



It was of dragons and princesses that Georgetown Public Library staff Carol Buchanan spoke Thursday afternoon. About 20 Harrison Public School kindergarten students were

enthralled by the tale she shared with them. Mariene Preston's class was also treated to a movie before bundling up and heading back to school. (Herald photo)

Opinions differ on car situation for chairman

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

Although he agreed to pay the difference to lease a larger car, regional chairman Peter Pomeroy will probably have to drive a mid-size Ford LTD on Halton's business.

Last Wednesday, the region's administration and finance committee became embroiled in a debate about the mobility of the new chairman.

In December, regional council agreed to lease an LTD for \$280 a month from a Halton Hills Ford dealership.

In a letter to Chief Administrative Officer Dennis Perlin, Mr. Pomeroy said he would pay about \$100 a month more to lease a Mercury Grand Marquis, plus \$700 if the lease is terminated before its three-year term.

The Grand Marquis the regional chairman had in mind is a late model used vehicle most recently driven by an executive of the Ford Motor Company of Oakville.

IDEA GROUNDED
But several members of the region's administration committee balked at the idea, which will be discussed

today (Wednesday) at regional council. Halton Hills Coun. Mike Armstrong said he didn't really care what type of car Mr. Pomeroy drives, or how it's financed, but he was concerned that the leasing proposal wasn't tendered out.

Tenders were not sought for the leased vehicle the chairman will drive or the Ford model used by the region's business development officer, although tendering is traditional practice for goods and services the

PETE POMEROY
municipality needs. "I'm concerned about how this will be perceived by the dealer body in Halton," Coun. Armstrong said. "We're bypassing the system and that's completely

wrong." Given Ford's presence in Halton, (the company operates a large manufacturing plant in Oakville), council has made it a policy to supply the chairman with a Ford vehicle, Mr. Perlin said.

EFFICIENCY
One councillor wondered if the chairman's use of a larger V-8 like the Mercury Marquis would conflict with some of the energy-wise policies the region is supporting.

Burlington's Joan Little suggested that a more gas-efficient, smaller vehicle would be more in keeping with "the statements we are trying to make."

Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett proposed returning to the car arrangement under which former regional chairman Jack Rafilis worked. Mr. Rafilis drove his own car, but was paid a \$310 a month car allowance.

By paying Mr. Pomeroy an allowance, the chairman could drive any car he wanted, making up the difference if the region's allowance ran lower than what it cost to run the car, Mayor Barrett said.

"I'm not being rude, I'm like some of the NDP who booed when Reagan spoke to Parliament."

Mr. Jelinek said he and his family fled Czechoslovakia in 1948 to escape communist

rule. He said he wasn't opposed to Premier Zhao addressing Parliament because Canada's democratic nature supports free speech.

"I certainly wouldn't oppose in caucus, or anywhere else, the Premier of China being invited," Mr. Jelinek said.

Asked why he did not boycott the speech, Mr. Jelinek said it was "important to hear the other side speak." But he said he could not applaud the representative of a country which denies basic rights such as freedom of the press.

and sent to either the clerk's office on Trafalgar Road or the planning department offices in Guelphview Square, at the corner of Mountainview Road South and Guelph Street.

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Sunday, Jan. 22 1:00-2:20 p.m.

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Zoning change sought for Guelph St. property

Town residents have one week to comment on a proposal to change land use designations on a 1.5 acre property between the police station and Bar Motors Ltd. in Georgetown.

At a public meeting Monday, the town's planning department suggested that the land, which is currently zoned for industrial uses, should be rezoned to accommodate a commercial operation.

The property was recently sold by the town to a developer, on the condition the town makes adjustments to the Official Plan and the zoning bylaw.

In the official plan, the property is currently recognized as "major open space", but its new designation would describe it as "neighbor-

HALTON HILLS ELKS LODGE
BINGO EVERY MONDAY

Halton force speaks out

Police favor law reforms for impaired

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff Writer

After all the blood and bent metal has been cleaned up, there are many times that, although police know a driver was impaired, they can't prove it.

An injured driver can't give a breath sample for the breathalyzer test, and, under current law, police can't take a blood sample without the person's consent.

That may well be changing in 1984. The Law Reform Commission of Canada has recommended police be allowed to demand blood samples from those suspected of impaired driving, including samples where an accident victim is unconscious.

The proposed changes to the Criminal Code and the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1983, state such a test would require judicial approval in the form of a telephone warrant and

the approval of the doctor in charge of treating the injured person.

"I think, from the police point of view, it would certainly be helpful," Halton regional police District 1 Commander Matt MacPherson said. "There are



DEPUTY CHIEF BOB MIDDAGH
numerous times we know a person is impaired but we can't prove anything in court."

