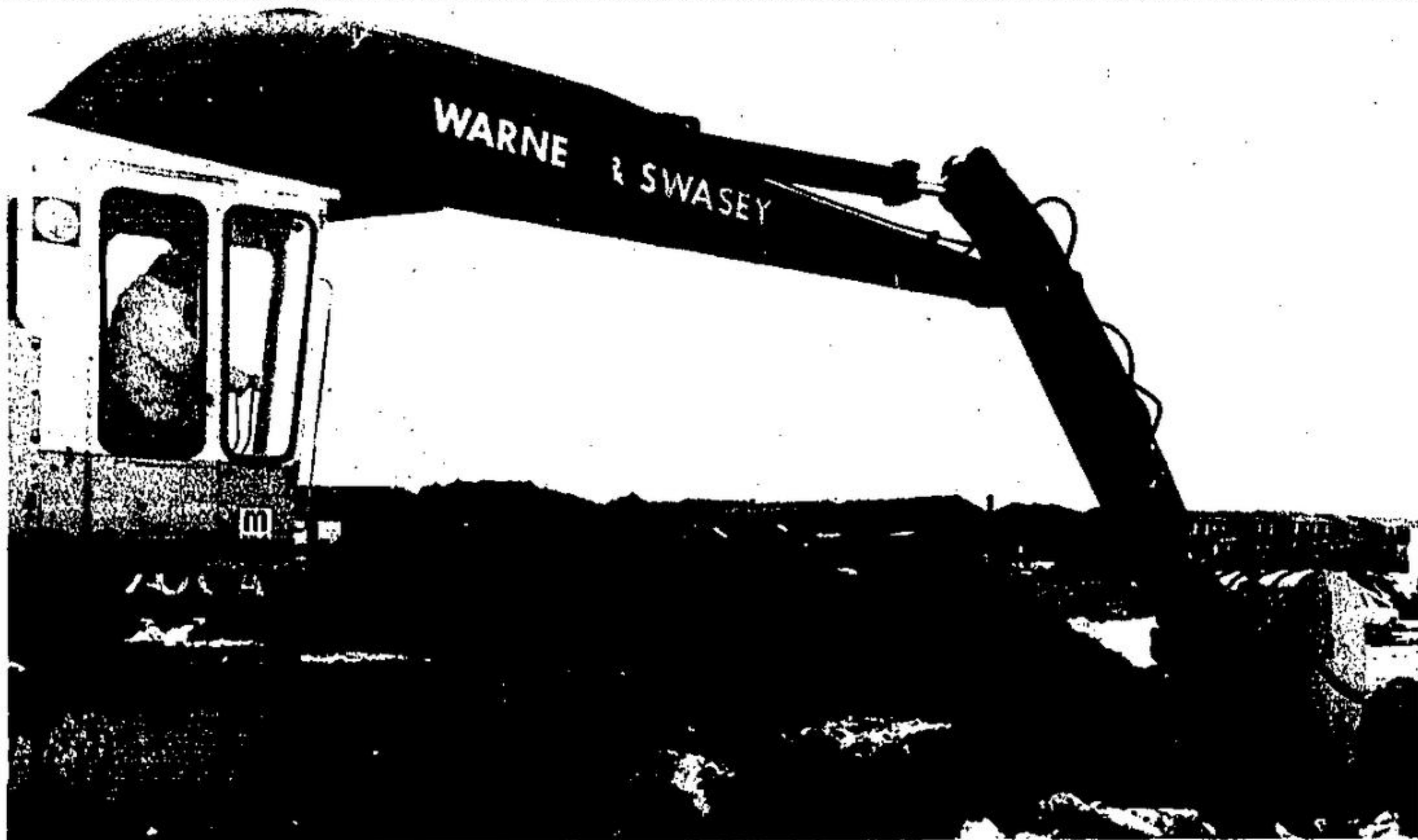




the HERALD

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1984



This is a familiar site in Brampton. Heavy machinery gobbles up vacant land for yet another housing project. In a special staff report, The Herald takes an in-depth look at development and planning in Halton Hills. What are some of

the stumbling blocks to growth in town? Do we need growth? Answers to these questions can be found in stories starting on Page A4 and continuing on B1, B2 and B3.

