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WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1986

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It's Worth The Drive To Acton

Air, land search for crash victims

By DAVE ROWNEY
Herald Staff

The cavalry came to the rescue Monday night, but they couldn't find anyone to rescue.

Police and firefighters were aided by a Labrador twin engine helicopter from Trenton in their search for a downed airplane.

Halton Regional Police were called about a distress signal from a pilot shortly after 8 p.m. They met firefighters from Halton Hills near the Scout hut in Limehouse.

The rescue mission was called off around 10:30 p.m. when the area had been searched and nothing was found.

"There wasn't even a sausage. The area was well combed by the aircraft and the police," said Capt. Doug Cameron of the Rescue Centre in Trenton.

Police checked all the possible landing strips in the area and also questioned some people about ultralight pilots in the vicinity. One person fishing said he saw an ultralight fly past and he thought he heard a crash, said Det.-Sgt. Keith Robertson.

The north Halton search was called off when a report of an ELT (an aircraft's emergency transmitter) in the Caledon area was heard.

However, Caledon OPP has no record of the incident and no officers were involved in a search Monday. Nevertheless, the Caledon East detachment received a number of calls from the media and citizens seeking information about the incident.

Neither the Brampton Flying Club or Peel Regional Police have received any messages about a downed plane.

"There were no reports of missing persons or an aircraft overdue," said Capt. Cameron.

The Trenton base received a call from the shift manager at the air traffic control tower at the Lester B. Pearson airport. A call came in at 8:07 indicating that the tower had received a garbled transmission about an aircraft having to make a forced landing, Capt. Cameron said.

Trenton then sent up their Labrador rescue helicopter, complete with a crew of six. The firefighters from Halton Hills had 14 men at the scene and three trucks.

"We didn't receive any information at all during the night," said Deputy Fire Chief Bob Hyde.

Capt. Cameron said no ELT box had been activated. The helicopter crew left the Georgetown area after a thorough search had been completed on land and from the air.

Where was the pilot?

Where is the mystery ghost pilot? When the call went out that a plane had crashed in an area north and west of Georgetown, rescue crews feared the worst.

But after two hours of combing the area around Limehouse, nothing could be found.

Two aviation experts offered their opinion about why the emergency call had gone out.

Capt. Doug Cameron is an air controller for the Rescue Centre in Trenton. No reports had come in about missing persons and no aircraft were overdue, he said. When the area was searched from air and land, the rescue was called off, he said.

There is a chance the garbled emergency message came from a pilot-in-training from a local flying club, he said. Occasionally a trainee will practise a forced landing. The pilot could have switched his microphone from intercom to a VHF signal, Capt. Cameron said. That would explain why the control tower picked up an emergency signal instead of an instructor.

Rick Wynott is the chief instructor at the Brampton Flying Club. Before he was told an actual voice message had been heard, Mr. Wynott speculated that someone had tripped their ELT box. "99 per cent of the time, it's a nuisance trip," he said.

A sudden jolt could accidentally activate the emergency control box which emits mayday signals that are picked up by receiver satellites orbiting the Earth.

Capt. Cameron believes a satellite would have picked up any signal from an ELT.

The Trenton Rescue Centre starts getting emergency calls daily once the warm weather begins, he said.

Chinese celebrate

Need to preserve cultural ties: MP

A new group in Halton Hills dedicated to preserving Chinese culture and language had cause to celebrate Saturday.

The Halton Hills Chinese Canadian Cultural Association held a picnic in Cedarvale Park where MP John McDermid was the special guest.

Mr. McDermid presented the Association with a cheque for \$1,100 from the federal government. The money will be used to strengthen the association's programs in order to preserve Chinese culture.

Since September Chinese children between 5 and 13 years old have been meeting every Saturday for 2½ hours to learn more about their heritage.

Their Saturday mornings at Georgetown District High School are spent learning about Chinese culture, language (written and spoken), the importance of family

and more, Elaine Wong said. Ms. Wong is one of the teachers looking after a class of about 18.

Before presenting the cheque, Mr. McDermid emphasized the need to preserve culture. The preservation of Chinese culture in Canada will help her "great challenge in the east," he said.

He implied relations between Canada and Chinese speaking nations will be stronger in the future, and that Chinese speaking Canadians will be an asset.

Lawrence Tsang, president of the Association, was given much of the credit by fellow members for forming the association. Mr. Tsang said the Chinese of Halton Hills will be more involved in the community now that they are better organized. Among other things he mentioned cooking lessons as part of this involvement.



ALL PART OF THE JOB-Liking was the guest of the newly formed Halton Hills Chinese Canadian Cultural Association who had a picnic in Cedarvale Park Saturday. (Herald photo)

60 jobs need to be filled

Students looking for work shouldn't overlook the Canada Employment Centre for Students. According to the Centre Supervisor, Greg Robinson, there are now 60 jobs waiting to be filled.

"We really need students to come in and register with us. We have a lot of good jobs we're having trouble filling," he said.

Greg named a few part-time positions for the kitchen and cash register of a fast food restaurant, plus a delivery driving job that pays \$5 an hour.

"For somebody looking to work four days a week, there's a job looking after animals Thursday through Sunday, paying \$5.50 per hour."

Along with many general labor jobs, Greg also has some career-related jobs he's having a hard time filling.

"Generally, this is a good year for student employment," Mr. Robinson said. "Our jobs are increasing but the number of students registering isn't, although we have an active promotional campaign at the high school."

He invites students to come into the Centre in the Niagara Escarpment Building at Guelph Street and Mountainview Road. It costs you nothing. For more information, call the Centre at 873-1677.