Now, police have no way of proving the driver was impaired if a breath sample isn't taken. A seriously injured person can't blow into the breathalyzer.

CONSCIOUS
The Hon. Erik Nielsen

If the injured person is conscious and consents, police will take blood and urine samples as evidence.

"But then, when it comes court time, there's a debate that the guy didn't know what he was doing. It's hard to establish he was aware



MATT MACPHERSON
of his rights after going through such a hard time," Inspector MacPherson said. "There's always a debate in court if it (blood sample) was voluntarily given. Most people refuse blood tests anyway."

There are perhaps 10 to 12 accidents in Halton Hills a year involving drivers who are seriously injured and can-

not be proven to have been impaired at the time of the collision, he said.

SYMPATHY
"What the law makers are saying is that they don't want those drivers on the road, and that they have little sympathy for them. That's what it comes down to," Insp. MacPherson said of the Law Reform Commission's proposed changes.

The advantage of a blood test is that it will also show impairment by drugs other than alcohol. The breathalyzer test doesn't show this. The Commission proposes police be allowed to demand blood samples of persons suspected of being impaired on drugs other than alcohol.

Deputy chief Bob Middaugh said accidents where impairment is suspected and a driver is hospitalized are generally the most serious collisions.

"We should have the authority to get blood tests, but we don't," he said. "We support mandatory blood tests for suspected drinking drivers."

Coupled with more police enforcement like spotchecks, and awareness advertising, the proposed changes in law will make an effect on

the drinking driver, Deputy chief Middaugh said.

In British Columbia, the Commission's recommendations are already provincial statute.

"I think you'll see it in Ontario in the near future, and maybe even federally this year," the deputy chief said.

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PC nominations Jan. 23

Herald Special
The Brampton-Georgetown federal progressive conservative association is holding a meeting Monday, Jan. 23 at the Centennial Centre on Mary Street in Brampton in order to select the progressive conservative candidate for the next federal election. The meeting is called for 8 p.m.

Membership in the association is required in order to vote at this meeting. 1983 members may renew their memberships up to 8 p.m. Jan. 23, while any former or new members must have their memberships by 8 p.m. on Jan. 19. Anyone wishing to join should contact Mr. Gordon Smith-Fitzpatrick at 451-1781.

The Brampton-Georgetown Riding presently is held by the Progressive Conservat-

ives. Mr. John McDermid of Brampton has been the P.C. member since mid 1978 and will be contesting the nomination of January 23.



JOHN McDERMID:
en, P.C., M.P. will be the guest speaker at the nomination meeting. Mr. Nielsen is the Deputy Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada and was re-appointed Oppo-

sition House Leader by Mr. Brian Mulroney following Mr. Mulroney's selection as Leader of the P.C. Party.



Mr. Nielsen had been selected by the P.C. Caucus as interim leader during the period leading up to the P.C. Leadership convention in 1983. During the Clark government, Erik Niel-

sen had been Minister of Public Works.

Born in Regina in 1924, Mr. Nielsen received his law degree from Dalhousie University and was called to the Bar in 1951 in Nova Scotia. He opened his first practice in Whitehorse in the Yukon in 1952.

In recognition of his contribution to the Yukon's constitutional development, he received his Queen's Counsel in 1982. He was first elected to the House of Commons in December, 1957.

PM to resign shortly, McDermid speculates

Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermid speculated this week that Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau will announce his retirement within the next month, a move which will likely pave the way for a federal election later this year.

The Progressive Conservative member said he feels if Mr. Trudeau delays his resignation until later in the year he'll back his party into a corner, leaving it without much time to organize for a leadership convention and general election.

If Mr. Trudeau does leave shortly, Mr. McDermid said "the Liberals will likely hold a leadership convention in May and hold an election very soon after-

ward".
MEETING PLANS
Meanwhile, Mr. McDermid faces a "convention" of party faithful in his own riding next Monday night. He'll be seeking the riding's nomination as the Tory candidate in the next federal election.

He's been the Tory member of the riding since mid-1978. (The Nomination meeting will be held at Brampton's Centennial Centre on Mary Street, beginning at 8 p.m.)

SHADOWS
Mr. McDermid is the Tory critic for Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

With the recent presentation to Parliament of a proposal for Indian self-government, Indian

affairs is drawing more interest from Canadians, Mr. McDermid said.

Mr. McDermid pointed out that the First Ministers' conference planned in March will deal with aboriginal rights and their placement in the Constitution. A Tory government, he said, should easily slip into power if it wins the next election. Mr. McDermid explained the party's critics of government ministries have been shadowing the government very closely and have policy directives and staffing ready if they take over the government.

Insulation stolen

Fibreglass insulation, 3,000 feet of it was taken sometime between Jan. 9 and 13 from the construction site at 80 Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown.

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