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# the HERALD

## Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Since 1866

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1982

**Speedy**  
muffler king  
Opening Soon  
in Georgetown  
At Speedy You're a Somebody

Too late for budget, sports groups say

# Town weathers storm over user-pay changes

By CHRIS AAGAARD  
Herald Staff Writer

A proposal to change the town's "user pay" scheme for collecting revenue from sports teams using municipal playing fields has drawn criticism from baseball and soccer associations, but the recreation department maintains that some adjustment is needed or taxpayers may have to should-

er more of the fields' operating costs.

Currently, the user-pay system requires sports clubs to pay an annual fee to use the parks. Under the new scheme, clubs would be charged every time they used the fields—a "you book it, you pay for it" system. Additional charges would be levied for the use of

field lights and dressing rooms.

While the town's general committee declined to approve the new fee schedule until area sports associations have had a chance to respond, Mayor Pete Pomeroy encouraged committee members last Monday night to support the user-pay concept in some form.

But the Georgetown Youth Soccer Club maintained in a letter to the rec department that the changes are unfairly since the organization has already held its registration and players have paid their dues. With its budget already struck, the organization has no "flexibility to absorb additional expenditures", club secretary Colin Munro wrote.

Limehouse resident Marjorie Thomson told the committee that some baseball organizations may not be able to afford the new rates, threatening the survival of some clubs, like the ladies' "powder-puff" league.

Under the re-vamped system, which council is expected to vote on next week, the rec department has divided Halton Hills baseball diamonds and soccer pitches into minor, intermediate and major categories, assessing

each a different standard rate for use. Rates differ for clubs which are "affiliated"—registered with the department—and non-affiliated, or occasional users, of the parks.

Groups renting the entire park, excluding diamonds, would be charged \$30 per day, half that if they are affiliated or are given the affiliated youth rate. As with halfgames and practices, there are extra charges for lights and change-room use.

In one of two reports presented to councillors concerning the proposed changes, recreation director Tom Shepard said that current rates do not reflect "capital, administrative or equipment replacement costs". A new system, in addition to enabling the town to maintain high levels of service within its parks maintenance program, would also discourage "misuse" of the pitches and ball diamonds by clubs booking "major" playing areas when they should be playing and practising on minor or intermediate fields.

Major playing areas receive twice-weekly maintenance until mid-June every year and

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### A TOAST TO THE MAN OF THE YEAR

Ab Tennant (centre) was toasted Friday night at the Lions Hall in Georgetown. Selected Citizen of the Year by the Georgetown Lions Club, Mr. Tennant was honored with a dinner and speeches commending his efforts on Halton Hills residents' behalf. Raising their glasses are (left to right) Lions

Club District Governor Alex Watson, Mayor Pete Pomeroy, Mr. Tennant, MPP Julian Ired and Citizen of the Year committee chairman Lion Carl Hansen.

(Herald photo)

Happy St. Pat's!

Top o' the mornin' to ya!

Letter from a proud Irishman, page A6

STAFF COMMENT, page B5

# No strippers in sight but petition circulates

While the owners of Georgetown's Rib Cage Restaurant have apparently inquired about municipal regulations concerning adult entertainment licenses, no formal application has been made to the town for permission to have striptease dancers at the restaurant, town clerk-administrator Ken Richardson told council Monday night.

Councillors were responding to a letter to The Herald from resident Sherrill Sowers, who argued that allowing lounges and clubs to bring in striptease acts would "start the town on a downhill slide, (joining) others that have lost their

dignity, and as a result, their attractiveness".

In addition, council also received a 250-name petition from Holy Cross Church parishioners opposed to allowing strippers to perform locally.

Mr. Richardson told council that the bylaw enforcement officer has the mandate to approve licence applications filed under the town's recently-endorsed licensing bylaw, and that applications won't necessarily come before council for review.

However, Mayor Pete Pomeroy assured councillors that in situations where an adult entertainment licence is being sought (at a fee of \$2,500 a year), council will be apprised of the circumstan-

ces.

Three weeks ago, the Rib Cage, located near the community's eastern entrance on Guelph Street, was ordered to "cease and desist" from allowing partially-clad dancers to perform for patrons.

Less than delighted with the sudden influx of lounges and clubs offering striptease as an entertainment attraction, Brampton alderman two weeks ago passed a bylaw imposing a \$1,500 licensing fee for these establishments.

Toronto's adult entertainment licensing fees total \$3,300 for each establishment and Brampton aldermen fear that Toronto's regulations are driving striptease features to clubs west and east of the city.

# About the Hills Polka Dot Door pays a visit

The Georgetown Jaycettes are presenting a live performance of "Polka Dot Door" for the entertainment of both children and adults in the Halton area April 24. Polkaroo, Bear, Humpty, Dumpty and Marigold will be present for a complete show, as seen on TV, with a storytime and audience participation in songs. Autographs will be signed for the children after each performance. The presentation is to be held at Centennial School in Georgetown with performance times scheduled at 11:30 a.m. and 2 and 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person and tickets must be purchased in advance to avoid last-minute disappointments. Tickets may be purchased by calling 877-7551, 877-7187 and/or 877-8768.

# Study's debut tomorrow

Tomorrow night (Thursday), Halton Hills residents will get their first peek at the Georgetown sewage treatment and boundary studies carried out over the last 18 months. The studies, forming the urban area review, aimed at determining the limits of future growth in the community, have been conducted jointly by the town, the region consultants and developers. Although the region's planning and public works committee suggested a meeting time of 7:30 p.m. at Centennial School, Coun. Mike Armstrong said the meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Public input is sought to enable the urban review steering committee to complete the study and start plans for incorporating findings into the town and region's official plans.

