

**TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

# Council, public debate future of Wildwood Rd.

By ANI PEDERIAN  
Herald Staff

Two new stop signs are to go up on Wildwood road, as an initial effort to placate area residents concerned about the truck traffic on their road.

Monday night, councillors voted to install three-way stop signs at Eighth Line and Cindy Place.

As well, they approved motions by Coun. Pam Sheldon that the town's winter storm salting and sanding program be of higher priority on that stretch of winding, rolling road.

Coun. Sheldon wants more enforcement of the speed limit on Wildwood Road by Halton regional police. Councillors agreed and also asked the town engineer to prepare a report on the best method of speed control at the height of the hill.

The Wildwood Road and Confederation Street intersection is the subject of a current study and no recommendations were made for that corner by councillors.

**ACCIDENTS**

In the past four years, 16 accidents have occurred on Wildwood Road, most of which have been attributed to road and weather conditions, violations of the maximum

posted speed or drunk drivers.

Councillors also asked for a report on the costs of road surface improvement on Wildwood, like shoulder improvements and the addition of sidewalks.

"This is not necessarily saying let's do it, just let's get a report back on it," Coun. Sheldon said.

Coun. Finn Poulstrup noted these requests were low-cost ones which satisfy the request of the majority of Wildwood Road residents who've aired their concerns about their roadway at public meetings.

**SURVEILLANCE**

Town engineer Bob Austin said he would prefer increased surveillance by police on Wildwood Road to the addition of stop signs. He said people tend to disobey stop signs and to drive even faster.

"If the speed limit were enforced, you likely wouldn't need those stop signs," Mr. Austin said. "Once they're in, they'll never come out."

The recently released town transportation study suggests stops be put up at Cindy Place, Eighth Line and Chelton Street, that warning signs, markers and flashers be installed, that pedestrian walk-

ways be constructed and that Sideroad 22 be extended and culvert crossings be reconstructed, as some alternatives ranging from low to high cost.

**SERIOUS**

Truck traffic is a serious concern of residents as trucking occurs primarily in the early morning, coinciding with high pedestrian activity.

Wildwood provides an east-west link for trucks travelling to and from local quarries or by-passing Georgetown.

Told each stop sign costs \$105 by the town engineer, Cindy Place resident Linda Neal said she didn't want to wait another three years to have improvements made to Wildwood.

"I'd be happy to write you a cheque for \$400 to cover the cost of four stop signs, if it would save a life," Mrs. Neal said. "If there are no improvements made to Wildwood Road, I'm concerned there will be a fatality."

**NO ROOM**

She expressed concern that there isn't enough room for children to stand safely on the three-foot road shoulder while waiting for the school bus mornings.

"On Wildwood Road, we don't have a situation where you're waiting for accidents to happen, but an area where accidents have happened," Mrs. Neal said.

Ken Key of Wildwood Road said he'd had three years of discussing improvements to the Wildwood situation and now he wanted to see some of the low cost suggestions for improvements made in the transportation study implemented.

"We've talked the thing to death. It's time for council to do something," Mr. Key exclaimed.

**NO SIDEWALKS**

Wildwood Road resident Tut Harrison said he didn't want sidewalks on his road.

"I for one aren't going to clean your sidewalks because you want to put it in front of my house. I have enough trouble cleaning up my driveway," the colorful speaker told council.

He said that by opening Sideroad 22 from Eighth Line east across the Credit River to intercept the Tenth Line would drop traffic from Wildwood Road.

The transportation study bills this at \$2.5 million. Mr. Harrison said the town could make money to pay for the extension by buying enough property for additional lots along the extension, and selling it for development.



**YOUTH YEAR AWARD**

John Payton was selected as the Glen Williams Citizen of the Year at the Canada Day celebrations July 1. The Georgetown District High School student was the first youth to receive the prestigious award, commemorating International Youth Year designated as such by the United Nations. Angie Fowler, the chief organizer of the Canada Day celebrations presented the award.

**On Secondary Plan**

## Clerk wants approval before fall election

By ANI PEDERIAN  
Herald Staff

It's been five years in the making and town clerk-administrator Ken Richardson doesn't want to see the Georgetown Secondary Plans delayed because of problems with the recently published transportation study.

Residents on Mountainview Road and area object to the lack of information on Mountainview Road in the study, and turned out en masse Monday night to air their feelings.

The transportation study serves as a background report to the Secondary Plans for Georgetown South and West. Until it is approved by councillors, the Secondary Plans remains in limbo.

Mr. Richardson warned councillors Monday night that if the transportation study approval is delayed too long, there'll be problems in dealing with the Secondary Plans before the

November municipal elections this fall.

The clerk-administrator would like both reports approved before the elections. If they're not, new faces in the council chambers after the municipal elections could delay the approval of the Secondary Plans even further. Mr. Richardson doesn't want to take that chance.