Who says you can't fight 'em at city hall?

Herald Staff

Who says you can't fight city hall?

That's not the indication municipal insurers have.

Hank Roy, a representative of the Frank Cowan Company Ltd. (municipal insurers) told the town's general committee Monday night that more people are taking local governments to court.

"There's a very definite trend in the number of (liability) claims and writs served against the municipality," Mr. Roy said. (Liability insur-

ance covers claims made for bodily harm or personal property damage).

The bulk of the costs, he said, are not for the actual claims, but for the municipality's defence.

While costs for the town's entire insurance costs rose modestly, or dropped a few points in a number of areas, premiums for liability coverage went up about 15 per cent, an insurance report for Halton Hills says.

Last year, the town paid \$80,429 for its

insurance package. In 1984, renewal costs are \$80,265.

If the insurance package is endorsed by town council next week, the town will have bought itself an extra \$492 worth of "fidelity bond coverage".

The coverage protects the town from incurring heavy financial losses in the event that an employee or councillor swindles the municipality.

The town's protection rises from \$250,000 to \$750,000 with the increase in coverage.

Impaired drivers take to the streets

By ANI PEDERIAN

Herald Staff

Eight drivers were nabbed for impaired driving over the weekend.

"It looks like just one of those wild weekends," Halton regional police Staff Sgt. Roy Smith said, shaking his head.

A 23-year old Storey Drive, Acton, man was arrested on Storey Drive March 21 following a single car accident on Cobblehill Road.

The man was charged with driving while impaired, driving with over 80 milligrams of alcohol per 100 milligrams blood. He appears in Milton provincial court April 30.

A 19-year old Baird Crescent man who had passed out behind the driver's wheel, a bottle of beer between his legs, was charged with care and control of a vehicle while impaired, Saturday.

The man was discovered by police at 3:30 a.m. in the Neilson's parking lot off Sinclair Avenue and Guelph Street. The keys were in the car ignition.

Also Saturday, a 20-

Milton provincial court

May 7.

TEST

Saturday, at Guelph and Mill Streets, a 23-year old Sarah Street, Georgetown, man was given the ALERT test which he failed. Taken to the Georgetown station, he also failed the breathalyzer test.

The man was charged with driving with over 80 milligrams alcohol per 100 milligrams blood. He appears in Milton provincial court April 30.

A 19-year old Baird Crescent man who had passed out behind the driver's wheel, a bottle of beer between his legs, was charged with care and control of a vehicle while impaired, Saturday.

The man was discovered by police at 3:30 a.m. in the Neilson's parking lot off Sinclair Avenue and Guelph Street. The keys were in the car ignition.

Also Saturday, a 20-

year old Rockwood man

was observed driving with a mechanical problem. When stopped, he was charged with impaired driving on Guelph Street, at 1:48 a.m. The man is scheduled to appear in Milton provincial court April 23.

CHARGED

A 39-year old Dayfoot Drive woman was stopped for a traffic violation and she failed a breath test and was charged with driving with over 80 milligrams alcohol per 100 milligrams blood. She was stopped at 5 a.m. on Mountainview Road, and is due in Milton provincial court April 9.

A 24-year old Toronto woman was charged with having the care and control of a motor vehicle while impaired Sunday night. The woman was stopped in a routine check on Trafalgar Road, 1/2 kilometre north of Sideroad 10.

7.2 million problem:

Philosophies, attitudes, policies all play a role

By CHRIS AAGAARD

Herald Staff

"A lot of delays and a lot of costs involved."

That's how one developer summed up what it's like to get a housing project off the books and into the ground in Halton Hills.

But municipal politicians say that if past town councils have been reluctant to let Georgetown and Acton grow, the climate is certainly different in the 1980s.

