

Wild river, crazy crews Saturday

Can spring be far behind? Don't be surprised by the whoops and yells, costumed characters, unidentified floating objects and mass pandemonium this Saturday.

It's crazy boat day in Glen Williams and Lions Club organizers are prepared for the onslaught of water-crenched contestants.

The annual river race begins at 12 noon in Cheltenham for the canoes and 1 p.m. at the 10th Line Bridge for the crazy boats. The finish line (for all of the boats who make it) is the Main Street bridge in Glen Williams across from Preston's store.

Race chairman Bob Sullivan said he's looking for a good turnout. Through entry fees and sponsorships, the Lions Club hopes to raise \$10,000 for multiple sclerosis.

The crazy boat race day is probably the only day the Ministry of Natural Resources

would allow such craft as spaceships, houses, cars and airplanes to be floated down the swift currents.

Probably the most interesting entry he's ever seen was a house floated down by a group called the Floating Dutchmen, said Mr. Sullivan.

Pete and Geets of CFNY fame will be on hand again this year to start the boats off.

A dance is being held at the Acton Legion Hall and tickets will be sold at the finish line by Lions Club members. Trophies will be given to the best craft in a variety of categories and they will be presented to the crews at the dance.

The categories are: best homemade boat, best boat with a purchased body, best service club or commercial boat. First place finishers in the canoe race and each of the crazy boat

categories will also receive awards.

There is a possibility the race could be cancelled the day of the race because the river is too high or too fast, said Mr. Sullivan. Cold, blowing winds would also be a factor in deciding to cancel, he said.

Saturday morning at 7 a.m. the race organizers will test the waters and make their decision. Listen to CFNY and other area and Toronto radio stations for information about the race status.

The race used to be held the last weekend in March but two years ago there was about two inches of rain before the race and the normally calm waters were torrential.

In comparison, there was only about 6 inches of water last year, said Mr. Sullivan.

Uniformed police will be at the start to help organizers enforce the no drinking rule for contestants.

Traffic will be restricted in areas and some streets are being made one way to facilitate the flow of emergency vehicles. On Sideroad 22 no parking will be allowed on the river side of the road.

The best idea for spectators is to park at a distance from the race and walk down to the river, said Mr. Sullivan. Some suggested viewing sites are the bridges along the route, behind St. Alban's Anglican Church and the start area.

The start may be more appealing to spectators because not all boats eventually make it down to the finish line.

At the Glen Williams town hall hot and cold drinks will be sold and the Optimist food booth will be set up at the finish. St. John's Ambulance crews will be on site for handling emergencies.

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Five theatre awards for troupes

Globe, GLT cast, crews rated tops by adjudicators

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff

It was a jubilant group of about 60 Georgetowners who returned home Saturday night with five Association of Community Theatres for Central Ontario (ACTCO) awards.

Called THEAs, the awards were won by Georgetown's two amateur theatre groups, Georgetown Little Theatre and Georgetown Globe Productions.

Globe had three wins and six nominations for its staging of the musical Brigadoon. The Little Theatre won two THEAs and had three nominations for Last Real Summer.

"They did better than any other group collectively," Globe's Lois Fraser said proudly of the two Georgetown groups. "It's like the Academy Awards for amateur theatre."

Competing against 13 other musicals, Globe's Brigadoon was a THEA for "best visual presentation", which covers props, costumes, lighting, set and working together.

Peter Richards, who played the comic role of buddy Jeff in the musical, won "best supporting role performance by a male", and Linda Roe, who won her scenic painting of the sets.

In fact, two of the three nominations for sets were from Globe. Mrs. Fraser pointed out. Nominated for set design and construction were George Smart, Alan Wells and Norma Roman of Georgetown.

There was high praise for winner Linda Roe, Adjudicator Chris Covert said her sets were the most beautiful scenic paintings he had seen in amateur or professional theatre, Mrs. Fraser said.

Globe's Brigadoon also won nominations for best musical director (Terry Champ), best performance by female in a leading role (Helen Tolbin who played Fiona), best director of a musical (Joy Lowry), best musical, and best costumes (Carolyn Hooper).

Producer Gerry Andrew was kept on his feet accepting the awards.

Competing against 30 other plays, Georgetown Little Theatre did very well also.

Last Real Summer won "best visual presentation" for its sets, costumes and lighting. Ian Oldaker won for excellence in lighting design.

THEA nominations won by the Little Theatre were for best presentation of a play by a Canadian author, best director (Ron Hunt), best play of 30 plays.

"It was tough, because we were competing against groups that have been around for 25 years or more and who have larger populations to draw their talent from," Mrs. Fraser said. "We've never won anything this big, so we were thrilled with how well we did. We're calling Georgetown the theatre capital of Ontario!"

Best of all, it was nice to see the people who work backstage getting recognition, she said.

"Audiences applaud the cast and give them lots of attention and praise which they deserve, and often the technical people don't get noticed," Mrs. Fraser said. "This night gave the technical people a nice pat on the back."

For the long time volunteer in Georgetown's amateur theatre circle, the awards and nominations proved people don't have to go to Toronto for good entertainment. There's good entertainment right here, Mrs. Fraser said.