Especially not since the town could be facing a potential lawsuit because of delays. Property in Georgetown South has been slated for development by construction magnate

George Wimpey Canada Ltd.

Wimpey recently bought the lots on 100 acres of land from the McLaughlin family firm Enterac, east of Mountainview Road South.

"I want to be damn sure anything we do tonight doesn't give the developer an opening to start another lawsuit," Coun. Ross Knechtel said Monday night. "We cannot afford lawsuits."

He was referring to earlier attempts to sue the town over development problems in Georgetown South.

**Electrical storm**

# Crop destroyed days before sale

Just days before his barn burned down a farmer's son had arranged the sale of last year's grain.

George Wilson's barn burnt to its foundation last Tuesday (July 2) causing \$70,000 damage. There was a "severe electrical storm. A display of the type they've (the firefighters) never seen before," said Deputy Chief Bob Hyde.

George Wilson's loss cost him 22 tons of grain, last year's grain crop, 2,300 bales of hay and some farm machinery. There was no hope of saving the barn which burned so quickly, said Bob Hyde.

George Wilson is insured but admits that he will only get back a little of what he lost. He plans to replace the barn with a smaller one.

Barn fires caused by lightning are rare, said farmer George Wilson, but last week two barns across the street from each other on the 6th Line south of the 5th Sideroad were set ablaze by lightning.

Another electrical storm on Saturday (July 6) started the second blaze in a neighbour's in a smaller barn, about six metres high, a Milton Fire Department official said.

George Wilson and about six friends were cleaning up the debris left by the fire that destroyed his barn. When the rain and lightning started one of the helpers saw the neighbour's barn catch fire.

George Wilson said. "Lightning struck the peak and fire ran along the peak the length of the roof and down a support post," he said. "We used water out of a ditch and buckets to put it out," he

said. An official from the Milton Fire Department said the fire was just smouldering when they arrived and only \$200 damage was done.

## Playground site will be moved

If everything goes according to plan, playground equipment at Acton's St. Joseph Separate School will be moved soon and residents of Gould Crescent will once again have privacy in their back yards.

Town Recreation Director Tom Shepard told council recently discussions are underway with the Halton Separate School Board to share the cost of moving the equipment at the school. Mr. Shepard explained the town has an agreement with the board regarding the playground and equipment at St. Joseph's, but it was not consulted when the location was chosen.

The town made the installation and does maintenance work, but it is the board's equipment and land.

Under those circumstances, Mr. Shepard said he was unwilling to move things at town expense when Gould Crescent residents first complained to him about noise, foul language, litter and trespass problems they were experiencing with adolescents at the playground.

Mr. Shepard said the playground equipment was placed near the homes after he and board staff studied the location and decided the ground was too uneven at the south end of the site.

Gould Crescent resident Gord Dennis told council he has talked with board officials and the school principal and no one seems to know why the equipment was placed near the homes, but all said it would be the town's responsibility to move it.

Mr. Dennis asked council to do what was necessary to get the playground moved and presented a petition signed by 12 of the homeowners on the street supporting his stand.

## Council accepts written comments until July 15

By ANI PEDERIAN  
Herald Staff

You're invited to put your thoughts on the transportation study in writing by July 15. The town will accept written submissions until this date.

A report on the public submissions and comments made at Monday night's public meeting is to be prepared by town engineer Bob Austin.

Councillors are hoping to have this report at their July 22 meeting, to help them make their decision on the \$40,000 study.

If the engineer's report is delayed, there may be a special council meeting July 29 or in August.

A resolution brought forward by Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson will be dealt with at this next meeting.

Coun. Serjeantson wants the town to ask the region to undertake a traffic impact study on Mountainview Road, taking a close look at future traffic problems with regard to the proposed Georgetown South and West Secondary Plans.

As well, she wants the town to reassess the ranking of Mountainview Road as a prime access to Georgetown, and to look at alternative concepts like a Tenth Line extension, use of Sideroad 10 and Eighth Line instead of a cross-valley alternative.

The cross-valley alternative is to continue straight across where Winston Churchill Boulevard makes a sharp left turn to Norval, town engineer Bob Austin explained.

Coun. Serjeantson also wanted a deferral of the Georgetown Secondary Plans to when the traffic impact study has been completed and the transportation study passed.

She said she hoped they could be done by the early fall.

## Road study

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Gord Benner of Mountainview Road pointed out two petitions asking for traffic to slow down on his street were filed with the town and the region in the past and wanted to know why there'd been no response to them.

The town engineer said he wasn't aware of the petitions and would try to find out what happened to them.

"The expansion of Mountainview is not imminent," he said, trying to reassure residents.

"There's nobody pushing the expansion now."

Peter Woolgar of Eden Place expressed frustration over the lack of answers to questions already raised by residents at a recent public meeting into the Secondary Plans.

"Without a doubt, the impetus for growth on Mountainview is coming from development, which is being pushed by the town. Don't pass it off to the region. Recognize your responsibilities," Mr. Woolgar told councillors.

