Acton man saves child from burning car

By ANI PEDERIAN Herald Staff Writer before, but Friday Road night, he was a hero, Timothy's rescuing a 19-month old

flames. Timothy Lachance of The roads were wet and Rexdale was strapped visibility hampered by securely in a child car the slush being slapped seat behind the driver by passing cars. when Mr. Kriticos, 34, jumped out of his CN hands, to unstrap him second car pulled up

from a burning car. The 1971 Mustang in A truck driver for 18 which baby Timothy years, John Kriticos of was, a passenger had Acton has pulled over to stopped on the side of help put out car fires Highway 401 near Dixle because Raymond Lachance, 24, was having trouble with baby from leaping the windshield wipers.

REAR-ENDED. While Mr. Lachance Express tractor trailer, was working on the asbestos lined gloves on windshield wipers, a

and rear-ended the Mustang, sending it across three lanes of heavy

Mr. Lachance was flung into a snowbank over the guard rails and is in Peel Memorial Hospital where he is. recovering from cracked ribs suffered in the collision.

The hit ruptured the gas tank of the Mustang and started a fire. Wife Karen Lachance, 20, rolled out of the car and was screaming for help when Mr. Kriticos came to her assistance.

Reaching in from the passenger side, he fumbled with the straps of the car seat, trying to hold his breath and not breathe in the black smoke in the car The smoke made it difficult to even see the baby or the straps.

GRABIT "I thought it (the baby) might just have been sitting there and I would just have to grab it. I forgot about car seats," Mr. Kriticos said, shaking his head. It was fortunate he knew how to undo the



JOHN KRITICOS

car seat, having a 14month old son himself. With the thick gloves he

was wearing to protect his hands, however, it was difficult to work the buckles, Mr. Kriticos sald.

"I could smell my hair starting to burn and I figured 1'd better get him out quick," he said. Once the child was out of the straps, Mr. Kriti-cos pushed him into the

opposite side. "When she yelled 'I got him', I threw myself out," Mr. Kriticos said.

mother's arms on the

QUICK ACTION Thanks to the quick action by the passing

trucker, Timothy only had his nose burnt at the tip. The heat burned Mr. Kritlcos' hair and melted his CN Express jacket in spots. His voice was still hoarse Monday from smoke inhalation.

Mr. Kriticos was on his regular run from Toronto to Brampton when he saw the accident and pulled off the road to help.

"I had a first ald kit and I knew how to operate a fire extingulsher. I carry an extinguisher in my cab," he said.

When he got to Timothy, the child was frowning and pouting, waving his arms, but he wasn't screaming, Mr. Kriticos

said. "One of my biggest difficulties was trying to grab his arm and twist it out from under the strap once I could see it in the smoke," Mr. Kriticos said. "There should be a way to have those arm

straps let go." However, the car seat was also praised for keeping Timothy from flying into a more dangerous situation, by Mr. Kriticos.

The fact the child was wearing a snowsuit was to his advantage too, for the flames curling around the car seat were melting the nylon of his jacket but not touching Timethy, Mr. Kriticos noted.

PETRIFIED

"I didn't even think at the beginning of being scared for my own life. I was petrified after, though -- 'What am I doing in this car, get out!'," Mr. Kriticos

also estimates that it

will need a \$9,022,000

capital budget this year.

The capital budget

pays for road constri-

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Home Newspaper of Halton Hills - Established 1866

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1984



REASON TO SNUGGLE UP! A Milton Brownie troop braved the chilly winds Saturday for a sleigh ride through Nor Halton Park. With the deep snow and scenic forest, the trip proved to be worth tingling feet and frozen fingers. The sleigh rides are offered from a farm called The Heights on Sideroad 25, 1/2 mile south of Acton. For information on group rides call 853-2014.

Lights at Fairgrounds damaged

Rec official fumes over vandalism

By CHRIS AAGAARD Herald Staff Writer

aggravating." Those were the words

"It's senseless. Total- of the recreation departfrustrating and ment's Al Hay as he

Wine and Roses

The Georgetown Choral Society will host a party, gentle wine and munchies, Saturday Jan. 28, at 8 p.m. at Sacre Coeur Roman Catholic

This will be an informal event and an evening for socializing. During the evening, the choir will sing Broadway hit songs in three separate sets, with an occasional soloist.