In the early 1970s, Coun. Mike Armstrong said, councils showed a "no development philosophy".

"It wasn't a matter of sewage and water concerns," Coun. Armstrong said. "It was just 'no development'—as simple as that."

"You can have people saying, 'I'm here now and I don't want the town growing anymore.' I don't like that attitude. I never have and I never will."

One thing which Coun.

Armstrong believes jolted the "no development" philosophy was a \$27 million lawsuit launched by a developer against the region and the town in 1977.

Focal Properties Ltd. of Mississauga (now Mascan Properties) based its case for breach of contract on agreements signed between its predecessors and the Georgetown council of the day.

Later councils wanted the land to remain rural, but Focal argued that the agreements opened 361 of its 500 acres of land south of Silver Creek for residential development.

In the 1970s, council argued that there wasn't enough sewage capacity in the Georgetown treatment plant to handle wastes from a community of 7,000 people, with industries, which Focal was envisioning.

A few years ago, the lawsuit was adjourned

as the town and the region, plus a number of developers participated in urban studies of Acton and Georgetown.

QUESTIONS

The studies addressed questions about sewage capacity and water supply in both communities.

The Georgetown plant is currently treating the wastes of a population equivalent of 25,400 people.

By expanding the plant, replacing some of its components with new ones and restricting the flow of rainwater leaking into the sanitary sewer system, the treatment capacity can rise to serve a population equivalent of 40,000.

(The population equivalent indicates industries and people. The actual number of residents served by the plant could be lower, depending on the amount of sewage capacity allotted to industries.)

Councils aren't entire-



MIKE ARMSTRONG

ly to blame for the delays in getting major development going.

Coun. Armstrong said. In the last few years, the national economy with its high interest rates hasn't been conducive to building, either.

PROGRESS

But there is progress. Secondary planning is now underway for the approximately 4,000 acres of land which have been included in Georgetown's new urban boundary.

Coun. Armstrong, who is heading the task force administering the

secondary plan process, said he hopes the plan can be presented to council this fall.

Now that studies have proved that the Georgetown sewage plant, with modifications, can handle new, large-scale community growth, there's the issue of who is going to make the changes.

That's the "\$7.2 million problem", Georgetown lawyer Bert Arnold said in an interview last week, referring to the 1982 estimate for modifications at the plant.

In a policy called "front-ending", the region maintains that when new land is to be developed for residential or industrial use, developers should pay for the costs of adding sewer and water services.

WARNED

At a regional housing conference last year, Mr. Arnold warned that the front-ending policy

should not be made an unbending rule.

He advised the region to apply front-ending on a case-by-case basis. There should also be room for comments from a public task force involved with community growth and its costs, he said.

In "front-ending", the first developer ready to start building in an area planned for growth would be required to pay for the water and sewer servicing, plus expansions to wells, reservoirs and treatment plants used in the area.

As other developers build in the area, they would pay the first developer a share of the initial servicing costs.

Faced with at least \$7.2 million worth of improvements needed for the Georgetown sewage plant, there's understandable reluctance to be "the first one in", Mr. Arnold said.

Careless driving

Motorcycle driver is found guilty

By ANI PEDERIAN

Herald Staff

A Bramblea man was found guilty of careless driving, Thursday in Milton provincial court.

The lawyer for 22-year old Daniel Matwey offered no defense to the charge laid after a motorcycle accident in which Georgetown resident Bruce Paterson, 18,

died.

Defense lawyer Robert Calahan of Brampton said he had no evidence to offer and asked for a pre-sentence report.

"We have no knowledge of how it happened," Mr. Calahan told Judge William Sharpe.

Crown attorney Francis Murphy said the two

young men had been driving a 1979 Honda bike Aug. 7, 1983, east-bound on Highway 7, 4 kilometre west of Winston Churchill Boulevard.

The crown attorney said the two men had spent most of the evening before drinking beer at Mr. Matwey's Milton home, and had stayed

up all night watching television.

