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In the hills

Firefighters use jaws of life

The Georgetown Fire Department responded to four calls over the past week including two grass fires and one serious auto accident. Firefighters extinguished a grass fire Apr. 18 at 11:37 a.m. at Lot 24, Concession 8. There was no damage in the fire. At 11:01 p.m. the same day firefighters were called out to a fire in a barrel but their services were not needed as the occasion turned out to be an impromptu barbecue. The fire department was called at 4:27 p.m. April 19 to a large grass fire at Lot 16, Concession 5. There was no damage in the blaze. At 6:39 a.m. April 20 the fire department was called to the scene of a serious two car collision at the Eighth Line and Fifth Sideroad. The fire department used the Jaws of Life to cut a Georgetown woman free of one of the cars.

Diplomat lunch

The client for Kentners Social Catering Ltd. is moving into the diplomacy arena. A reception was held by Consumer and Commercial Relations Minister Monte Kwinter April 7 for a state minister for the Republic of Turkey. About 20 guests attended the luncheon to discuss the business opportunities between Ontario and Turkey. The meeting was held in the board room of AECL Atomic Energy of Canada Limited in the Sheridan Park Research Area. Among other items, Kentners served smoked salmon, fillet of beef, jumbo shrimps and a variety of salads. For dessert there was a French pastry assortment. AECL is trying to sell a power station to Turkey.

Selling Cottage

The Cedarvale Cottage may be going for sale at the bargain price of \$1. The town's Recreation Director will be looking into selling off the run-down Cottage to the Halton Hills Arts Council with a lease for the property the Cottage is located on.

Councillors gave Tom Sherbergh the go-ahead to negotiate this sale, with the help of the town solicitor, Monday night.

Assault, robbery

Two Georgetown residents have been arrested and charged with break and enter and aggravated assault following an April 11 incident in which a Rexway Drive man was stabbed. Halton Regional Police say a 19-year-old and a 16-year-old male young offender were arrested in Gananoque at approximately 9 p.m. April 14 by the Ontario Provincial Police when they attempted to cross into the United States with a stolen vehicle. Simon DeJong, 39, of 172 Rexway Dr. was stabbed several times in the home early April 11 when he struggled with an intruder in the hallway in the second floor of his residence. An intruder forced open a kitchen window to gain entry and fled through the window after the struggle, police say. A bail hearing was set for April 21.

New ActiVan

A new vehicle is needed to transport the physically handicapped in Halton Hills. Service clubs are being asked to help fund the purchase. The town's operations engineer has been given the go-ahead to get tenders on a new vehicle. Those who helped fund the first ActiVan will be asked for donations. So far, there's not been enough raised to pay for the town's share of a new ActiVan vehicle, or its operating costs. The Ministry of Transportation and Communications also funds the purchase. Fees are \$1 one way and the ActiVan is used to go to work, school, medical appointments, shopping, meetings, visiting friends, or to go anywhere within the Town of Halton Hills.

T.V. auction

From the comfort of your living room you can bid on items as diverse as a pizza or a car while watching the Kinsmen's Third Annual T.V. Auction to raise money for community projects and cystic fibrosis. The Kinsmen auction will be May 4 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Cable 4. Over 120 items will be auctioned off during the evening. The two major items are a Pontiac Grand AM from Georgetown Pontiac Buick having a retail value of \$14,085 and a Bolens riding lawnmower from Outdoor Power Equipment with a retail value of \$3,507. Successful bidders on each item will be entered in a draw for a Hot Point microwave oven worth \$500. The microwave is being donated by Goodlets and will be drawn for at the end of the evening. The items up for sale are for all members of the family, and a list of the items to be auctioned off will be in The Herald April 29. This T.V. auction has proven to be a popular and profitable evening for viewers and profitable for the betterment of the community.

Drill tests begin on Enterac site

Test drilling for water in the Stewarttown and Norval areas is to begin for Enterac Property Corporation.

Today (Wednesday), Halton Region is expected to approve drilling by International Water Supply Limited. The firm was the only one to submit a tender for the test drilling program. The program will see if there's enough groundwater to support growth of Georgetown's population to 80,000.

The drilling will be undertaken on a time and material basis, with a maximum cost of \$180,000 set by the Region. Enterac is to pay for the entire test drilling work program, through a letter of credit the town has received already.

Trow Hydrology Consultants Ltd. was hired by the Region to prepare the tender documents at a cost of \$3,000. The firm is also expected to be retained to administer the test drilling program at \$37,000.

The two phase drilling program will start off with up to eight test wells on road allowances or Enterac land. Should these wells show potential in terms of quality and quantity, then phase two of the program will be carried out.

In phase two, observation wells will verify the hydrogeological conditions and determine how much water the well can supply. Putting in permanent wells or additional test drilling will require further funding by Enterac, Mr. Nunan said.

John Nunan of Trow Hydrology

Consultants Ltd. told the Region's planning and public works committee the reason only one tender came in was because the water well industry is very busy at this time.

