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Coyotes are blamed for 2 dog attacks

By RHIAN MacLEOD
Herald Staff

Two dogs in Halton Hills were attacked near their homes by a suspected rabid coyote last week.

One dog was attacked on the Fifth Line in Limehouse at 11 a.m. June 4. The second attack occurred on the Eighth Line south of Georgetown at 10 p.m. June 6, said Halton Animal Control Manager Joe Kirley.

Limehouse Public School sent notices home with students June 5 warning parents about the attack in the Limehouse area on the previous day, secretary Barb Ervin said.

The June 4 attack occurred in the dog owner's back yard, Mr. Kirley said.

Both dogs are in quarantine, Mr. Kirley said.

Dogs which have had rabies shots need only be in quarantine for 90 days while dogs without shots must remain in quarantine for 180 days, Mr. Kirley said.

The coyote responsible for the second attack was captured and sent to the Health of Animals Department in Ottawa to test for rabies, said Mr. Kirley.

"This is the first incident of this type that I've had in 23 years," Mr. Kirley said.

Incidents of coyotes attacking livestock are not uncommon but attacks on domestic animals near a residential area are rare, unless rabies is involved, Mr. Kirley said.

He suspects the same coyote may be responsible for both attacks even though there is a wide distance involved.

Coyotes can travel great distances in relatively short periods of time, Mr. Kirley said.

He could not predict whether more cases of rabies will be reported but he suspects this may be an isolated case. He did say however that coyotes run in packs and the suspected rabid coyote could have come in contact with other wild animals in the area.

"The problem is we're getting a lot more coyotes in the area and they'll get tangling with the foxes and skunks and that's how they pick it (rabies) up," Mr. Kirley said.

"The best thing people can do to be on the safe side is get their pets inoculated," said Mr. Kirley.

He also advised pet owners to keep their dogs and cats indoors at night.

"A lot of times they're not sure if the animal was bitten but if there is any indication that it could have come in contact they'll be quarantined," said Mr. Kirley.



Distinguished Artist - Noted Canadian artist, Jack Reid will attend the opening of an exhibition of his work at the Art Gallery in Georgetown next month. A retrospective of his water-colours, produced over many years, will be on view July 8th-August 22nd at the Cultural Centre gallery. Known throughout Canada and abroad, Reid's paintings hang in galleries and in private and corporate collections from coast to coast. (Photo submitted)

Reid exhibit at gallery

Global television achorman Peter Truman will be opening the exhibit of friend Jack Reid at the Halton Hills cultural centre July 8.

The exhibit of the Brampton-based artist will continue until August 22.

The artist works primarily with watercolours, painting landscapes of Canada and points beyond. Mr. Reid's paintings hang in galleries across Canada. Since he started teaching in 1971 he has taught more than 3,000 people.

Avoid contact with wild animals

The Halton Regional Health Department is urging people to avoid contact with wild animals during the summer months fearing a possibility of exposure to rabies.

Ontario has the highest concentration of rabid animals in North America and residents increase their possibility of exposure to the fatal disease while pursuing outdoor activities, the health department said in a recent press release.

Foxes and skunks are the principal transmitters of the disease. They spread rabies to livestock, dogs, cats and other animals which may, in turn, come in contact with human beings, the Health Department says.

Incidence of diagnosed animal rabies is low in Halton but "there is no room for complacency," the department says.

The health department advises dog and cat owners to have their pets vaccinated against rabies and keep their pets on a leash.

It is also best to avoid any stray cats or dogs or other animals, the Health Department says.

Bicycles don't belong

Bicycles don't belong on sidewalks, Coun. Rick Bonnette told councillors last week.

He said he'd received several phone calls recently complaining about teenagers biking on sidewalks. An elderly lady was recently hurt because of this, Coun. Bonnette said.

"We should look at a bylaw prohibiting bicycles from sidewalks," he said. "When you see 15 and 16 year olds racing up sidewalks, it's a serious thing."

Town administrator-clerk Joe Simon said a bicycle is a vehicle like a car and subject to police enforcement.

TINY DANCERS



The Junior Jazz group were all primed up and ready to go on stage for the Acton School of Dance dress rehearsal June 4. Seen here are (front row, left to right) Kerk, Carlisa Hornick (the row) Kimerlea Williamson and Julie Trudel. (Herald photo)

Scouting awards at annual get-together

The North Halton District Boy Scouts held their annual awards presentations June 4 at the Hillcrest United Church hall. Chairman Elaine Hannah gave the welcome and Regional Commissioner also addressed the audience.