Some very special comedy teams have been Imported for the night. Tickets are available from choir members or call 877-4879.

The Carolfest raised \$630 for the High School elevator project, not the larger number quoted last week. However, none of the basses or sopranos which they hoped to attract, as a result of the massed choir, materialized.

If you would like to sing with the choir, do come out, Monday 7:30 at Knox Presbyterian Church, you will be warmly welcomed.

Pedestrian hit

The 48-year-old Acton driver of a 1982 GMC pickup truck didn't see a pedestrian crossing with a green light and struck a 53-year-old man Thursday.

James Gordon sustained minor injuries and was treated at Guelph General Hospital. The driver was turning south from Mill Street onto Main Street. He was charged with

careless driving by Halton regional police. Most controversial

Councillor John McDonald said it was the issue he has heard about most from his constituents since 1978.

He was responding to questions at the Ward 3 drop-in session about why there was no election to replace former Mayor Pete Pomeroy. The man who asked the question said it costs

all of us to participate in a democratic society and the money to hold an election shouldn't have been an issue.

Coun. Finn Poulstrup said the 6-6 vote by councillors probably reflected how the people felt about the issue.

Coun. Phil Carney said a slight majority of his constituents that he polled favored an appointment.

Sports

One of Georgetown's most successful hockey coaches has been named the seventh Hockey Heritage Award winner. See Sports Page Bi for the details, Also, the Raiders are on a five-game winning stream.

Entertainment

Ballinalad residents will be rooting for Daryl Johnson. Snow White at JET. Page All.

Features

Minor hockey week stories on Page A4. A look back at Norval's old flour mill. Page As.

mulled over a damaged light control box Monday at Georgetown's Fairgrounds Park.

Vandals smashed the box - one of two at the park - over the weekend. The boxes, which stand about five feet off the ground and measure about four square feet, house timers and controls for field lights used during the summer baseball season and

broomball in the winter. Because of the action. nighttime winter sports at the park are in jeopardy. Mr. Hay, the department's superintendent of facilities, told The Herald that the damage won't be repaired until spring.

SECOND INCIDENT It was the second time in a week that one of the park's light control boxes had been vandalized. Chips and debris inside the most-recently damaged box and on the snow indicate that the damage was done with a heavy wooden object,

Mr. Hay said. The extent of the damage and the fact that heavy padlocks were snapped also suggests that the vandalism 'wasn't done by ten year olds", he added.

There was no estimate of the damage at press time.

This year, the recreation department iced a full-sized rink, regularly used by a local broomball league at night.

(The league makes arrangements with the rec department to have the timers set so the lights go on for games closes at 11 p.m.).

"Whoever did this has hurt a lot of people planning to use the rink for nighttime activities," Mr. Hay said.

While the vandalism has curtailed nighttime use of the rink, he said the facility will be regularly watered.

New dining lounge

A new restaurant is opening at the Georgetown Marketplace, Council Monday night endorsed an application to the province's liquor licensing board for a "dining lounge license".

and shut off automatically when the park

There were no details at the meeting about when the restaurant would open, but it boasts a catchy title: "O'Toole's Roadhouse Restaurant".

Our town may face higher tax increase than Milton, Oakville ment subsidies, Halton grant from the province where in the region,

which has helped offset

Halton Hills' share of

the regional levy for

about eight years, regi-

onal treasurer Joe

CVCA PLANS

carry out a number of

projects in the Credit

River watershed

through Halton Hills

this year, including

major drainage impro-

vements along George-

town's Armstrong

Avenue which borders

If all the projects are

approved by the region,

and the province

matches the CVCA's

budget request with

funds of its own, \$320,000

could be sought from

Halton Hills' ratepay-

Last year, the aver-

age Halton Hills proper-

ty assessed at \$5,500

paid \$159.12 In regional

taxes - about \$15 more

than the previous year.

While the tax bill was

still lower than what the

average homeowner in

Burlington and Oakville

pald, the increase in the

bill - about 10.6 per cent

Rinaldo explained.

regional bill.

the river.

By CHRIS AAGAARD Herald Staff Writer

Halton Hills residents may face a higher increase in their regional tax bills than homeowners in Milton, Oakville and Burlington this

The two main reasons for the difference is a special levy to pay for work in Halton proposed by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) and the loss of a provincial grant.

