

Outlook on Halton Hills

Post office waiting game with strike talks deadlock

By MARY-LIZ SHAW
Herald Staff

The Georgetown Post Office is waiting for news of a national rotating strike of letter carriers to hit this area.

Georgetown and Acton are part of the Toronto area York Division which some have suggested will suffer the greatest stalls if the National Letter Carriers Union decides to stop the mail.

"I suppose if the Toronto Area goes on strike all mail across the country will be affected in some way," said Canada Post senior official Edward Roworth. He assured The Herald that the post office has "contingency plans" for replacement workers to keep the mail moving.

Ron Ritchie, President of Local 154 of the Letter Carriers Union in

Georgetown said he is waiting for directions from the national office. He could not say when or for how long a strike could be launched.

"We're really just playing it by ear," Mr. Ritchie said. "I'm not hoping for any strike—if it happens, it happens."

Mr. Ritchie said he feels it is wrong for Canada Post to use non-union workers in principle but he could not confirm whether some would be used to replace the 23 union members in Georgetown. The York Division includes Oakville, Port Hope, Richmond Hill, Toronto, Acton and Georgetown.

Volumes of mail have gone down, Mr. Ritchie said. But since the mail usually drops off this time of year, he could not say how much is due to the threat of an impending strike. "People don't want to get their mail

trapped, but I don't know how many have stopped using the system," Mr. Ritchie said.

Mr. Ritchie added that if a strike is called all members of Georgetown's Local will be picketing. But, the union may be asked to picket in front of a Toronto office.

There is no guaranteed union workers will be walking outside the Georgetown office on Maple Avenue, he said.

Mr. Roworth said officials in the post office "are keeping their fingers crossed" with the hope that an all-out strike may be averted.

"They're still talking," he said. "I assume that while that is going on they still have something to talk about."

Host some grand illusions

Grand illusions, a big cat and a sprinkling of humour will be featured at what should be a big fundraiser for charity.

Canadian illusionist Claude Haggerty, who's touring illusion show is one of the largest in Canada will be lending his talents to organizations in order to raise funds for charity.

Mr. Haggerty has been a professional Magician for five years now but was first attracted to magic at age 12. Self-taught, Mr. Haggerty specializes in Shopping Centres at a rate of 300 shows per year.

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Don't miss Pioneer Days

Lots to do and see

By MARY-LIZ SHAW
Herald Staff

Sales, comedy theatre, contests and local bands are just some of the events scheduled for Pioneer Days on Main Street this weekend.

Organizer Margaret Vint is anticipating large crowds to come to the annual three-day event, originally introduced to bolster Georgetown's downtown core.

Ms. Vint noted some activities have proved so popular in the past, they will be back this year for an encore. One of those is Dr. Bandoli's Travelling Goodtime Show, a comedy troupe scheduled for Saturday.

Dr. Bandoli's special brand of humor is for children of all ages and the troupe encourages audience participation.

The doctor will be appearing with Picasso the Clown, a face-painter, Sergeant Paul Hall of the U.S. Marine Corps, Melodie the Musical Clown, and Gorgeous George the Gorilla.

The event officially opens at 7 p.m. Thursday with a parade by the Georgetown Girl's Pipe Band. On Friday evening The Pine Valley Square Dancers will be performing and later, musical entertainment will be provided by Neil Cotton and the Raquetteers.

Among the activities scheduled for Saturday are the Pioneer Day Duck Draw, with a hand-crafted duck by Ruth Samson, a pancake breakfast sponsored by the Lions Club, the Women's Institutes' bake sale, and Pioneer Day awards to a senior citizen and a baby, sponsored by the Herald and Penniesworth.

Shoppers can also browse though the Cancer Society's craft sale or admire Jack Layton's model steam engines and rope-making skills.

On Saturday night a new local

band Sound Investment will perform '60s and '70' rock and roll for street dances.

Throughout the weekend, all shops in the downtown core will participate in a giant sidewalk sale and a licensed patio garden will provide refreshments after noon every day. The Cellar Restaurant will hold a barbeque on Saturday and the Centennial Alumni Choir is also slated to give a performance.

CORRECTION

The phones have been hot with steamy callers wondering about a Herald story on memberships to the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital corporation.

The Herald's figures were wrong. An article on the front page of Wednesday's newspaper said May 25 was the last date to obtain annual memberships. However, May 26 was the actual closing day, allowing members to attend and vote at the June 25 annual general meeting of the hospital board of directors. Hospital bylaws state that memberships can be purchased 30 days before the annual meeting. However, life memberships, costing \$50, can be purchased up until the day of the annual general meeting.

The Herald apologizes for the error.

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