866

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1982

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## About the Hills

### Power went off twice Tuesday

A defective insulator on an electrical circuit which provides power to part of northern Georgetown has been blamed for two brief power failures last Tuesday night. An insulator located in the Mountainview Road North-River Drive neighborhood caused the short circuit which blacked out the area for a few minutes around 7 p.m. and then again for 15 minutes shortly before 11 p.m. Halton Hills Hydro superintendent Hugh Campbell told The Herald that the utility is planning to check and replace faulty insulators in the area.

### Sure sign of hope

He was the biggest, fattest fluffed up robin you've ever seen, according to Bill Ellis of Sandridge Crescent in Georgetown, who spotted the first robin of the year in Halton Hills in his yard at 3 p.m. Sunday. But it flitted away by the time he returned with his camera to record the early bird's visit.

### He's \$10,000 richer

Daryl Giberson, 39, of Georgetown's Albert Street, found the end of the rainbow Feb. 11. Mr. Giberson was a \$10,000 winner in the Wintario draw.

### Art auction returns

Picasso is coming to town. Works by local artists such as Shirley Deaville will be featured alongside paintings by naturalist Robert Bateman, international artists such as Picasso and Dali, in Georgetown's Y's third annual Gala Art Auction March 5 at Holy Cross Church. Visitors can see the paintings at a preview at 7 p.m. before the auction begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$4 each and can be obtained by calling 877-6163.

### Highrise heats up

Residents at Silver Creek Towers in Georgetown were peering anxiously out their windows Monday night at fire trucks below. A sixth floor apartment at 62 Park Ave. had a stove fire when sausages were left on too long, warranting the visit by the Halton Hills fire department. There was little damage other than a ruined dinner.



### THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SNOW BUSINESS

Despite the lack of packing snow, students at Holy Cross Roman Catholic School managed to build a number of poly-poly snowmen. This dapper fellow was quite pleased to be provided with a pom-pom hat and a scarf. It was rather cold Thursday, the day of the school's snow carnival. Students took advantage of the snow piled up from the Holy Cross Church parking lot to sculpt animals out of the high mounds. (Herald photo)

### Councillor fears deluge

## Grants 'disaster' due?

Grants distributed to social service agencies in Halton are expected to increase this year, but the formula used to arrive at the boost has at least one Burlington councillor concerned that this year's grant total "could be a disaster".

In a bid to stop what one official called "the bottomless pit" approach by which agencies and new groups continue to call on the regional government for increased support, Halton region has called for a 14 per cent increase over the \$370,455 paid to groups last year which annually ask for grants. "One time only" grants amounting to an additional \$96,910 were also paid out to a number of other organizations operating in the region, bringing last year's total to \$467,365.

But Burlington Coun. Walter Mulkeiwich argued in a letter to the region's finance and administration committee against setting a \$422,319 "ceiling" as eventually approved by the committee on grants this year as a means of curbing demands from groups for more funds. Grant requests,

which will be reviewed by Halton's health and social services committee Feb. 27, total \$647,870.

He said regional staff's formula of using \$370,455 and adding 14 per cent fails to consider new one-time grants which may be requested in 1982, as well as "other factors". Instead, Coun. Mulkeiwich suggested, a social services grant ceiling should be pegged somewhere between \$455,465 (the 1981 grant total) and \$510,120, the figure which represents a 12 per cent increase over last year's requests.

Otherwise, he maintains, the \$422,319 figure represents a 7.3 per cent cut "cutback" compared to the 1981 grant requests and a 9.1 per cent loss over the grants actually awarded last year.

Regarding his formula for setting a limit on the amount of funds issued for grants this year, Coun. Mulkeiwich said, "anything less than a figure in that area could be a potential disaster".

He expressed concern that the \$422,319 ceiling recommended by regional staff and

accepted by the town finance and health and social services committees last week "does not represent financial integrity, fairness to the requesting agencies, responsibility to the community and further, will possibly result in (a) real political community confrontation at the council level".

Two Georgetown businessmen have pooled efforts to give local homeowners an idea of just what's happening in the home heating field.

