

**COACH** **Minor hockey: special report**

Next time you see a young person with a hockey jacket, smile. It's minor hockey week! On Page C3 you'll find an insider's report on the game, from the perspective of a referee, sponsor and the players.

**Stevens' property**

**Citizen wants more answers**

See News Page A3

**Taking care of business**

In our Family section, The Herald profiles one of Georgetown's largest firms, William Neilson Ltd. In a day they receive 400,000 litres of milk for processing.

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Newspaper of Halton Hills — Established 1866

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1985

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**Runner is eligible for Toronto Games**

Acton High School's Doreen Unrnick will be competing in this year's Toronto Star Indoor Games.

The Grade 13 student finished third this weekend at the York University indoor meet held at the Metro Toronto Track and Field Centre. Eight runners were vying for the four positions. Unrnick's time in the women's 800-metre event was 2:18.2. The top time was recorded by Hamilton's Lisa Amsden, who finished with a mark of 2:08.5.

**Farmhouse blaze**

A farm house on lot 1, con. 1 in Erin Township received \$35,000 in damages after a chimney fire spread to the living room and upstairs portions of the house, Friday at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Cause of the blaze was apparently due to the wood burning stove overheating. There were no injuries in the fire which firefighters from area one (Acton) dealt with.

**Teen caught**

Ottawa police have arrested a Barrie teenager on a Halton regional police warrant in connection with the Jan. 12 robbery at John's Auto Service on Mill Street East in Acton.

About \$80 was taken from the service station after a man held an object protruding from underneath his jacket and demanded the money.

A Honda, originally used in the robbery, was later recovered by Halton regional police after it struck a hydro pole in the north Milton area.

Police believe the alleged robber then hitched a ride with a Churchill Road resident in Acton and was offered a place to stay for the night. As a result of that incident at 1900 Pontiac was taken from the resident, Jan 13.

The vehicle has since been recovered.

Charged with robbery and theft over is Shane Miller, 19, of Barrie.

**3 million savings**

With the new AAA credit rating, Halton region is looking at a \$3 million saving on interest payments for debentures, the regional treasurer estimated last week.

The savings would be made over a five year period, treasurer Joe Rinakko said.

The new rating means Halton, its four municipalities, Hydro-electric Commission and school boards save a ¼ per cent on any interest payments bonds they issue.

**Very important road**

A very important road in the future of Halton Hills will be Winston Churchill Boulevard, forecast the town planning director.

Ian Keith told councillors Monday night that the boulevard that cuts through Norval down to Steeles Avenue and beyond has a bright future. He sees it as the major road in the long-term future use of the municipality.

"We know Ninth Line is going to be a very important road," Mr. Keith said.

Coun. Harry Levy is concerned Winston Churchill will turn into a highway and affect the predominantly rural agricultural land it currently passes through.

**Cemetery, chapel desires**

A cemetery and chapel for the Croatian Social and Cultural Centre are still on the minds of the Centre's administrators.

They would like to include them on their Winston Churchill and Steeles property.

However, councillors hadn't supported the idea of a cemetery and chapel for the property in earlier council discussions.

"I thought we'd already dealt with that and it wasn't going to be on," Mayor Russ Miller said when he saw the upcoming studies would be considering the impact of a cemetery and chapel as well as sports related facilities.

"I cannot think of a reason I can prohibit the applicant from doing so if he wants to include it in the report," Town planning director Ian Keith said.

"I don't need that information, but he wants it." The costs of the studies are being paid for by the Centre.

**Police budget deficit?**

The Halton regional police force's forecast deficit of between \$67,000 and \$126,000 in July 1984 is becoming reality as the net deficit is estimated at \$121,000 for the period ending Oct. 31, 1984.

The forecasted deficit, which represents about one per cent of the operating budget, is largely due to a high number of homicide investigations (three) which amount to about \$90,000 which has been spent through services such as telephone, fuel, overtime and salaries.



**BRRRRR!!**

When it is cold outside, there are a number of ways one can dress warmly. Of course, wearing a ski mask like James Bergama is doing here, is always a great way to stay warm. (Herald photo by Dan Ralph)

## NO ACTION: No Stevens' property plan, but report due on road to hospital

**By ANI PEDERIAN**  
Herald Staff

Although a town committee hasn't developed plans for a municipal complex on the Stevens Estate property in Georgetown, it is looking into a "main thoroughfare" connecting Maple Avenue with Princess Anne Drive.

In a letter replying to concerns of Georgetown physician Alex Furness, Mayor Russ Miller said the Municipal Owned Property Committee "have not formalized financial considerations on the development of the Stevens Estate property, or undertaken any further cost analysis or financing alternatives for a municipal complex."

The Municipal Owned Property Committee is the new name for the former building committee which was re-organized last year. It's chaired by Coun. Finn Poustrup and its members are Couns. Phil Carney, Dave Whiting, Pam Sheldon, Marilyn Serjeantson, Rick Bonnette and Mayor Miller.

Dated Jan. 16, the letter says the committee hasn't developed further plans at this time for a municipal complex, and that there has been no "indicated" change of view relative to the Stevens property as a municipal centre site.

As well, Mayor Miller said no consideration has been given to expanding the present municipal office other than what was said immediately prior to the buying of the Stevens lands.

In the letter addressed to the Mayor and councillors, Dr. Furness noted he had some information the province was putting a paved road through the Stevens property to the Georgetown Memorial Hospital.

If a paved road were to be built through the property, Mayor Miller said it wouldn't be the province putting it in but the town, with subsidies from the province.

As it stands now, a staff report is being prepared, detailing the paperwork necessary before a "main thoroughfare" connecting Maple Avenue with Princess Anne Drive can go ahead, the mayor said.