In the early morning hours, the couple left on the bike, with Mr. Matwey in the driver's seat.

Mrs. Murphy said the two were served in a coffee shop on Highway 7 at 7:50 a.m. before carrying on.

It was a warm, sunny

summer day, with dry road conditions, the crown attorney noted.

As the bike approached a 90 degree turn in the road at an undetermined speed, the bike went through a guard rail and seven meters down an embankment.

The two men were flung from the bike, Mr. Matwey 10 meters

distant. Mr. Paterson

was killed on impact with the ground.

Mrs. Murphy said the cause of death was massive bleeding caused by lacerations to the aorta and aspiration of blood.

"The accused said, 'I took the turn too wide; it's my fault,'" the crown attorney said.

ABOUT THE HILLS

Guest speaker

Major James Cooper will be at the Salvation Army headquarters in Acton April 5-6 at 7:30 p.m. He will also be at Sunday services April 8.

Major and Mrs. Cooper have five children, and make their home in Halifax while the major travels as territorial evangelist for The Salvation Army in the Canada-Bermuda territory.

First aid course

There will be a standard first aid course offered Tuesday, April 10 and running until Tuesday, May 15. Classes start at 7 p.m. at the Georgetown Ambulance Hall at Guelph and Chapel St. Registration costs \$20. Call 877-7964.

Drama workshop

Professional director Blake Heathcote will be conducting theatre workshops this weekend (March 31 and April 1) at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown.

The workshops will help aspiring actors deal with auditions, pre-show warm up, characterization and scene study breakdown. Open to all over the age of 16, the workshops will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There is an admission charge for the two days: \$5 for people under the age of 18 and \$10 for adults. For more information, call Vicki Courtney at 853-2581.

Bail denied

Bail was denied Thursday afternoon to Paul Edwin Durand, 19, a Georgetown man charged with attempted murder this month.

In court again Monday, May 16 was set as the date for a preliminary hearing into the charge against Mr. Durand.

Former Noble Court resident Edwin Durand, 59, is still in Sunnybrook General Hospital in Toronto. He is in the hospital's neurosurgical unit in stable condition. Mr. Durand was shot in the head March 9 in his home.

McDermid bowling advisor

John McDermid (PC - Brampton-Georgetown) has been appointed to the National Youth Bowling Council.

As a member of the Board of Governors he replaces Judge Ross H. Fair.

The group meets annually at the YBC championships to review the program, objectives and rules for the 70,000 member organization.

Al Ruelens tourney

The Hamilton Tiger-Cats and the Toronto Argonauts are going to be facing off in an elimination round of the Fourth Annual Al Ruelens Volleyball Tournament, March 30.

The tournament, named for a Halton regional police officer who died of cancer in 1981, will raise money for the Cancer Society.

All members of the force who are participating pay to play and although there is no admission charged, Cancer Society reps will be accepting donations.

The Tiger Cats and the Argos are playing at 7 p.m. at the Lester B. Pearson High School on Burlington's Headon Road. The games start at 6 p.m.

Fashion show

Don't forget the Georgetown Hospital Auxiliary fashion show March 28 at Holy Cross. Dessert and coffee will be served at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 877-4802.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Section A

A letter to the editor about sportsmanship. Bob Rae visits local riding association. Humphrey Bogart comes to town. Lions Club public speaking winners.

Section B

Starting from Page A4, our 'growth' special section takes an in-depth look at development in Halton Hills. Reporters say their goodbyes to Chris Aagaard.

Section C

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders were ousted by Petrolia. Optimist Minor peewees make it to the Ontario finals.

Section D

Real estate news with RE-MAX.



Georgetown resident Morley Mills (centre) received a special tribute from the Ontario NDP Friday night. Party leader Bob Rae presented Mr. Mills (shown here with his wife, Lauretta) with a gold life membership card in the NDP. Mr. Mills, after whom the Morley Mills Co-Operative housing project on John Street is named, joined the NDP's predecessor, the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) in 1942.

(Herald photo)