Cafe owner and caterer Dave Kentner and Sid Heller, long involved with the home heating and insulation industry, have organized a free public symposium for Feb. 25 in the Georgetown high school cafeteria. Starting time is 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Heller will join Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed, the Ontario Liberal party's energy critic, to outline current trends and innovations in home heating so that citizens can decide for themselves whether they prefer oil, gas, wood, coal, solar hydroelectric or even nuclear heat in their residences.

With Halton regional council chairman Jack Rafitis visiting from Burlington to chair the symposium, homeowners will also hear from representatives of Union Gas, Halton Hills Hydro and the Armstrong Avenue Boehmer's oil company.

While noting that the symposium hopes to avoid "adversary" situations, Mr. Heller told The Herald that

have done during the last several months.

Among the items in this year's budget as tentatively approved by council:

- of the \$5.54 million proposed in this year's capital budget, \$1,389,533 will be raised from the 1982 operating budget, meaning this year's tax levy. Another \$1,919,199 will be raised through government subsidies, \$77,500 will come from funds already held in reserve and \$779,313 will come from other sources like the special taxes paid by the town's Business Improvement Areas (BIA) members (money which is returned to projects in the downtown core) and

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## Capital budget tops \$5.5 million

By CHRIS AAGAARD  
Herald Staff Writer

While still awaiting a final endorsement when town council considers the Halton Hills' operating budget for this year, a capital budget of \$5,548,545 was approved in principle Monday night.

However, town treasurer Ray King explained that the total may change if council decides to reschedule plans to issue debentures (a form of borrowing money) this year worth \$1,000,000 to help pay for a proposed centralized administration building.

He added that council may also make other arrangements to borrow \$383,000 to pay for the third phase of the Guelph Street reconstruction program in Georgetown.

Of the \$864,700 cost of third phase, which will include major storm sewer work in the Armstrong Avenue area, the town may borrow \$383,000 from the reserve already established for the proposed administration building. The remaining \$481,700 comes from provincial government subsidies.

The money will be paid back with interest at 15 per cent over a three-year period, Mr. King explained, adding that when the town's budget committee has completed the operating budget-involving expenses which has more impact on residents' tax bills—there may be other ways of financing the road project.

There were few questions from councillors as the capital budget was presented and, although absent from Monday night's proceedings, budget committee chairman Coun. Harry Levy received praise from Coun. Roy Booth for the work he and his committee

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**COCKBURN COMETH**  
June-award winning singer-composer Bruce Cockburn will perform in Norval March 17 at the Norval Junction. Look for details in this Friday's Weekend Extra.



### THEY'RE WAITING FOR SPRING THAW

Are these people crazy? No, they're just over-enthusiastic about the Crazy Boat race they're organizing for the end of March. They can't wait for the snow to melt so they can whip their paddles through the Credit River. Bill Smith, Jim Dudley, Len Day, Jack Wallinga, Bill Palyk and Frank Funk are the Jaycees Crazy Boat Committee. They anticipate the water level will be higher this year because of the amount of snow Halton has received. (Herald photo)

## Acton ball diamond heads for council

**Herald Special**

A special meeting Thursday between representatives of the town's recreation staff and residents of Poplar Avenue in Acton who oppose a proposed new baseball diamond on the Beardmore Tannery property provided no new insights, said opponent Pat Pope.

The proposal will be going to council's general committee meeting next Monday and Poplar Avenue residents intend to continue their opposition.

The street is narrow, not conducive to the sort of traffic such a facility will attract, windy, and there is only one access to the area, Mrs. Pope said.

The backstop to the proposed diamond will only be 20 feet from Mrs. Pope's property line and she doesn't feel the area is big enough to accommodate the facility.

No one from the minor ball association attended Thursday's meeting which indicates their lack of deep concern about the new diamond, Mrs. Pope said.

"As far as I can see, the town hasn't even investigated an alternate site," she said.

"They only have \$10,000 to put the diamond on the ground and that's barely going to cover the cost of making it. If they can get the land on a lease from the tannery for little or no cost as I expect they can, then of course they want to take it."