While this year's musicals were adjudicated by Chris Covert, the drama productions were adjudicated by Ron Cameron. The awards evening took place at the downtown Toronto Sheraton Centre's main ballroom.



HAPPY ACTORS—The Academy Awards of community theatre were held over the weekend. Seen here are individual winners and representatives of the theatre group awards. Clockwise from bottom left: Linda Roe, who won a special adjudicator's award for scenic painting, Lois Fraser, president of Globe holding the best visual award, David Clifton, president of GLT holding the best set design award, Ian Oldaker, who won excellence in lighting design and Ron Hunt, holding the best visual design award for GLT. Mr. Hunt was also nominated for best director.

Racing to the water trough

Developers are racing to claim the last bit of capacity in the Georgetown sewage plant.

Three months ago I appeared in front of this council questioning allocation of sewage capacity and I was told it will be a horse race to the water hole," Developer Al Pilutti said. "Now that I'm ready to drink, the water hole is dry."

Mr. Pilutti said he's contemplating building 21 units at the end of June in Glen Williams.

Monday night, it appeared that council gave away the last bit of sewage capacity to Lorne Roberts for a 22 unit development on Part Lot 18 Con. 10.

Mr. Pilutti wanted to know if a builder came by wanting to build a home on one lot, he would have to wait for the expansion of the Georgetown sewage plant? If yes, Mr. Pilutti thought it would only be fair if Enterac Property Corporation relinquished some of its sewage allocation.

He noted the William Neilson Company Limited on Guelph Street has a reserve capacity of 375,000 gallons for future expansion.

"If it is so, maybe we should look at that allocation and distribute it. Maybe the Neilson expansion is two or three years away, when the new sewage plant will be in place," Mr. Pilutti suggested.

Administrator-Clerk Joe Simon said the town's planning department has been working with Halton Region on determining what sewage capacity there is at the Georgetown plant. There should be a report in the next two weeks or so, he said.

Report estimates ... for Halton Hills

60,000 population for 2011

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Definitely not recommended for bedtime reading is the latest document on population projections, put out by Halton Region.

Burlington Coun. Joan Little and Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy both felt the same way after reading the blue covered report from the planning and development depart-

ment - sleepy.

Planning Director Rash Mohammed said the report isn't intended for "public consumption" but is a technical document that can be used as data for hearings and planning matters.

For Halton Hills, the report forecasts a population of up to 39,300 in 1991, 43,400 in 1996, 47,600 in 2001, 52,900 in 2006 and 59,900 in 2011.

Those are big changes for a town that hasn't seen much population growth for more than 10 years.

Although all four Regional municipalities experienced rapid growth between 1966 and 1975, numerous economic downturns coupled with sewer and water servicing constraints contributed to a drop in population growth in urban areas in the 1980s.

Whereas in the 1966-70 period Halton Hills made up 15.6 per cent of the Region's population, today it only makes up 13.1 per cent. This is mainly due to the tremendous growth in Oakville, Burlington and Milton.

It's interesting to look back at early forecasts. Back in 1975, Halton's planning department forecast Halton Hills' population would be 50,500 in 1988 and 65,800 in 2001.

The forecast was a little more than generous, as the town's population is still at 35,000. That's because there's been no change in the Halton Hills sewage treatment plant capacities.

Although Halton Hills had the highest birth rate per female population of all the Region back in the late sixties and early seventies, that dropped eventually. During the same time, the town experienced substantial migration, says the Regional report. However, it appears that since 1977, people have been moving out, and births have been an average of 300 per year.

It may be hard to believe, but the predominant age group in Halton Hills is still the 20 to 24 year olds. The next largest age group is the five to 19 year olds. The pattern has remained consistent from the 1971 to 1981 Census.

The Regional report forecasts a significant increase in the over 70 years old population by 2006. The number of seniors is anticipated to go up from 1,300 to 5,300, nearly a 400 per cent increase, it says.

This age group will be increasing significantly in the entire Region, according to the forecast. By 2006, the 70 plus age group will comprise up to 10 per cent or 30,000 people, an increase of over 300 per cent regionally.

Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz said he doesn't use a crystal ball when it comes to forecasting growth for his municipality, but he said he believed the forecasts in the report for Milton's population are too low.

What's going to govern population growth in Milton is water and sewer servicing, Mayor Krantz said.

"I believe there will be services and I believe those forecasts are much much too low," the Mayor said.

The report states population forecasts aren't etched in stone and aren't a science. Rather making forecasts is an art requiring judgment.

"Population is the basis for everything everybody does," Mr. Mohammed said. "Most services the government provides are based on population. If you don't know where you're going, how can you deliver those services?"

Twenty years ago, nobody was able to forecast the rate of divorce and single family households, factors which now make a major impact on government services.

"This is one of the most important reports in terms of your corporate strategy," stressed Mr. Mohammed.

Woodstove fire

Georgetown firefighters were called to a woodstove fire in the attic of a house at Lot 25 Concession 10 at 7:19 March 31.

The flames were extinguished by the occupant before the fire department arrived but the fire caused \$5,000 damaged to the house.