"They're not particularly anxious to do this municipal work because they can't make as much money as with test drilling private wells," Mr. Nunan said.

Also, the tender was for the job to be done on a unit price which makes costs uncertain for the contractor. Plus, many said they could not get bonded for this size of job, according to Mr. Nunan.

He said bonding wasn't necessary for this type of work, because the contractor isn't constructing anything, just digging a hole. There aren't risks that aren't covered by insurance, he added.

The format used in Acton for test drilling was followed for Georgetown, Mr. Nunan said.

Regional Engineer George Woodburn said Enterac has been told only one tender came in and the price. If the test drilling results are inconclusive or negative, Mr. Woodburn said it would be reported back to the committee. Likely more drills would be undertaken then.

If there's no water found, then alternative sources will have to be looked into, Mr. Woodburn said, suggesting a link with Peel's water system from Lake Ontario.

"Ultimately, no water, no development," Planning Director Rash Mohammed said plainly.

No date confirmed for doctor's appeal

No date has been set yet for the Ontario Hospital Appeal Board hearing into the revoking of hospital privileges from Dr. Jack Ford.

Appeal Board Committee Officer Joy Franklin told The Herald the case may come up in August or September, unless it's settled before that.

"Oh yeah, they're busy. They have a lot of cases," Mrs. Franklin said of the time lapse between the decision by the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital Board, and the appeal hearing. "The cases are dealt with in sequence of receipt, to be fair."

The appeal board is made up of three lawyers and two medical doctors, and the hearing is open to the public. Mrs. Franklin explained there can be all kinds of reasons why hospital privileges are taken away from doctors, she said.

Meanwhile, a six person delegation is hoping to be allowed to address the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital Board Thursday

night. They want information on why Dr. Ford's hospital privileges have been revoked by the board.

The hospital board was to make a decision on whether to allow the delegation into its in-camera meeting, at a specially called meeting Tuesday evening, as The Herald went to press.

Delegation member Jennifer Alton said two men and two women want to air their concerns with the Hospital Board's decision. The other two delegation members will be observing.

A lot of letter writing has been going on by other doctors and patients of obstetrician Dr. Jack Ford, she said.

"We want to find out why. We want some answers or we want the board decision revoked until the (Ontario Hospital Appeal Board) hearing," Mrs. Alton said. "We want to know the procedure they've (hospital board) gone through and want to be sure they've made their decision carefully."

Open board meetings not popular concept

When it comes to closed door hospital board meetings, Georgetown District Memorial Hospital is not alone.

A Herald survey of neighbouring hospitals found four out of seven also hold board meetings not open to the public. Holding in camera hospital board meetings are: Guelph General Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital (in Guelph), Hamilton Civic Hospitals and Mississauga General Hospital.

Hospital board meetings are open at Milton District Hospital, Peel Memorial Hospital and Queensway Hospital (Etobicoke).

"The public has never been barred as far as I'm aware," Milton District's Executive Director Brian Brady said. "Delegations can be accepted and put on the agenda if they give proper notice."

Milton District's 16 member board includes a citizen appointee by Halton Region, a hospital auxiliary appointee, two medical staff appointees, and the remaining 12 members are elected to the board. Five board members are women.

"It's been discussed off and on, but our board meetings aren't open to the public, not yet," Guelph General's Assistant Executive Director Charles Bowman said. "We do have news releases from the board meetings."

Guelph General has 12 members on its hospital board, and three of them, including the chairman, are women. It has one voting city council representative appointed to the board.

At Guelph's other hospital, St. Joseph's, hospital board meetings are still closed, although there was some question during a recent hospital controversy as to whether the media should be in attendance, board member Jim Murray said. Instead, the board took upon itself to contact the media after each meeting.

Dr. Murray said St. Joseph's has two women members on its 16 per-

son board. The board includes a city council rep, a county council rep, three medical staff reps, and four corporation reps (Sisters of St. Joseph's Hamilton Diocese).

"We've never been asked to open our board meetings," Dr. Murray said. "Delegations haven't asked to come before us."

Although Hamilton Civic Hospitals has its hospital board meetings closed to the public, it does have a public relations director.

"I'm the person supposed to be liaising with the media," the hospitals' director of public relations Peter Hill said.

The 24-member hospital board includes the Mayor of the City of Hamilton, and three Hamilton Westworth Regional councillors. Four board members are women.

"I've been here 8 1/2 years now and have not known of a delegation to come before the board," Mr. Hill said. "I wouldn't think the board would be interested in having 30 to 40 people descending on them and having an audience listening."

He didn't see there would be any objection to three members of a delegation addressing the hospital board.

Mississauga hospital also has closed door board meetings, but it reports semi-annually to council on its meetings, the hospital president's secretary Diane Simpson said. It also makes reports to the Peel District Health Council.

"That's how we keep lines of communication open," Ms. Simpson said.

Although the 21-member board has four women members, it has no political appointees.

Queensway hospital has open board meetings. "Although I don't know of any occasion where they (the public) have attended," the hospital administrator's executive secretary said. Administrator Jack Pennington confirmed this.