The report will outline to the committee the process for designating road allowance on the thoroughfare, and the construction cost of building such a road.

The report will also explain the requirements and cost of an Environmental Assessment Study, including the steps to be taken for a Ministry of Transportation and Communications supplementary subsidy.

As yet, this report hasn't been prepared or presented to town council, Mayor Miller wrote.

In terms of interest lost to the town because town savings were used to buy the Stevens lands, the mayor said it tallied to \$61,317.

However, he warned interest is only one part of the overall investment.

Mayor Miller wrote that a current appraisal hasn't been done to assess whether the land value has gone up or down since the purchase.

## 4 million spent on energy costs

**By ANI PEDERIAN**  
Herald Staff

The engineering technologist has already tackled 20 buildings and estimates the potential for municipally and regionally owned buildings were over \$4 million last year.

The one-man team of Mr. Blades is finding his building audits are reducing energy consumption by at least 20 per cent. In Halton Hills, the Acton Arena and Community Centre is no different. With \$25,100 of work, the arena can save \$5,613 on its energy bill next year.

The projects are eligible for 30 per cent funding by the Ministry of Energy, which reduces the capital cost of them substantially.

As well, Mr. Blades recommends the heating, ventilation and air conditioning in the building be controlled with a timer so that when there's nobody in the building, they won't be operating full blast.

Recreational facilities are the greatest energy users, he says, pointing the finger at arenas.

The Gordon Alcott Arena in Georgetown can be saving \$17,000 a year, Mr. Blades says. He's drafted a report, soon to be disclosed, which lists how the arena can take energy conserving steps. He estimates the suggestions will cost \$47,000 and will pay for themselves in three years.

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## Searching out trouble areas

**HERALD STAFF**

The Georgetown firehall underwent energy saving renovations recently, thanks to a regional program.

For \$3,001 spending, the town will be saving over \$4,000 on energy bills this year.

Energy conservation expert Russ Blades spent time noting how Halton Hills could cut back on gas, water and hydro bills at the fire station on Maple Avenue.

He made sure they had a night setback control timer to turn down the heating when nobody's in the building, then turn it back up again just before staff arrive in the morning.

"That's where your savings are. You don't need it to be 70 degrees when there's nobody there," Mr. Blades said.

The large garage doors for the fire engines were weatherstripped so that heat loss through the doors was reduced.

Through the COED Air Leakage Control Program, the Georgetown Police Station on Guelph Street was also looked at and made more energy efficient.

With Ministry of the Environment grants covering 50 per cent of materials and the federal government picking up the tab for the labor, it cost the town only \$1,782 for work on the station. It translates into \$1,500 in annual energy savings.

Under the same subsidies, the Georgetown Day Care centre managed to save \$395 on energy bills and forked out only \$268.

Improvements to the Georgetown and Acton water plants and to the Georgetown Water Pollution Control Plant cost \$1,885, this year, they expect to save \$1,057 in fuel.

The Acton Library was another building looked at, weather stripping, caulking and other improvements cost the library board \$266, but will pay for itself with annual savings of \$158 expected.

Other local buildings belonging to the region or the town will be looked at by Mr. Blades. He estimates there are at least 200 such buildings in the region.



**IN PRAISE OF ROBBIE BURNS**

Piper George Greig leads the procession as The Haggis is brought out. The Haggis is the traditional food for Scottish peasants, and was presented at a dinner Saturday at St. George's Church. (Herald Photo)

## Cost hike for Artisans' building draws criticism

**By ANI PEDERIAN**  
Herald Staff

A proposed rent hike raising what the Credit Valley Artisans pay for the use of Cedarvale Cottage from \$200 to \$1,300 a year drew criticism from town councillors Monday night.

The hike was recommended by recreation and parks director Tom Shepard in his report to councillors.

Mr. Shepard said the Artisans are currently receiving a 94 per cent subsidy to cover their cost of operation in the town property.

He wants to bring that subsidy down to 50 per cent, a move that makes for a substantial increase in the rates the Artisans currently pay for the Cottage in Georgetown.

"Our facilities have to show some money," Mr. Shepard said. "So if there's a group in here that can't meet the minimum criteria, we'll meet with them and find out what they (can) change."

He warned it would mean looking at the group's books to see what artists teach the courses.

Coun. Levy said the group provides a service that if the town were to take over would cost the town thousands of dollars.

"This bothers me very much. I want further consideration and discussion with the group before this is passed," the councillor said.

Coun. Pam Sheldon wanted a report from the recreation director on the costs to the town, to the Artisans, and some history on the rates for the use of the cottage.

"There seems to be something out of whack somewhere," she said.

Mr. Shepard agreed to undertake the report.

"If they (Artisans) are that badly, maybe we should subsidize them 100 per cent," Mayor Russ Miller suggested.

Mr. Shepard said he only proposed rate increases to the councillors and wasn't prepared to judge which of the 300 community groups using town facilities and being charged for them should be subsidized or be regarded as more important to the town.

The rates he has set are only intended to ensure a return on the facilities, he said.

"For those groups that it doesn't look too sympathetic for, they've had a free ride for a long time," Mr. Shepard said.

"You may find we can do it cheaper or can live without the group."

Another group for whom substantial rate increases are proposed by the recreation director is the Air Cadets who are currently being subsidized 74 per cent by the town. Mr. Shepard would like to reduce that subsidy to 50 per cent.

The Norval Community Association is being subsidized 72 per cent and Mr. Shepard recommends that be reduced to 50 per cent.

For the Georgetown Little Theatre, he suggests the 67 per cent subsidy be decreased to 50 per cent.

Mr. Shepard would also like to see charges for the use of the Stewarttown Community Centre go up by 34 per cent.

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