## Truck hits car

Two Acton residents were involved in an accident when one driving a 1982 Ford truck pulled in front of a 1985 Ford car June 29 at a stop on Guelph Street. Estimated damage to the truck was \$50, to the car \$900.

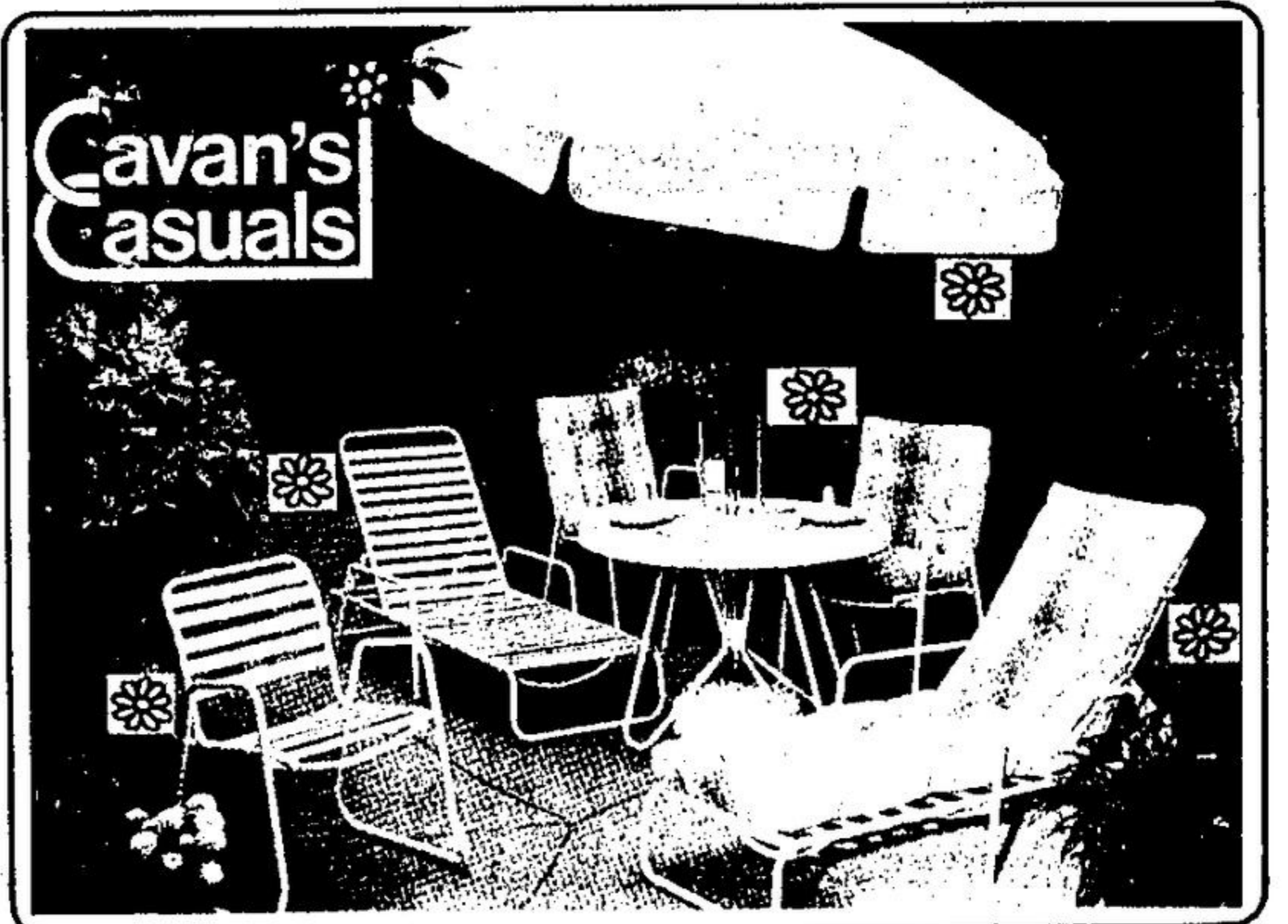
## Smashed window

The plate glass window of the Robin's Nest on 11 Main St. in Acton was smashed at 3 a.m. last Saturday. A brick was used. Damage is estimated at \$300 police said.

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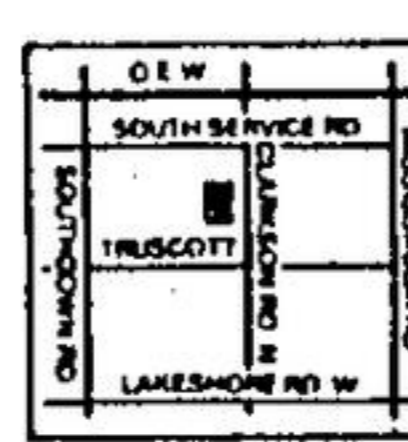


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