

Time bandits

Until it has more information on the subject, town council isn't about to support a proposal to bring in Daylight Savings Time (DST) in February. Coun. Mike Armstrong, arguing that (DST) would be a considerable energy saver, drafted the town's own resolution similar to motion which originated from Stratford city council last month.

Year-round-DST, the Stratford resolution acknowledged, could pose a danger to children travelling to school in the dark. But implemented in February, instead of replacing standard time in April, DST would make a substantial contribution to energy conservation.

While it prefers drafting its own resolutions on matters affecting the province to adopting those from other towns, council said that it wanted more information on the daylight savings time proposal.

Open house

Public Works: Have you ever wondered what it is and how it affects your life? Halton region wants to give you some of the answers and, during National Public Works Week (May 22-28), its public works staff will hold a number of open houses.

The sewage treatment plants in Acton and Georgetown, as well as the water plant in Georgetown, will be open to the public 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. May 26. Other open houses will be held at similar facilities during the week in Milton, Oakville and Burlington.

Books needed

Spring cleaning? Finding you've got too many books merely collecting dust? The Georgetown University Women's Club will take those books off your shelves. They're planning a book sale April 9 at Knox Presbyterian Church.

For pick-up, call 877-0483, 877-8739 or 877-3246. The deadline for book pick-up is March 31.

Acton home robbed

An Acton home was robbed of \$200 in jewellery sometime between 3 p.m. and midnight Thursday, Halton regional police said. The Roseford Terrace home had a basement window smashed for access.

'Go fly a kite'

Remember carefree days spent building and flying your own kite? Re-capture them during the Kortright Centre's "Go Fly A Kite" program, March 26 to April 3, at 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

The Kortright Centre also features "Sap on Tap" during the March break, when you can see the old-fashioned and modern methods of making maple syrup, daily, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. A special evening program, "Maple Syrup by Lantern", will also be held at 7:30 p.m. on March 28 and April 2. For more information call 661-0600.

Lawn and order

Thursday March 17, Colin Dickinson of Grass Roots will speak on "Lawn and Order". He will give expert advice on lawn care problems. The free program at the Acton Library starts at 7:30 p.m.

Threatened with knife

A lone female, closing up for the night at the Georgetown Kentucky Fried Chicken on Guelph Street, was threatened with a folding knife with a four inch blade Friday night, Halton regional police said.

Police said the woman heard a noise in the parking lot and looked out through a locked side door to see a man at the driver's side of her car. When she opened the store door, a second man grabbed it open and flashed a knife at her, demanding to be taken to the safe, police said.

An unknown amount of money was taken from the unlocked safe, police said. The woman was not injured. Both men were wearing balaclavas, according to the woman. The man who entered the restaurant was white, of average build, about 5 feet 8 inches tall, approximately 25 years old, wearing a black balaclava, green T-shirt, dark blue or black nylon ski jacket, blue jeans, and black wool knitted gloves.

Halton regional police are investigating the incident.

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Town declines invitation to OMB hearing

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer
The town isn't likely to order its solicitor or

planning department staff to attend an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing on behalf

of a local developer who wants to build three houses near Stewarttown. Al Pilutti, representing

Aler Investment Ltd. and Senga Construction Ltd. of Georgetown, asked the general committee Mon-

day night for town support as he fights the region's refusal to allow him to go ahead with the project.

The two firms own 3.6 acres of land on the south side of Sideroad 15 east of the Trafalgar Road intersection. While Halton is prepared to let them build two homes on the property, tearing down a couple of derelict buildings, it has refused the firms' request to build three houses instead.

SUPPORT
Noting that the town initially supported the proposal a couple of months ago, Coun. Phil Carney suggested that the town send the appropriate staff to the OMB hearing to bolster Mr. Pilutti's case.

"We sent down a resolution to the region (supporting the redevelopment), but it didn't do any good," Coun. Carney said. "The region will ignore everything else we send down unless we stand up on our hind legs (and fight)."

"But an overwhelming number of councillors opposed Coun. Carney's proposal.

They noted that while Mr. Pilutti might have to do without the town solicitor's presentation of evidence in support of his case, he could still subpoena members of the town's planning department.

The planning department doesn't share the

region's concerns that the redevelopment proposal will undermine policies in the town's and region's official plans.

DOUBTS
Town clerk-administrator Ken Richardson told the committee that he doubted Mr. Pilutti's case would benefit more by having the town's solicitor attend the hearing, than by having the town staff there on subpoena.

Coun. Russ Miller said he was concerned about setting a precedent by which the town regularly

sends its legal advisors to OMB hearings in support of developers with a grievance against the region.

Mr. Richardson advised that the town should look at each case on its own merits, rather than adopt a blanket policy of not getting involved.

"I fall to see how we will accomplish anything by sending the solicitor," Coun. Ross Knechtel said. "How do we judge which appeals we'll send a solicitor to?"



HALTON'S NUMBER ONE FARMER

Regional council last week recognized Esqueping farmer John McNabb's contribution to agriculture in Halton and presented him with a solid brass cow bell. Mr. McNabb was named Halton Farmer of the Year by the

local Federation of Agriculture last fall and he's one of a handful of Guernsey breeders in Halton. The McNabb farm is located south of Ashgrove on Trafalgar Road and stretches across 87 acres, not counting the 200 acres on which he grows cash crops. His name has appeared on

the leadership lists of a number of agriculture associations and he is currently president of the Ontario Guernsey Breeders Association. His herd has been acknowledged as one of the finest in Canada. He gets plenty of help keeping that herd in top shape from his wife Doris and son Ken, a graduate of the Ontario College of Agriculture (OAC) in Guelph. A daughter, Lois, is working for the British Columbia government and another daughter, Marilyn, is studying agricultural economy at OAC.

Police budget up

The costs for police protection for Halton Hills and Milton citizens is up 10.7 per cent over last year's operating budget.

Regional councillors approved last week \$3,192,000 to be spent for personnel, materials and supplies, purchased services and fencing, lighting, painting and flooring items for District 1.

The Halton regional police force has 48 uniformed patrol officers working in four platoons of 12 officers in the north. They patrol nine zones in District 1, covering 253 square miles with a population of 67,100.

The biggest increase in spending for District 1 was a 93 per cent jump in capital expenditure over last year to add security and create a better environment for staff and visi-

tors to the Georgetown, Milton and Acton stations. Cost was \$22,200 for 1983.

UNCHANGED
The total police staff for District 1 is 74 and civilian staff is 9, unchanged from 1982.

Materials and supplies went up 36 per cent to \$31,100 in 1983, and the expected five per cent increase in salaries plus annualization and increase in benefits resulted in an overall personnel services increase of ten per cent.

"1983 will witness significant attempts on the part of the Halton regional police force to move to a greater posture of preventive policing, a move which will require the understanding and support of locally elected officials as well as the public whose safety is at

the forefront of our concerns," Chief James Harding said.

He said traffic, fraud, auto theft, computer fraud investigation, underwater search and recovery are all squads Halton should have, but that it isn't possible to form any of these squads without seriously depleting the available patrol force.

"Without the services of such squads we must accept that we cannot truly claim to be a force professionally equipped and prepared to meet all the demands our public might make of us," Chief Harding said.

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