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Against school closure

Lawyer, \$3,000 helps Speyside in fight

Some Speyside Public School parents have hired a Toronto lawyer and are taking steps to get an interim injunction within the next 14 days to stop closure of their rural school.

Speyside resident Jim Sheldon said money is being collected to pay for the court battle and already \$3,000 is in the pot.

Already one public meeting has been held by the Speyside parents and another is planned for Friday night. Mr. Sheldon told The Herald he anticipates Howard Wrigglesworth Public School parents will also be attending this meeting.

Both schools were named for closure this spring by a Consolidation Committee of the Halton Board of Education. Low enrolments and high cost of keeping schools open were blamed on the school closures and reorganization of the schools in north Halton.

Taking on a court battle isn't an expensive endeavour, and Mr. Sheldon said local residents and others are being asked for donations. Membership fees from the



Space walkers

Gilbert Pavia (left) and Darlye Moffat were doing a different kind of moonwalk Saturday. They were two of many walking to raise money for

cystic fibrosis research. Moonwalk 86 was sponsored by the Georgetown Kinsmen Club and Zellers where the walk began and ended 12 miles later.

Cars banned from Hide House area

Neighbors of the Olde Hide House will get some relief from the weekend mobs that clog up their streets and block their driveways with parked cars.

Monday night, councillors passed a resolution banning parking on the west side of Eastern Avenue and on streets adjacent to it.

Coun. Gerald Rennie said despite the aspirations of Halton Hills, no business should contribute to the destruction of a neighborhood.

"A single taxpayer's concern

deserves as much consideration as for any corporation," the councillor said, pointing out area residents have had their neighborhood swamped by weekend visitors over the past four years.

Mayor Russ Miller said he had a meeting set up with the Hide House to discuss the parking problems, among other topics. He said he didn't expect the meeting would resolve the parking problems, noting he's been meeting about this for the past two years.

IN THE HILLS

Jobs in Acton

Acton students take note. The Canada Employment Centre for Students staff will be at the student services office at Acton High School each Tuesday through the lunch hour.

From 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., you can find out what jobs are available and pick up some tips on job searching.

Starting June 17, the Centre will move to the Acton Social Services and Information Centre on Willow Street. Tuesdays, Centre staff will be there in the afternoons with jobs you can apply for.

Quick action

Quick action by an employee at O'Toole's Roadhouse Restaurant in the Georgetown Marketplace helped avert what could have been a more serious incident Sunday night.

Vandals had piled up paper towels in the men's room of the restaurant and started a fire, causing \$1,000 damage.

Employee Chris O'Reilly ran in with a fire extinguisher and put out the blaze before firefighters arrived on the scene.

45th milestone

NORVAL-May 25 the Reverend Canon J.E. Maxwell celebrated the 45th anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. He was the

Elective hospital surgery cancelled

Despite the threatened two day walkout by doctors, patients will be taken care of at the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital, the hospital board chairman says.

Thursday and Friday, the Ontario Medical Association has said its members will again withdraw their services.

What that means is that doctors' offices will be closed and elective surgery cancelled.

The Medical Chief of Staff, Dr. Boys Hodinott, has advised us doctors will be at our hospital to look after patients coming into emergency. People in the hospital will be taken care of, we have been assured of that by Dr. Hodinott," Hospital Board Chairman Ab Tennant told The Herald. "I don't feel that our doctors will let anyone down."

Because doctors won't be in their offices, patients needing drugs or needing the attention of a doctor will have to go to the hospital. Surgery will be curtailed to emergency surgery.

Mr. Tennant said the one day walkout earlier this month by doctors didn't affect patient care at the hospital, and that he expects things to go just as smoothly Thursday and Friday when doctors repeat their walkout.

"I back the doctors to the point they are running their own business. As a businessman, I don't believe in the government taking over my business," Mr. Tennant said. "As far as extra-billing, it doesn't mean a thing to me. The thing in my mind is the government wants to run the doctors' business."

Police praise

There were words of praise for the Halton Regional Police and the town's bylaw enforcement officer for having done a prompt job recently of clearing up the loitering problem in Acton's downtown.

Coun. Gerald Rennie extended his congratulations Monday night, saying that the day after he complained about the loitering, the problem was cleared up.

"Loiterers impede shopping, and discourage shopping with unclean remarks as shoppers go into the stores," Coun. Rennie said.

Bylaw enforcement officer Jack Lusty said that with several summer months still to go, he hopes the downtown Acton streets can stay clear of loiterers.

celebrant at a Service of the Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. which was followed by a public reception in Pinegrove School at 2 p.m.

The reception was attended by an estimated 350 friends and former parishioners. Refreshments were served by ladies of the congregations of St. Stephen's, Hornby, and St. John's Church in Stewarts town.

Hard 'n' soft

If baseball diamonds aren't quite as hard as you would like them to be, the town's recreation director urges you to have patience.

At Monday night's council meeting, Tom Shepard explained that because of past complaints that the diamonds were getting to be like concrete, they were loosened up and new material was put on top of them this year.

McDonald's melt

Sliced cheese on cheeseburgers weren't the only things melting at the Georgetown McDonald's Restaurant Monday night.

Shortly after 9 p.m. a light fixture overheated and the fire department was called. By the time firefighters arrived on the scene the fire had been put out.

something wrong with how boards of education are set up in the province, Mr. Sheldon said. "If we get enough cases going before the courts, maybe somebody in Queen's Park will get the idea," he said.

If the court says no to an interim injunction, Speyside parents have other gunpowder to use. They plan to have a strong lobby of Queen's Park.

As a final note of protest, Mr. Sheldon pointed to how much secrecy surrounded the Consolidation Committee when it was meeting in North Halton. Other school closure committees in Halton like Kildride and Fairview were very public and minutes of their meetings were posted regularly in the school.

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