John Olliver and Jean Layman, Assistant District commissioner, presented the following boys with their five Star Awards: Stuart Ginn, Brad Hammond, Kevin Paisley, Todd Naumley, Dale Hewitt, Michael O'Meara, Ryan Telford, David Boer, Stephen Clark, William Harper, Byron Luff, Bruce Ryan, Glen Homans, Greg Taylor, Andrew Ken Bradley MacDonald, Brian Woods, Andrew Pouw and Bradley Socha.

Those from 3rd Acton Receiving their Chief Scout Award were Stephen Atherly, Todd Deforest and Derek Pollitt.

Warrant of Appointments, an award for uniformed leaders who have successfully completed three years service were given to: Walter Noble, Kenneth Paisley, Duane Hickson, Ken Sidebottom, Dale Thibideau, Marg Smith, Mary Walsma, Paul Thompson, Jim Collier, Jim Dodd, Kelly Herbert, Gerda Rasmussen, Barb Taylor and John Stevens.

St. John Ambulance First Aid Certificates were presented to: Brett Auger, Jim Auger, Jason Brown, Robbie Crawford, David Deforest, John Ervin, Andy Fuller, Chris Lee, Ken McElhone, Bryon Milliere, Jim Sale, Marg Smith, John Stevens, Mary Walsma, Lisa Walsma.

Five year pins were presented to Beaver Leader Doug Collins, Cub Leader Jim Dodd and Venturer Leader Peter Valentine plus District Council President Gary Elliott.

Ten year pins and medals went to Scout Leader Brian Stewart, Cub Leader Roy Frost and Andrew

Big Brother is looming: councillor

A Regional staff report that suggests agencies receiving Regional grants be monitored, evaluated, and their budget analysed, is a move toward the "Big Brother" concept.

Burlington Coun. Walter Mulkeiwich made the comparison during last week's Regional Council meeting.

He said he didn't think Halton lacked information when making decisions on who to give grants to, but instead had more information than it could deal with.

The councillor objected to Halton increasing bureaucratic pressure on the small community groups, saying they don't want it and don't need it. He called it "madness" to police agencies who receive "a few bucks."

"Sure, they should be monitored, but let's not kill volunteerism," Coun. Mulkeiwich said.

Burlington Coun. James Grieve said the move was born out of frustration. The Region has only so much money to spend at grants time and is trying to be fair and responsible about it.

"To not support doing this in a logical business-like way is irresponsible," Coun. Grieve said. "It's a tough job."

Coun. Mulkeiwich said it would be doing all the things that give governments a bad name.

"We're doing this to streamline a process that's very difficult for the health and social services committee," Burlington Coun. Joyce Savoline said. "We're not just dealing with volunteers (at the funded agencies). Many of them are well paid staff, getting more pay raises than our Regional staff."

In the hills

50/50 winner

The Georgetown District Memorial Hospital Auxiliary recently held a 50/50 draw and Isobel Weaver was declared the winner. Mrs. Weaver receives \$50 from the May 31 event.

Pioneer booth

Visit the Cancer Society Booth June 20 at Pioneer Days in downtown Georgetown. Beautiful knitted articles and handicrafts will be for sale for that special person. All proceeds go to the Halton Hills Cancer Society.

French book grant

Halton Hills was one of 101 communities to receive grants to increase its collection of French books, magazines and records.

The Georgetown library will receive \$75. It was announced June 2 by The Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.

Post polio meet

A post-polio meeting is being held Monday, June 15, at 7:30 p.m. at Centennial Public School on Delrex Boulevard, Georgetown. For further details call 877-1436. Pat Woode will be guest speaker at this meeting, and everyone is invited to attend.

Fashion grad

Kirsten Mogg received her Bachelor of Applied Arts in Fashion Merchandising from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute June 10. The former graduate of Georgetown District High School is a resident of 40 Regan Crescent. She is considering a publishing career in advertising and/or publishing.



Church garage sale

Members of Acton Baptist Church are holding a fund-raising garage sale June 13 at the church. The sale will run from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. There will be a wide variety of items at rock bottom prices.