Footloose

Tuned in? Georgetown Globe Productions presents Stay Tuned at the Elk's Hall, Norval May 22 through 31. In this cabaret-type show you'll see a number of characters performing, such as these gentlemen (left to right) Vic Dunleavy, Keith Mills, Russel Kallie, David

Cyr, who are swooning for their loved ones. Members of the cast were hard at work last week during a rehearsal. The show itself is a first for Globe. It's a musical variety that depicts a typical day of television broadcasting. (Herald photo)

Townhomes rise 62% in a year

Homeowners in the Georgetown area continue to benefit from a boom in housing.

For townhouse owners, there's a special reason to crack open the champagne—but only if they plan to sell.

A standard townhouse in Georgetown increased in value by 62 per cent in only one year, according to the spring 1987 edition of the Royal LePage Survey of Canadian House Prices.

That tops all other cities and towns surveyed throughout Ontario, not including Toronto and suburbs. A townhouse now costs on average \$115,000 in Georgetown compared to \$71,000 a year ago. A Milton townhouse in comparison would have reaped a 45 per cent increase for the owner. In Guelph townhouses are priced at \$78,000 and have increased by 41 per cent in the last year.

Also showing big gains on the housing market are executive detached two-storey homes. In town a 43 per cent gain was made and the average price was boosted to \$200,000. The only towns able to top that sudden rise are Whitby (58 per cent) and Cobourg (68 per cent). Milton follows closely at 40 per cent.

A detached bungalow in Georgetown is now selling for \$125,000. That's a 35 per cent increase. Of 37 cities and towns in Ontario surveyed, Georgetown again tops the list.

If you're thinking of renting, this might tempt you into becoming a landlord. Georgetown, Milton and Whitby are the only three communities who can command an average rental fee of \$1,000 per month for their detached bungalows.

A standard two-storey home in Georgetown experienced a 30 per cent rise. On average, a home of this type can be purchased for \$190,000. The gains for this type of home haven't been quite as dramatic compared to the other areas and other types of housing. However, Georgetown is still within the top six when it comes to the appreciated cost of standard two-storey homes. There are no figures available for Acton in the survey.

Many families are looking to the outskirts of Toronto for their housing because of the lack of available homes in the Metropolitan area.

The demand is still high but the supply of homes is drying up.

Also, there haven't been many housing starts in Georgetown which has left buyers scurrying to find a dream home before it's snatched up by a competitive bid.

VIA Rail on hot seat

VIA Rail's decision to cut service along the Toronto to London line is bringing politicians and commuter groups together Friday morning in Guelph City Hall.

VIA officials will be put on the hot seat as mayors, members of parliament and commuter groups from Guelph, Halton Hills, Waterloo Region, Brantford, Stratford and St. Mary's ask questions about why rail service is being cut. Coun. Rick Bonnette will be attending on behalf of Halton Hills.

Give residents longer to pay: councillor

Halton Region will consider giving Kingham Road, Acton, residents a break when it comes to paying for sewer work done in 1982 on the townhouses development.

Coun. Rick Bonnette asked the Region to consider giving homeowners 20 years to pay off the money owed instead of the current 10 years at a fixed rate of interest.

Planning and Public Works Committee Chairman Pat McLaughlin said it's really a decision the Region's administration and finance committee should be making, and suggested the finance department do a report on it.

Kingham Road homeowners are being asked to pay \$43 for the sewer repair work undertaken in 1982. The

work was done to solve problems residents were experiencing in the mid-1970s with sewers backing up. The homes were built in 1973.

In 1981, the Kingham Road condominium association petitioned the Region to have the repairs made. The Region debentured the \$109,000 needed for the project from the Ontario Municipal Board, and agreed to pay \$50,000 of it. Residents were to pay the remaining \$59,000.

Court of Revisions meetings in 1984 and recently in February 1987 have been adjourned on the request of the residents. The Court, with three councillors sitting in decision, just decides if residents have been properly billed.

ABOVE THE CROWD

Science students better than rest of province

Grade 13 students in Halton perform better than the provincial average in science, a preliminary report on science education in Halton says.

The Second International Science study, which tests students in various countries and several Canadian Provinces in Grades 5, 9 and 13, found recently that students in Ontario averaged lower than their counterparts in Western Canada.

But the Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (OISE), which is cur-

rently conducting a similar test on Halton students, says the preliminary findings are positive, according to Halton Science Co-ordinator John Pettit.

Tests for Halton Grade 5 and 9 students are scheduled for May and June with results expected in the fall but the initial Grade 13 results are in, said Mr. Pettit.

The preliminary reports show that Halton Grade 13 students "did, on the average, better than Ontario students," Mr. Pettit said.



The Chief

One of the more impressive works at Arctest Inc. lately has been this Indian sculpture by artist Christopher Kerne of Orono, Ontario. The Indian and a deer are being cast in bronze for a buyer in Ottawa. Joe Coultis is seen here applying the finishing touches to the Indian last week. (Herald photo)