With other grants and special levies blended in, Halton expects to raise about \$24 million, mostly from taxpayers, according to the preliminary budget previewed by council last week.

The budget is far from complete. Over the next several weeks, regional committees will be making a number of adjustments to the document before it is presented back to council for approval in March.

BELOW INFLATION But the budget Indicates the average Halton ratepayer whose house is taxed on an assessment of \$6,500 can expect to pay about \$179.50 in regional taxes, not counting school board and local municipal taxes.

That's an increase of about \$9,72 over 1983.

While the increase is well below 10 per cent for most of the region, the tax hike could be considerably more burdensome in Halton Hills.

It's unlikely the regi-

on will get a \$122,000

1984, up \$2.03 million tion and repairs, traffic signals on regional He said the absence of over 1983. that grant could add roads and some conser-Raised from taxes, revenues and governvation projects. another \$7.63 per household to Halton Hills' Beardmore shows The CVCA wants to promise in

again because a reduc-

tion in the provincial

In all, the region may

spend \$33.7 million in

levy grant.

Halton's EFW search Acton's Beardmore Tannery is one of several Halton industries large enough to use energy from a municipal incinerator if one is built

in the region. But the industry is not one of the highest ranked possibilities in an ongoing regional search for suitable "energy from waste" plant sites.

Like the Leaver Mushroom plant further south in Burlington, the Beardmore facility could use the energy generated from burning 75 tonnes (82.5 tons) of Halton's trash.

That's about the amount collected in Milton and Halton Hills each day.

Its closeness to Acton's residential area, a nearby environmentally-sensitive area, and an old garbage dump would constrict where an EFW might be located on the Beardmore property.

EFWs can produce steam and electricity used by adjacent industries. In addition to Leaver Mushrooms and Beardmore, the region is also interested in the possibilities of Oakville's Ford plant and Union Carbide operation, as well as Burlington's Fearman's meat processing plant, using energy from waste.

The bid to establish an EFW in Halton is part of Halton's "two-pronged" approach to solving its waste disposal problems.

Halton supports Pollution Probe

regional councillors last week gave \$1,000 to Pollution Probe, a nonprofit organization currently opposed to an

New York.

agreed with Pollution Probe's Colin Isancs two weeks ago when he

could threaten Oakville and Burlington drinking water which is drawn from Lake Ontario. "It's \$1,000 well-

spent," Milton Coun. Bill Johnson said. The proposed landfill site is about 25-acres in size and would be built

for SCA Chemical Services Ltd. of New York. In a letter to the region's planning and public works committee, Mr. Isaacs sald surface and groundwater tends to flow away from the site towards Lake Ontario.

About one million tons of industrial waste could be buried at the site, Mr. Isaacs says in his letter, and some of the waste would contain heavy metals and toxic PCBs.

Experts commissioned by Pollution Probe, he maintains, are concerned that liners for the buried waste containers may be inadequate and have questioned the proposed landfill site monitoring program.

Other councillors, such as Burlington's Rob Forbes and Jim Grieve disagreed with the financial support.



MINOR HOCKEY WEEK

It may be a battle when they're on the ice together, but back in the dressing rooms most minor hockey players are happy to talk about the game with their opponents. Here Jeff Smith (right) of Andrew Murray Motors prepares for a game against Gordon Burke, and his A and S Engraving minor peewee team. Jan. 22 is Minor Hockey Week in Canada where some 500,000 hoys and girls are involved in the sport.

industrial landfill site expressed concern that With the safety of the landfill operation drinking water in mind, planned for Lewiston,

Most councillors

SPREADING THE WORD ...



Halton Hills students are keenly aware of fire prevention, as awards presented by Halton's firefighters indicate. Hely Cross School's Leslie Dodson drew a poster about the dangers of throwing lit cigarettes and matches in the garbage. She captured first prize among all the girl competitors in the region in the annual poster contest. George Kennedy School's Paul Gardiner was the top boy competitor in Halton Illia with a poster captioned "Smoke in Bed ... Turn Out Dead". Official presentations were made by firefighters at Halton's regional council headquarters last Wednesday.

(Herald photos)