# Happy birthday, Lucy!

Lucy Feller of Georgetown celebrates her 90th birthday with an open house March 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. Her family invites all her friends to join the celebration at 60 Park Ave. Best wishes only, please.

# Tickets still available

Some tickets are still available locally for Bruce Cockburn's Norval Junction concert tonight (Wednesday). Phone the Junction, formally known as the Way-Jay and the Riveria, at 877-5570 and 846-0834.

# Books in demand

Got a stack of old books, magazines or records sitting around gathering dust? The University Women's Clubs of Georgetown and Brampton will take them off your hands to help raise funds for educational projects through used book sales scheduled for April 3 at Georgetown's Knox Presbyterian Church and for April 17 at Shopper's World. If you have old hardcovers, paperbacks, magazines, children's books, or comics call 877-1565, 877-2311, 877-0453 for pick-up in Georgetown or 453-6579 in Brampton. The Brampton Club is also collecting records.

# On the block

Acton's former town hall is officially up for sale. Council Monday night endorsed a recommendation from the town's general committee last week outlining the conditions which will surround the purchase of the building. Once an offer is accepted by the town, the buyer will be expected to preserve the historical exterior of the century-old building located at the intersection of Willow and Bower Streets. Purchase conditions also insist that the buyer bring the building up to provincial safety standards within six months. The deal must also be closed within 48 hours of its acceptance by both parties and the purchaser will be asked to pay a deposit of \$2,000. The town has set an April 30 deadline for the sale of the building and if the hall is not sold by then, council will once again look at the building's future. A number of councillors have called for its demolition.

# Open holster test

If you've noticed either of the two Halton regional police officers patrolling Acton and Georgetown with open holsters, they're part of a special study team sanctioned by the Ontario Police Commission. Eight Halton policemen are using the new holsters during a ten-month test period, after which they'll report on the efficiency and safety of the concept.

# Budget man cometh

Town councillors are gradually drawing to a close their long months of paring away at the town's operating budget. Finance committee chief Harry Levy told council Monday night that it will have the 1982 operating budget in hand by April 5.

# Major U.S. Navy contract brings Varian \$1.8 million

From the Ottawa Bureau of The Herald

Varian Canada Incorporated has been awarded a major equipment contract with the U.S. Navy.

Federal trade minister Ed Lumley announced Monday in Ottawa that the contract award had been arranged through the Canadian Commercial Corporation under the Canada-U.S. defence production sharing agreement.

Under the terms of the agreement, Varian will

provide the U.S. Navy with 141 portable magnetometers valued at \$1,785,000 (U.S.). The agreement also carried an option that could double the number of units by Dec. 22 of this year, increasing the contract's value to \$3.7 million.

Delivery of the first of the magnetometers, used in the detection of buried ferrous metals, is scheduled for May, 1983.

Varian regularly supplies electronic gear to agencies of the U.S. defence department and in the fiscal year 1980-81 delivered \$2.2 million U.S. worth of equipment.

# CHANTONS-NOUS AVEC EGLANTINE



There were lots of giggles for Eglantine, a French Canadian entertainer whose name means "wild rose" in English. The children's performer delighted youngsters and parents alike Sunday afternoon at the John Elliott Theatre. The afternoon show marked the end of French Week in Halton Hills, during which French Canadian plays, movies and other cultural activities took place, stimulating pride and interest among the French-speaking population of the town. See also page A5. (Herald photos by Harald Bransch)



# Success ends ActiVan's trial 'pilot' status

By CHRIS AAGAARD  
Herald Staff Writer

Supported by public enthusiasm (reflected in donations totalling \$31,036.23) and currently boasting 121 regular riders, ActiVan changed from a one-year pilot project to the town's first established transit system for the physically disabled last week.

Among five recommendations passed by town council is an agreement by which the town assumes ActiVan's operating costs in 1982, sharing them evenly with the province's community and social services ministry.

Last year, ActiVan's projected operating and capital expenses totalled \$65,500 and included the purchase of the specially designed truck to accommodate travellers and their wheelchairs. With the province paying half that amount, council agreed to launch the project on a trial basis, asking the ActiVan advisory committee to raise the \$18,000 cost remaining after projected fare revenues and on-hand donations.

In a report presented to general committee members, the advisory committee states that \$17,430.24 in public donations have been made to the ActiVan project. (The Ontario Men's Teachers Federation presented ActiVan with a \$1,500 donation last Tuesday afternoon in Milton, an amount not calculated in the ten-month total).

The report also says that ActiVan is running under budget this year and expects to complete its trial period with combined operating and capital expenditures of \$62,500. Advisory committee officials hope to use the surplus to extend the hours of operation, enlarging evening and weekend service.

In addition, the committee is considering expanding the territory which the van covers, allowing town residents to travel to hospitals and appointments beyond municipal boundaries.

User rates are expected to rise from 50 cents per trip to 60 cents, still less than fares charged users of regular public transit services.

Coun. Russ Miller failed to persuade council that the fare should be greater, as much as \$1, generating additional revenue for the service which could be saved in anticipation of buying a new vehicle.

However, ActiVan committee chairman Marilyn Serjeantson argued that other Halton municipalities which operate a similar service are successful in replacing vehicles through public fund-raising efforts and service club assistance.

Although under the advisory committee, ActiVan has been operated by Acton's Ted Tyler Transport Ltd., a new contract is expected to be negotiated before the town's 1982 operating budget is presented to council.

Mr. Tyler has asked the committee to seriously consider ActiVan's operation from gasoline to propane in order to reap considerable savings, although the advisory committee has stated that there is no urgency in the proposal.