



It was another big step forward for the Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service when then-mayor of Georgetown Joseph Gibbons handed over the keys to a new 1967 Cadillac ambulance to former service chief Dan Scarborough. Former Coun. Roy Ballentine witnessed the milestone outside the old GVAS garage on James Street, now the recreation department office. (GVAS photo)

Latest equipment at GVAS open house

An ambulance that can carry up to ten stretcher patients at a time will be driving in to Georgetown Sunday. Called the "Metro Bus" because of its size, the ambulance is usually used during disaster times. Also arriving in town will be a real helicopter called "Bandage One". The air ambulance will be landing at the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital. Both ambulances will be open for touring as part of the Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service's 25th anniversary open house. Everyone's welcome to drop by at the GVAS hall on the corner of Chapel and Guelph Streets. Come dunk free donuts in free coffee and look at displays and demonstrations of ambulance service. The open house is from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Striving to aid those in need, local service reflects on changes

A black hearse would come to get you back in the late 1950s. In the 1960s it was a long Cadillac. Today, the Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service has a 1980 Ford and Dodge in its garage on the corner of Guelph and Chapel Streets. Run from the McClure-Jones Funeral Home on Edith Street until January, 1957, the same hearse that was used for funerals was put into action for emergencies.



Mike Ebdon of Brampton radios patient information into the ambulance service dispatch. Located in Brampton, the dispatch deals with calls throughout Halton Hills, Brampton and Bolton. Mike has been a volunteer with the Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service for four years now. During the day he works as a dispatcher at the Brampton office.

When the funeral business got too busy, the town bought their own hearse from the funeral home for \$900. The second-hand hearse was painted white and flashers were put on it. It was used to take people requiring hospital care to the Guelph Hospital as there was no Georgetown Memorial Hospital then. The ambulance service has come a long way over the years. Servicing 80 calls a year in 1958, it handles that many calls in three weeks now.



The service, funded by the ministry of health since 1970, has two paid staff during the day and 45 trained volunteers available in the evenings. Calls for an ambulance ring to the Brampton central dispatch which handles Brampton, Halton Hills and Bolton. A Mrs. Oliver and her husband used to dispatch police, ambulance and fire services until the calls became too much with the growing population. Besides changing vehicles over the years, the service has also moved a couple of times. Originally, the volunteer service

ANNOUNCEMENT

DR. EDWARD HISAKI, ORTHODONTIST, is relocating his Stewarttown Practice to 116 GUELPH ST. (At Maple Ave.), Georgetown on Tuesday, Sept. 7, 1982

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ABOUT THE HILLS Birthday bash like you've never seen

As hard as it is to believe, the John Elliott Theatre will be one year old during the first week of November and to commemorate the occasion, the town's recreation and parks department is sponsoring two amateur nights Nov. 2 and Nov. 4. Who knows, it might be the first step into a career which will lead to a gala performance at Roy Thomson Hall.

You have until Oct. 4 to get your "act" together and an application filled in. Each performance will last about 20 minutes and there'll be singing and dancing, a little comedy and maybe a bit of drama. Applications are available at 25 James St. in Georgetown or 40 Mill St. in Acton (the town's recreation department offices) or you can pick them up at the clerk's office on Trafalgar Road, the Main Street (finance department) office in Georgetown, the cultural centre and Georgetown's Nell's Music and G and S Television.

They should be returned to the rec department offices. For more information, call 877-8155, extension 62.

Indecent act

A man in his mid-20s driving a two-door grey vehicle exposed himself to two 12-year old girls before driving away. He had stopped the girls Wednesday about 1 p.m. to ask them for directions before the "indecent act", as Halton regional police called it, took place. The suspect was described as wearing mechanics overalls, having black hair and being clean shaven. He stopped the girls on the corner of Rexway Drive and Delrex Boulevard in Georgetown.

Schoolyard assault

Two school children playing in the Centennial Public School playground on Georgetown's Delrex Boulevard were indecently assaulted Saturday afternoon. The two girls, 7 and 5 years old were approached by a man 20 to 25 years old with shoulder length curly blonde hair wearing a dark blue shirt and blue pants.