Mrs. Pope said she has signatures of 53 residents in the immediate area who oppose the diamond and a dozen of them turned up at Thursday's meeting.

## BANG!

Once again this spring, the Optimist Club of Georgetown is going to light up our lives - or at least the skies overhead.

The club's Bang-o-rama fireworks display returns Victoria Day (May 24), project chairman Norm Guthrie told The Herald Monday.

Plans are still being finalized for activities preceding the dazzling fireworks show in Fairgrounds Park. Mr. Guthrie said, but already the club has announced an expanded Midway, featuring two new rides.

Popular events returning this year are the bingo, the horse show, the largest garage sale in town, track and field competitions, a bike decorating contest, art in the park, an amateur musical talent show, barbecued chicken and a bigger and better food booth and, for your added comfort, there'll be improved washroom facilities.

The busy schedule, which begins at 10 a.m., will be topped off with the best fireworks display Georgetown residents have seen in many years, Mr. Guthrie promises.

The Optimists are also guaranteeing another bonus, he added; great weather, including a total lack of snow. Stay tuned to The Herald for Bang-o-rama updates.

### Donors make their marks

The Georgetown Red Cross branch presented 14 area residents with pins marking new donation totals at the Feb. 8 blood donor clinic sponsored by the Optimist Club of Georgetown. Making their 50th donations were Albert Scanferla, R. Hillier and Norm Hayes. J. Dean Hancock gave his 35th donation; Mrs. Jean Percherson, S.G. Grace and Miss E.A. Hay gave their 20th. Making their tenth donations were Margaret Feele, Ann Paul, David Piper, Bernadine Brakel, G. Johnston, R.S. Shier and Paul Kavanagh.

## Home heating symposium should keep audience warm

Two Georgetown businessmen have pooled efforts to give local homeowners an idea of just what's happening in the home heating field.

Cafe owner and caterer Dave Kentner and Sid Heller, long involved with the home heating and insulation industry, have organized a free public symposium for Feb. 25 in the Georgetown high school cafeteria. Starting time is 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Heller will join Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed, the Ontario Liberal party's energy critic, to outline current trends and innovations in home heating so that citizens can decide for themselves whether they prefer oil, gas, wood, coal, solar hydroelectric or even nuclear heat in their residences.

With Halton regional council chairman Jack Rafitis visiting from Burlington to chair the symposium, homeowners will also hear from representatives of Union Gas, Halton Hills Hydro and the Armstrong Avenue Boehmer's oil company.

While noting that the symposium hopes to avoid "adversary" situations, Mr. Heller told The Herald that

MPP Reed will be able to discuss both the Conservative government's programs for resource development and home heating assistance grants, as well as stating his own party's feelings about them.

Mr. Heller himself will discuss both the practical reality of home insulation and currently available heating systems and possibilities for the future. Topics as diverse as the viability of nuclear heating and the advantages or disadvantages of hot air versus hot water heating are likely, he said.

Apart from introductory statements from Mr. Reed and Mr. Heller, the symposium will be given to open discussion of topics of concern to audience members. Question periods will be afforded, as will free coffee, courtesy of the Kentners.

And, for the homeowner concerned chiefly about dollars and cents, Mr. Heller said, though attendance can expect "bottom line" estimates for the heating options that interest them.

See The Herald's Weekend Extra this Friday for a more detailed look at plans for the symposium.



**ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY**

We're all here together, at 164 Guelph St. in Georgetown. The social services organizations have all moved into their respective offices at the same address. Sharing a common hallway are (left to right) Julie White, secretary of the Halton Hills Unit of the Cancer Society, Maureen McCallum, co-ordinator of the Volunteer Centre, Barb Stephens, supervisor of Halton Helping Hands, and Bill Thom, chairman of the North Halton Social Planning Council. Missing from the photo is Peter Gove, councillor with the Ontario Family Guidance Centre Inc. Besides looking for volunteers, the groups are looking for long tables, benches and chairs to furnish their offices. The little old lady with the bonnet and glasses is a doll who greets visitors to the Helping Hands office. (Herald photo by Ani Pedertan)