

# Year of the arts centre:

Some 22,000 theatre tickets, dozens of exhibits and hundreds of special events later, the Halton Hills Library-Cultural Centre's first birthday really is something to celebrate

**Herald Special**  
Our Cultural Centre has had a good beginning. It was a year ago tomorrow, Thursday, Oct. 14, 1981, to be exact, that the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre became a reality with its first production on the stage of the John Elliott Theatre.

The two weeks that followed were filled with anticipation, eagerness and enthusiasm that had not been evident during any similar period in this community, certainly not in the cultural field.

From the Little Theatre's comedy presentation, Ronny Hawkins' rockabilly, the talents of most area groups in song, music and dance, the participation of the elementary and high schools in Halton Hills, to our favorite songbird Sylvia Tyson - it was indeed

something to remember. And the opening festivities certainly offered a variety of entertainment to please the palates of all

had to be turned away. This tremendous response augured well for the community and the enthusiasm generated

of choices for visiting the Cultural Centre. Groups with one or two-week running shows, along with many single perfor-

recitals, films, choirs, bands, authors, etc. It should be emphasized that not only the participants, but also the pat-

ally found the theatre especially to their liking. It became obvious too that the cultural community had gained many with an estimated figure of over 22,000 tickets sold for the theatre in the first full season. In addition to this, the exhibits displayed in the gallery added many more hundreds of visitors to each showing and the many other activities in the library's programs, could conservatively bring the total figure close to, if not over, 30,000 persons. We are now launching

into a new season and in spite of the economic condition with all its tight money and less spending powers, we must be ever optimistic that a continuing variety of presentations will bring in more productions with a resultant increase in attendance. Won't you join us at the Cultural Centre? See page A7

## Long John Baldry headlines birthday week bash, see p. A7

In the community. Sold out performances were the order of the day. Most events filled to capacity - at some - patrons

promised to carry into the coming season. The steady flow of bookings for subsequent months assured a variety

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## Region fields questions, charges

# Cries of 'sell-out' greet gravel policy

By CHRIS AAGAARD  
Herald Staff Writer

Crammed into the town's Trafalgar Road offices Thursday night, residents and a number of councillors charged that the region has collaborated with the province and the Ontario Aggregate Producers Association in a "sell-out" of Halton Hills' rural area to the aggregate industry.

Many of the residents own homes surrounding or inside a 14,000-acre area of rural Halton Hills and Milton which the region proposes to "protect" as a future supply of gravel, crushed stone, shale and sandstone.

In one section, the protected acreage almost totally engulfs Acton and in fact slices into the proposed boundary expansion east of Churchill Road.

But regional planners maintain that the new area, the subject of an amendment to the region's official plan aggregate policies, is really the lesser evil of two maps presented by the ministry of natural resources (MNR). If the map and other policy changes are eventually accepted by regional council Nov. 3, they'll provide the backbone of the region's case early next year when the policies, challenged by the aggregate producers, are reviewed by the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

**LARGE AREAS**  
On several occasions during the meeting, regional planning director Raj Mohammed warned that without new policies to present to the OMB, the board will likely impose its own conditions on aggregate extraction here which Halton chief administrative officer Dennis Perlin said may be more favorable to the aggregate industry.

The region's revised policies were sharply criticized by Coun. Pam Sheldon, who has been town council's most vocal opponent to new aggregate industry plans for Halton Hills.

"We haven't seen a thing from the region about whether or not this thing is good for Halton," Coun. Sheldon argued. "The whole thing is political; staff has taken on the job of the politicians. This is a rubber stamp for

I ever saw one." She added that protecting large areas for extraction removes the industry's incentive to look for alternative solutions to the growing need for building materials.

Coun. Sheldon charged that the region's "accountability has gone astray" and its new policies are "biased" in favor of the aggregate industry.

"The region's main priority is to the people of Halton first," she said. Halton's aggregate

headaches began shortly after the official plan was approved by provincial housing minister Claude Bennett two years ago. Mr. Bennett moved aggregate mapping which had been used as an "outside" reference into the actual body of the plan itself. Aggregate producers, upset with the policies as outlined in the plan, failed to get them quashed in divisional court later that year.

Mr. Mohammed explained that the plan was approved by provincial housing minister Claude Bennett two years ago. Mr. Bennett moved aggregate mapping which had been used as an "outside" reference into the actual body of the plan itself. Aggregate producers, upset with the policies as outlined in the plan, failed to get them quashed in divisional court later that year.

## Reed attacks aggregate draft policy

Halton-Burlington Liberal MPP Julian Reed called on regional chairman Jack Raftis last week to delay any aggregate policy changes in Halton's official plan until the province has presented its proposed new aggregate legislation.

In a telegram to Mr. Raftis Thursday, Mr. Reed said Halton's planners should not base official plan guidelines for aggregate extraction on a "ten-point mineral aggregate policy" which has not yet been approved by the provincial Cabinet.

One point in the MNR document, released in 1979, states that land uses which would inhibit aggregate extraction "should not be permitted in required areas of high aggregate resource potential". Residential, commercial and industrial development of land

are included as prohibitive uses.

Concerned about "time and cost restraints", another point in the plan maintains that there should be special approval processes for wayside pits and quarries, allowing new ones to begin operating without official plan amendments and zoning bylaw restrictions.