Barn burns

An old barn behind the Village Manor Rest Home on Acton's Main Street North burned down Monday night about 10:40 p.m. Halton regional police officer was in the area when he heard an explosion and saw flames shooting into the air. The \$8,000 fire is under investigation by police and the fire marshal's office. Arson has not been ruled out yet. An 18-year old Acton man was arrested at the scene and charged with obstructing police. He will be appearing in court Oct. 4.

Grant received

Halton region's social services department breathed a huge sigh of relief last week when the Ontario government approved a \$304,000 grant to prevent cutbacks in the region's daycare service. Some 300 "disadvantaged" Halton children would have done without daycare this year because of a shortfall in the regional budget. The province is already financing another 103 daycare positions.

Artisans' Mall

Ontario deputy tourism minister John Laschinger will officially open the Artisans' Crafts Mall at Acton's Olde Hide House Sept. 29. Similar in concept to the Harbourfront complex in Toronto, the mall will provide Hide House visitors with the opportunity to watch professional artisans at work. They'll be glassblowing, leathercrafting, weaving, sculpting and woodworking alongside a resident crafts gallery and a show gallery that opens with the Ontario Crafts Council permanent collection.

Hats off to Lori!

It was academy awards night at Canada's Wonderland Sept. 7 and 17-year old Lori Kentner walked off with "the most congenial hostess" prize, beating hostesses at the five theatres on the park. The Grade 13 Georgetown District High School student was presented with a glass dragon on a marble base for being such a good user at the Labatt's International Showcase theatre. Since school began, Lori has been working weekends at the park. It was her first summer working at Canada's Wonderland.

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Acton drownings probed Jury presents its findings

Continued from page A1

an hour and a half before returning with ten recommendations to prevent repetition of the tragedy:

JURY ADVISES

- 1) That one additional person be employed to patrol the park area to ensure that park property is not being abused;
- 2) That picnic tables be fastened in such manner so that they cannot be moved;
- 3) That standard life-saving equipment be installed in the beach area;
- 4) That the willow tree located at the eastern end of the beach be trimmed to a minimum height of ten feet above the water level;
- 5) That the fence be extended a minimum of ten feet past the buoy line (preferably chain link), and that an appropriate warning sign be permanently attached to the fence to indicate danger;
- 6) That the buoy line be attached to the fence at the existing post that is located at substantially water's edge;
- 7) That the rules and regulations of the swimming area be attached permanently to the lifeguard's chair;
- 8) That a set of rules and regulations be formulated specifically for outdoor open swimming areas;
- 9) That search procedures be revamped to assume that the missing person is in the water until proved otherwise;
- 10) That proper adult supervision be strongly encouraged in any manner possible.

satisfied with all but the last recommendation made by the jury. He said it was pointing the finger a little too hard at the parents.

"As far as I'm concerned I sent my kid down with a capable babysitter. She's got two courses in lifeguarding," Mrs. Patey declared. "Can't parents be the same way - talking to each other or to a neighbor. I don't blame the girl at all. I know she's a responsible young woman."

However, Coroner MacIntosh thought differently.

"There is absolutely no substitute for the minute-by-minute, second-by-second adult care of a child and I'm forced to confess it was lacking here for both boys at some time," Dr. MacIntosh concluded before sending the jury off to their deliberations.

YOUNG BROTHER
 Brent Patey had been at the beach in the care of

13-year old Maria McLeod who was also looking after her young brother and sister. She was accompanied by a friend, Wade Sheppard, 16, and met two older boys, Terry Corium and John Cox, at the lake.

Nick Dimic had gone to the lake with his brother Paul, 10, and a friend Jake Ram. When Jake's mother wanted to return home at 4 p.m., Jake said Nick didn't want to leave the water then seemed to agree and moved towards shore, Jake turned to collect their towels and when he looked again moments later, Nick had disappeared.

Town lawyer Tom Anderson commended the actions of bystanders and recreation department staff during the tragedy.

Const. Walter Buccell testified that attempts to revive the two boys by lifeguards, fire fighters and ambulance staff were excellent. "I couldn't offer any assistance. They were doing an excellent job," he said.

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