

Bitter battle over deer hunting rights is over

By ANI PEDIERIAN
Herald Staff

Drawn out and sometimes bitter, the battle between hunters and neighbors of Halton's Agreement Forests came to a close last week with Regional Council's decision to ban all types of hunting year-round on the Coulson Tract.

Nine months in the making, the decision extends the hunting and firearms ban to the rest of Halton's Agreement Forests except for those days the Ministry of Natural Resources conducts a controlled shotgun deer hunt and archery season.

This year, the Ministry's archery season runs from Oct. 20 to Dec. 31, and the shotgun deer hunt is from Nov. 3 to 6, during which time archery is not allowed.

The two-part decision was made with a recorded vote of 17-2 in favor of the hunting ban. Halton Hills Councillors, Rick Bonnette, John McDonald, Marilyn Serjeantson, Pam Sheldon and Mayor Russ Miller all supported the total ban on hunting in the Coulson Tract. It means the Tract is safe for all other recreational uses such as photography, hik-

ing, horseback riding and skiing.

In the 11-8 vote to allow a controlled deer hunt and archery hunting in the rest of the Region's Agreement Forests, Councillors McDonald, Serjeantson and Sheldon voted favorably. Opposed were Coun. Bonnette and Mayor Miller.

The voting followed over five hours of presentations and discussion in council, and was considered to be a compromise between the hunters and forest neighbors.

Chaired by Coun. Sheldon, the task force was set up in January to review the hunting ban laid down by Regional Council last October. Its members included representatives from the hunting fraternity, agriculture and area neighbors.

Last Wednesday's decision came after an earlier amendment to the Region's planning and public works committee meeting was turned down by councillors.

Burlington Coun. Pat McLaughlin put forward the amendment that hunting be allowed from the day after Thanksgiving to the Friday before Christmas Day. He was amending the motion approved at

the planning and public works committee Sept. 24 to allow hunting from Thanksgiving to Dec. 31. The total ban on hunting and firearms in the Coulson Tract was unchanged.

"I feel because of the increasing urbanization of Halton, a publicly owned and maintained land isn't the place for hunting with lethal weapons," Oakville Coun. Peter Arch said in opposition. "I just don't think it's right to invite hunters and hikers and skiers to the same party for 11 weeks."

Mayor Miller said if the other uses aren't compatible with hunting, then they should be eliminated and not the hunting.

"If we don't support 6.2 as amended (Coun. McLaughlin's amendment), we turn our backs on one of our biggest interests, agriculture," Mayor Miller said.

Burlington Coun. Joyce Savoline said Halton isn't wiping out the hunting season for hunting - just in one of the Region's forests. She pointed out farmers are welcome to invite hunters onto their property at any time if they have problems with wildlife destroying their livestock or crops.

Oakville Mayor Bill Perras said the hunting issue is above all a liability issue. He repeated the comment of Coulson Tract neighbor Dennis Taylor that in other recreational activities when you have a "bad apple" they normally only "hurt themselves." Hunting, it's different, for livestock or someone else can be shot by a careless person.

Burlington Mayor Holy Bird wanted a total ban on hunting in all the Agreement Forests. "This is the 20th century. It doesn't make sense to have hunting on those lands," he told council.

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson was concerned about hunting including archery during holiday times, particularly during the Christmas break in the Agreement Forests.

"I can understand that, although that is a time of year that is important to me and I do a lot of hunting," Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters vice-president Rick Margan said. "I'd suggest why not trade it for a couple of weeks in January to replace the Christmas weeks?"

He was one of the 16 individuals making a presentation to council last week before the final vote.

Make sure insurance enough for accidents

Before opening Halton's Agreement Forests up to hunting, Regional councillors were urged to make sure they have enough insurance coverage by a Nassagaweya resident.

Richard Brocklebank was one of 16 delegations appearing before Regional Council last Wednesday on the issue of the hunting ban in the Agreement Forests.

He said it's not clear who is accountable if there are any hunting accidents in the Agreement Forests and asked for clarification.

"I suggest consideration be given to an all-riders policy," Mr. Brocklebank said. The policy should be in the name of Halton Region and contain a clause indemnifying members of Regional Council and the Region's taxpayers for the amount of \$10 million, he said.

Neils Hansen of the Rockwood Trail Riders said it was potentially dangerous to have hunting going on in an area used by the public for other recreational activities.

He claimed three horses had been shot at by trespassing hunters and two of them had to be destroyed as a result.