Mr. Reed, who attended the public meeting Thursday night at the town's Trafalgar Road offices to discuss the proposed changes, said no other ministry has commented officially on the document.

Land freezing or protection as indicated in the policy will prevent alternative land uses, he said, and concluded that there is danger that municipalities will lose control over their aggregate resources.

### MPP's telegram

## 'We're about to be raped'

Julian Reed, MPP for Halton-Burlington, this week sent the following telegram to the chairman of Halton Region:

"The ten-point mineral aggregate policy being used by the government to force land designation in the official plan is not Cabinet approved. Further, a new aggregate bill and accompanying policy is scheduled to be introduced in the Legislature during the regular fall session of this year.

Official plan approval based on this ten-point unapproved policy will have serious economic consequences for the future of Halton. Why can the official plan approval not be held at least until we have a new bill and a new policy?"

Land freezing has ramifications which can have serious future consequences and, based on a policy unapproved by Cabinet, should be cause for serious reflection by every regional councillor.

There has been no input from any other ministry beyond natural resources into this policy. The land freezing will prohibit future alternative uses and will result in land values designed only to serve the aggregate industry which currently has inventory in excess of its needs until past the year 2000.

Any municipal control on aggregates is removed forever. We are about to be raped.



### OUR GREENTHUMBED-LIONS

Members of the Georgetown Lions Club were out Friday night making Halton Hills greener as part of their commemoration of World Lions Service Day. The event calls on Lions throughout the world (about 1.3 million of them belonging to 3,500 clubs) to reflect on their devotion to community service and helping others. Thirteen trees were planted during Friday's excursion to Cedarvale Park in Georgetown. Among those who helped out were (left to right) Russell Fedun, tree planting committee chairman Jim Akers, Bill Aiken and Carl Hansen. (Herald photo by Chris Aagaard)

## Province unveils GO expansion plans

# Here to Oshawa a breeze

By scheduling a little train hopping, it will be possible for the Georgetown commuter of the future to travel by train to Oshawa and Pickering without shutting through

Toronto's busy Union Station. Proposed expansion to the Toronto and area GO train service were announced Thursday morning by provincial

transportation and communications minister Jim Snow at a Queen's Park press conference. More immediate plans see the province extending service to Pickering

from Oshawa and from Oakville to Hamilton, offering full-day service. But over the next 20 years, the province would like to see GO's newly-developed light trains

service the Scarborough Town Centre, the proposed North York city centre, brush by the airport and link up with the Mississauga city centre.

The line would then loop onto a new Lakeshore line and head back into Toronto through the city's waterfront development proposed for the late 1980s.

A spokesman at the ministry said there are no plans for the moment to extend GO train service to Acton.

## Region okays up to \$250 for Raylawn clean-ups

Raylawn Crescent, Georgetown, homeowners flooded out June 29 when a severe rainstorm left their basements awash in sewage will get some financial help from Halton region.

Regional councillors last Wednesday afternoon agreed to pay Burlington, Georgetown and Oakville homeowners who recently sustained property damage as a result of sewermain back-ups as much as \$250 each to help cover clean-up costs.

While Oakville Coun. Peter Arch, a member of the region's finance and administration committee, stressed that the money is not an admission of guilt on the region's part (Halton is responsible for sewer and water servicing), councillors noted that on previous occasions residents were made to understand that some kind of assistance would be available.

An Oakville neighborhood was swamped in sewage when one of the town's two sewage treatment plants suffered an electrical failure which shut down even emergency systems.

Meanwhile, the region's insurers are assessing liability in the incidents and are expected to make a report to the finance committee this week.

Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy suggested that Raylawn homeowners were flooded out during the heavy rainstorm because the sewage system in the area is improperly designed.

About 30 homes on Raylawn were affected by the back-up.

## Abitibi workers brace for layoffs

Employees at the Abitibi-Price Fine Papers plant in Georgetown may face layoffs once again unless orders for the company's coated papers pick up. Plant manager George Lockwood said Tuesday the paper mill and others like it across the country are affected by the continuing recession, but no one has been laid off since last week's announcement. In November last year, 185 employees were laid off and gradually rehired during the winter as business for the plant improved. The plant has been an industrial landmark for 75 years.



### HORSE FOR HIRE

You don't have to put a nickle into this horse to make him go. All he needs is an energetic youngster like two-year old Brian Lipp to send him rocking back and forth. The horse is one of several toys available for borrowing at the North Halton Toy Lending Library. Recently relocated in room five at Kennedy Public School on Georgetown's Weber Drive, the library of creative toys opened last November and will soon be celebrating its first anniversary. Volunteers are welcomed, as are new toys and new members of the library. The library is open Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:15 and Thursday evenings from 7 to 9. For more information about the service, contact Audrey Hillman at 877-4437.

(Herald photo by Axl Podersian)

**INSIDE**

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Got a headache? Maybe it's migraine - p.C2



### TACKLED BY TEENS

Former Toronto Argonaut football star Chuck Ealey was a big hit with the youngsters who enjoyed a week of special adventures at Georgetown Alliance Church on Main Street last week. Now a touring advocate of Christianity in everyday life, the ex-quarterback served as honorary judge for the donut-eating contest and various races and posed for a snapshot with Amanda Green and Janeen McCaughy. Magicians, pirates and even Captain Highliner of TV commercial fame were among the week's special guests.

(Herald photo by Harold Bransch)