Artist visits

A well-known local artist will be at the Georgetown Main Street store Pictures and Presents June 12.

Carole Black, dressed in a 19th century costume will be signing a new poster edition she has released.

Some of her originals will also be displayed, along with many of her limited edition prints, including some sold out pieces. The public is invited to drop in for a visit and refreshments.

Lower Lake levels

An official with Canada Packers has assured Halton Hills Mayor Huss Miller that water levels at Fairy Lake will be brought back to their original level.

Last week, the mayor said he had received several calls from concerned citizens about the water level at Acton's Fairy Lake being the lowest it has ever been. The water is down about two feet from its normal level.

Mayor Miller said he met earlier this spring, when the lake was still frozen, with a Mr. Kenzie of Canada Packers. Mr. Kenzie assured him the water level would be brought back up when the lake thawed. The Mayor has sent him a letter to remind him of his commitment.

"I hope Canada Packers does keep its word," Coun. Rick Bonnette said. He said the lake has a lot of dead fish floating in it because of a lack of oxygen, and warned the lake could easily become stagnant and start to smell.

Y day camps ready to roll

Summer is just around the corner, and the YMCA day camp staff has been hard at work preparing for one of the best summers ever, says Claudette Smith, the YMCA regional manager.

The Y offers a variety of camps from which to choose for children in the Halton Hills region: sports, riding, computer, creative arts, and outdoor adventure camps.

Not only do the children thoroughly enjoy themselves, but they experience a sense of independence, fair play and respect for others.

They are currently job opportunities still available for day camp counsellors. If you enjoy working with children, 6-16, and are older than 16 yourself; have camping skills and enjoy a relaxed fun atmosphere; then becoming a part of the YMCA day camps may be just for you.

For more information on either being a camper or a counsellor, call the Y at 877-6163 or 853-1070.

Indian rendezvous at Crawford

Crawford Lake Indian Village and Conservation Centre is holding two special events to celebrate its spring season for families and visitors of all ages.

On Saturday, June 13 and Sunday, June 14, there will be an 18th Century Rendezvous, complete with costumes, tents and role playing by the Burlington Blackpowder Group. From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., visitors are welcome to wander through the enactment and perhaps barter for handmade wares. There will also be tomahawk and knife throwing demonstrations, announced by a cannon blast.

The ripening of strawberries marks the beginning of a beautiful summer. On Sunday, June 21, a Strawberry Festival will be held from 12:30-4:00 p.m. This event will offer several activities including: a longhouse tour in the Indian Village at 12:30 p.m.; a guided walk focus-

ing on medicinal and edible plants at 1:00 p.m.; the planting of the 'Three Sisters' - corn, beans and squash (find out more about native menus); pottery workshop or native games at 2:30 p.m. and a film at 3:30 p.m. There will also be fresh strawberries and other strawberry edibles available from the concession stand in the Conservation Centre.

Crawford Lake Indian Village and Conservation Centre is the site of an Iroquoian Indian Village where native people once lived at Crawford Lake. An 84' longhouse has been reconstructed on the exact location where a longhouse once existed in the 1400's. There is also a Conservation Centre where visitors can learn more about the native way of life and a boardwalk, accessible to strollers and wheel chairs, that surrounds scenic Crawford Lake. During the summer, more development

will be started in the Indian Village.

Two more longhouses will be reconstructed - one depicting an archaeology demonstration and the other showing the structure of a longhouse. There will be a trail system and wheel chairs, plus various exhibit areas demonstrating pottery making, food preparation, tanning and tool making. Archaeologists will also be excavating new areas of the Indian Village and demonstrating their techniques in shovel-shining, troweling, mapping, flotation and recording the information. Archaeologists will be on hand until the end of August from Sunday to Thursday. Crawford Lake is located 5 km south of Hwy 401 at the corner of Guelph Line and Steeles Ave. For more information, call the Halton Region Conservation Authority at 356-1158 (weekdays) or Crawford Lake at 854-0234 (weekends).



Library birthday

The Acton Library celebrated its 20th anniversary on Saturday with local dignitaries including Halton Hills Mayor Huss Miller and the original librarian Isobel Watson at the ceremonies. The Acton Citizens Band returned to the scene where it had played 20 years earlier at the opening of the new library building. Catherine Yestadi, the current Acton Branch Read, said the library was built as a Centennial project which opened on June 3, 1967. (Herald photo)