"The risk of more accidental shootings by irresponsible hunters is too high," Mr. Hansen said.

The Regional solicitor agrees that allowing hunting with firearms in the Agreement Forests while other uses are going on "would be considered an act of reckless disregard for persons in the community."

To allow shotgun hunting on holidays makes it too easy for an accident to occur, as busy times in the forests are during the holidays, Mr. Hansen said.

Bill Trenwith of the Halton Hunters Committee said there are a

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In the hills

Country bazaar

There will be a country bazaar at the Ballinacree United Church Oct. 18 from 1-4 p.m. Featured will be crafts, baking and a meet your neighbor tea.

Sleepy gardens

Georgetown and District Horticultural Society is holding a meeting Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church. The speaker is Bob Hankinson from Dominion Seed House. He will be talking about putting your garden to sleep. All interested are welcome. Refreshments are available.

Kiddie books

"Choosing books for children" will be the topic of a program in the Gallery of the Georgetown Library Oct. 21, 8 p.m. Kathy Lowinger, Executive Director of the Children's Book Centre, and frequent guest reviewer on CBC Morning Side will introduce a variety of Canada's best children's books.

Her visit highlights Public Library Week Oct. 19-25. Refreshments will be served and admission is free. For further information call 877-2681.

Uphill biking

Oct. 19 will be the day for the 2nd Norco Mountain Bike Event held at Glen Eden Ski Area. Glen Eden Ski Area is located within Kelso Conservation Area near Milton.

Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. and racing begins at 10 a.m. Races include uphill sprints 10 a.m., 2 km beginner race 12 noon, 2 km intermediate 1 p.m., and 10 km endurance race 2 p.m. Registration is \$10 and includes all races.

Race prizes include trophies and \$350 in cash vouchers. Draw prizes for all races include albums, cooler bags, hats and more. Awards presentation will follow in the chalet after the races from 3-6 p.m. All ages and abilities welcome.

Special ed.

Special education - how well is it working? The North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded is sponsoring a panel of education experts from Halton's public and Roman Catholic School Boards to consider this question, Oct. 16 at St. Peter's School in Milton.

The forum begins at 7:30 p.m. and continues until 9:30 p.m. For more information call 877-5557.

Panelists include administrative and teaching staff from both school boards. After a brief presentation there will be an open question and answer period.

Talent night tonight

Tickets are available at the Recreation and Parks Department office until 4:30 p.m. and the John Elliott Theatre box office in the Cultural Centre before curtain time. There is a lot of new talent featured in this year's local talent night. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m.

Drug walk

Worldwide statistics show that more than 40 million people use marijuana, eight million use cocaine and five million are heroin addicts. The Drug Abuse Committee is working towards halting these rising numbers.

To show that our community is against the crimes and family upheaval resulting from chemical abuse, a walk is planned for Oct. 18. This should be a family effort, says publicity director Marcella Neely.

No pledges are solicited, but participating is D.A.C. would like to see sports teams in uniform, service clubs in their regalia, schools with their colors, and Chicken Club members with their banners. Everyone can show in their own way that we don't want the vandalism, crime, murder, battered families that abusing drugs and alcohol produces, Mrs. Neely said.

Register at Burger King between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The walk ends at the municipal building on Trafalgar Road. There will be a draw for prizes and a free bus ride back.

Festival capers



Black Sunday written by Jo Hubbard of Brampton will be performed Friday night by the Georgetown Little Theatre as part of Festival Five. The one act drama stars Chris Farrugan, Donald Macrae (left) and Harry Wright. Georgetown Globe Productions, and the Georgetown Choral Society will also be performing when the curtain goes up at 8 p.m. Friday. Tickets are \$6 and are available at the John Elliott Theatre box office and at the Recreation and Parks Department on James Street. For more festival photos, see page B1. For Festival stories, see page B3. (Herald photo)

Craft sale Saturday

Never too early for Christmas shopping

One good way to give homemade gifts as Christmas presents is to buy them at the Arts and Crafts of Georgetown Annual Sale Saturday.

The group which has existed in Georgetown for 44 years is having a sale at the North Halton Golf and Country Club between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Admission is \$1.

In addition to the crafts for sale, six skilled craftsmen will be demonstrating their skills. Pole painting, rug braiding, and basketry

Hair through the ages

Oct. 15 you're invited to a pageant of women's hair and fashions through the ages.

Organized by Scissors in Halton Hills Shopping Plaza, Hair Through the Ages is a fund-raising show for the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital.