The fire department reported the old wood between the second floor ceiling and the attic caught fire from sparks through the vent of the woodstove.

What's the impact?

"What's the impact on us from the capital forecast point of view? What are the financial implications of this," Coun. Little wanted to know.

"I don't know the answer. We have to report back on that," Mr. Mohammed said.

He said the report can be used to anticipate future needs. For example, it projects growth in the number of elderly in the Region, which creates different demands for housing, schools and planning.

The forecast figures are used by the school boards and the police forces to plan future services. The figures are also used to estimate the generation of waste, so Halton can forecast the lifetime of a landfill and energy from waste projects.



John Perry demonstrates the delicate craft of chocolate Easter Bunny making at Debra's Confection, part of Pine Valley Farm, Pine Valley Farm is making the chocolate bunnies in Georgetown for the first time this year. They moved the operation in from Toronto in the fall. Seven workers are busy 15 to 18

Mock parliament

By BRIAN MacLEOD
Herald Staff

One hundred and twenty-five students from throughout Halton will experience a hands on approach to three burning issues currently being discussed in the federal political arena when they engage in a mock parliament April 10.

Seventeen Georgetown District High School students will join 13 more from North Halton in the mock parliament to be staged at Lester B. Pearson High School in Burlington. The students will attempt to deal with capital punishment, immigration and Canada's participation in NATO.

The idea is the brainchild of GDHS Grade 12 student Charlie Gibbs. He surmised that the original annual mock parliament, which last met 20 years earlier, could be updated and rejuvenated to draw interest from students throughout the region.

The students are currently in the process of forming three political parties which are loosely based on

the three major federal parties. The Dominion Party will introduce a bill calling for the return of capital punishment, the National Party hopes to stabilize immigration and the Co-operative Party is looking to pull out of NATO. Sound familiar? It should.

With the help of GDHS History teacher Verna Linney, Charlie and his co-organizers have researched the issues extensively. They wrote politicians and made numerous phone calls to find out the issues most sensitive to the federal political parties.

But they deliberately changed the name of the parties. "We wanted to take a step back from partisan politics and concentrate on the issues," Charlie said.

Charlie has become well qualified to co-ordinate the program. He was a Staff Assistant at the Forum of Young Canadians in Ottawa on the recent March break and he has attended the forum for the past two years. "I'm very interested in

IN THE HILLS

Costs to govern
Want to know what your mayor and his 12 councillors were paid last year for their services?
The Town Treasurer spilled the beans this week.
Mayor Russ Miller received \$18,851 pay plus another \$2,978 for conferences, seminars, mileage and gas expenses.
Councillors each earned \$7,452. Their extras were all under \$754. In total, your town council cost you \$115,779 last year.

Help us help them
The staff at The Herald newspaper is holding a garage sale in the front parking lot of their building on 45 Guelph Street Saturday.
For the past three years, employees have been sponsoring a minor hockey team by holding a garage sale and by selling pop.
The sale begins at 8 a.m. and will end about 12 noon. Please come out and support us. If you can contribute any articles to the sale, bring them by anytime this week.

Ad deadlines move forward

The Herald is moving its deadlines forward next week so staff may enjoy the Good Friday holiday.

The deadline for classified and display advertising will be Friday April 10 at 5 p.m. Regular news submissions and announcements should also be brought into the paper by 5 p.m. Friday to ensure publication in the following week's edition.

Deadlines for next week's Outlook newspaper for advertising are Tuesday April 14 for display ads and 10 a.m. Wednesday April 15 for classified ads.

Antique show
The Huttonville Lion's Antique and Craft Show and Sale is being held Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Huttonville Community Centre on Embleton Road. Look for the signs.

Students debate NATO, death penalty

The young parliamentarians then head back into a "working caucus meeting" from 12:30 to 2 p.m. during which they will also eat lunch.

From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. parliament reconvenes and second and third readings are given to the three bills.

That crucial second session also includes a question period and a final vote on the three bills.

The finale comes at night when Mr. Rae will address the students after a banquet.

There will be no official winners and losers in the parliament but those who get their bill passed will consider it a form of victory.

"I'm really enthusiastic that it will give students a first hand experience to see what politics is all about. That there's more involved in politics than just a half an hour of question period which is what we see," said Charlie.

Also of advantage to the students, Charlie said, is they will meet other students from Halton Region and share their experiences.

politics. I'm looking at political journalism (as a career)," Charlie said.

The students will also benefit from speeches of some political veterans such as Provincial New Democrat Party leader Bob Rae, Brampton Georgetown MP John McDermaid, and Burlington MPP Cam Jackson, Halton Region Chairman Pete Pomeroy and Halton Board of Education Superintendent of Curriculum Services Pauline Laing will also be on hand for the day's events.

The students won't know who the governing party will be until just a few days before the event. At 9:30 a.m. April 10, after a speech by Mr. McDermaid, the three parties will go into a two hour caucus meeting to thrash out the best way to present their bill. At that time they will also select their party leader (Prime Minister for the governing party) and two ministers or critics. At 11:30 parliament meets for the first time and each party will have 20 minutes to present their bill.