The show is at Holy Cross Church auditorium and tickets are \$5. For ticket information call 877-4593 or 877-4802. If there are tickets available they will also be sold at the door. Advance tickets can be bought at Scissors or at the hospital gift shop.

Charlotte Brainerd gives artwork to library Sunday

A collection of artworks by Charlotte Brainerd has been given to the Halton Hills Library Board.

Ms. Brainerd made the bequest of more than 100 works which include prints, paintings, copper plates, drawings and sketches.

A formal presentation of the collection is to take place Sunday as part of the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre's Festival Five celebration and Public Libraries Week.

Everyone is welcome to attend the ceremonies which begin at 1:30 p.m. with the official proclamation by Mayor Russ Miller of Oct. 20-26 as Public Library Week.

Local gallery owner John Somer will present Ms. Brainerd's works to the library, of which some items will be on display.

In the Deed of Gift, Ms. Brainerd states the purpose of the donation is to make the works available as a

resource for educational, artistic and general cultural purposes, and that the public shall be allowed access to them.

Ms. Brainerd, before she moved to British Columbia had a significant retrospective exhibition of many of the donated works displayed in the Cultural Centre gallery.

Mr. Somer, who arranged this exhibition, has for many years featured her works in his own gallery, Gallery House Sol.

Ms. Brainerd's pleasure in the Cultural Centre Gallery and her long association with Georgetown led her to suggest the permanent deposit in Georgetown of her art.

Along with Ms. Brainerd's works, there will be informal displays of several current library activities and projects, and refreshments. Come and help mark this happy occasion.

Three bands set the beat this Friday

Three local bands will be donating their time and energy this Friday in order to support the United Way, Radio City, Tempest and Blue Steele are the three bands who will be performing a benefit concert at Georgetown District High School (GDHS), with all proceeds going to the Halton Hills United Way.

Neil Cotton, a teacher at GDHS, and band manager of Tempest, organized the event "in order to give the bands a concert and to make money for the United Way as well," he said. The concert/dance will be good exposure for all three bands whose music is aimed at high school students.

The ages of the three bands members are varied: Radio City band members are all out of high school, Tempest band members are all Grade 10 students at GDHS, and Blue Steele band members are both in and out of school.

A variety of music will be played throughout the evening, from pop, rock, and blues, they said.

"We're hoping to get a lot of peo-

Jury decides

Acton man is guilty of stabbing neighbor

An Acton man was found guilty of attempted murder by stabbing a 19-year-old woman who lived in the same apartment house.

George Edward Nurse of 200 Churchill Road South will be sentenced Jan. 9, 1987 for the attempted murder of Kim Ellerby. He was found guilty after a three-day trial which ended Oct. 8 in Milton.

Crown prosecutor John Ayre recommended a long penitentiary term. The issue in the case was not whether Mr. Nurse stabbed the victim but whether or not he attempted to kill her, Mr. Ayre said.

A jury of 12 took twenty minutes to decide on a guilty verdict.

On Oct. 1, 1985 at noon Kim Ellerby was stabbed twice in the back and five times in the front, Mr. Ayre said. On that day the accused attempted to drag the victim into his apartment but she escaped, he said. She was chased down the hall and fell, Mr. Ayre said. It was then that she was stabbed seven times by Mr. Nurse. Ms. Ellerby was able to escape once more and the police were called.

The wounds were mainly to Ms. Ellerby's upper torso and were not life-threatening, police said. She was in Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital almost a week before she was released.

Mr. Nurse was 36 when the incident occurred. He had a criminal record dating back to 1971 when he was charged with 13 break and enters and three other criminal charges, Mr. Ayre said. In 1978 he was charged with assault causing bodily harm for choking a woman, Mr. Ayre said.

Bus driver charged with sexual assault

A 46-year-old bus driver employed by the Halton Board of Education has been charged with three counts of sexual assault.

Victims of the alleged assaults were students at Percy Merry Public School in Milton. The bus driver was charged June 19 for incidents reported to have taken place between December 1985 and June 1986.

A trial date has been set for Dec. 3. The principal of the school has been demoted and re-assigned as a result of the incident.

Halton Regional Police were called to investigate and the Children's Aid Society has also been involved in the case, Board chairman Arlene Bruce said.

Autumn sweep

If the brisk weather hasn't been enough of a clue that summer's over, the golden leaves collecting at our feet certainly are. Mike Thier, 18, raked up the leaves Saturday afternoon at his Regan Crescent home. (Herald photo)



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