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# the HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Established 1866

HALTON HILLS, ONTARIO

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It's Worth the Drive to Acton!

## In the hills

### Minor fires end off '87

The fire department ended the old year answering a number of resuscitation calls and attending to a new minor fires.

At 4:15 p.m. Dec. 28 three fire trucks sped to 301 Main St. N. in Acton to investigate a chimney fire. The 16 firefighters had no difficulty putting out a chimney fire which caused no damage.

Firefighters investigated a reported house fire Dec. 28 at 10:29 a.m. at the Lot 1, Concession 6 in Erin Township. Fireplace ashes, which had been placed in a plastic bucket in the basement, ignited creating a lot of smoke but no damage.

Firefighters rushed to the Fifth Line south of Highway 7 at Nassagaweya Dec. 28 at 10:43 a.m. to investigate in activated alarm. On their arrival firefighters discovered nothing.

The fire department tended to a resuscitation call Dec. 28 at 12:03 p.m. at 12 St. Alban's Dr. in Acton. Firefighters administered oxygen to an elderly man who was then taken to hospital by ambulance.

Dec. 30 at 10:29 p.m. firefighters responded to a resuscitation call on Mill Street West in Acton. A male epileptic patient fell on a glass bottle and received minor cuts. The ambulance arrived on the scene shortly after the fire department and the gentleman was taken to hospital.

### Family focus

A six-part film series featuring Dr. James Dobson will begin at Holy Cross Church Jan. 11 at 8 p.m. It will continue each Monday for six consecutive weeks.

In this series Dr. Dobson helps families tackle the problems of living (and loving) together. There's help for every age - from understanding toddlers, to dealing with teens, to growing old together. There will be no charge. Donations will be accepted to help defray the cost of film rental.

### Stop smoking

The Halton Lung Association will be running Smoking Cessation Programmes in early January. If you'd like to stop smoking in 1988, call 632-8499 for information and registration.

### Hearing continues

Dr. Jack Ford's hearing before the Ontario Hospital Appeals Board resumes Jan. 11 at 9:30 a.m.

Five days have been set aside for the doctor's appeal.

Jan. 11, 12 and 13 the hearings will be held at the Queenston Room in MacDonald Block at Queen's Park.

Jan. 14 the participants will move next door to the Niagara Room in MacDonald Block.

If the hearings go a fifth day they will move to the Chelsea Inn on Gerrard Street in Toronto.

MacDonald Block is located on the corner of Bay and Wellesley Streets in Toronto.

### \$1300 benefit

The Ralph Urse Memorial Fund was the recipient of \$1,300 raised in a special benefit performance of Georgetown Little Theatre's play "Catch Me If You Can".

The \$1,300 raised for the Ralph Urse Memorial Fund will be used to present entertainment in Ralph's name at a brunch at the theatre gallery annually. Hazel Gorin, Marty Hughes and Lois Fraser sold the most tickets.

Georgetown Little Theatre regularly supports local organizations and charities by presenting preview performances of their plays. Georgetown Little Theatre's next play in February, "A Pack Of Lies", will include a performance benefitting The Hospice Association, while the April play will benefit North Halton Women's Place.

### Free trade

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Honorable Barbara McDougall Jan. 18. Ms. McDougall is a Senior Cabinet Minister in the Federal Government and her talk will be on free trade.

Opponents of the deal say the government has given away the store while proponents are quick to point out that this deal will secure our economic prosperity.

The government has said the deal insures access to the U.S. market, improves access to the U.S., presents new opportunities for trade in many sectors.

Some companies in Georgetown will prosper under this deal while others will find increased competition from U.S. industries.

Judge for yourself and attend Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. at Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre. Tickets are \$5. Call the Chamber Office at 877-7119. Ms. McDougall will give a prepared speech followed by questions from the audience.

## Study will look at Georgetown seniors' complex

By BRIAN MacLEOD  
Herald Staff

The town's Seniors Advisory Committee will study the feasibility of building a seniors complex in Halton Hills.

Lew Ward, a local senior, had pushed for the complex when he gave an impassioned plea for action at an Oct. 5 council meeting.

Mr. Ward would like to see a complex designed specifically for seniors along the same lines as a building in Simcoe. That facility is a closed-down factory which has been refurbished to provide space for a variety of activities for seniors.

Mr. Ward reiterated his pleas for town help at a Dec. 9 meeting of the Seniors Advisory Committee. The committee passed a motion

calling for a feasibility study of such a complex in Halton Hills, said Chairman John McDonald.

Council must give its approval for the study at the Jan. 11 meeting.

Right now, 7.5 per cent of the population in Halton Hills are senior citizens. By the year 2001, that figure will increase to 12 per cent, said Mr. McDonald.

By the year 2020, the baby boomers will hit senior age and "it's going to be almost scary," he said.

The emphasis on the study will be "from, for and by the seniors themselves," he said. The town plans to ask local seniors what type of recreational facility they would like to see in Halton Hills.

The town is currently trying to lease Howard Wrigglesworth Public School from the Halton Board of

Education for use by several groups in Georgetown, including seniors.

But legal wrangles have prevented the Board from renting the facility to the town so far, said Recreation Director Tom Shepard.

If the town manages to lease the facility from the Board then the school would be sublet to the YMCA and then "sub-sublet" to local groups and organizations for use as committee and meeting rooms, said Mr. Shepard.

But that idea is not entirely compatible with what Mr. Ward has in mind.

"It's grand what these people have done over a period of a few years," said Mr. Ward, of the Simcoe facility.

He toured the Simcoe Seniors Centre a week before the December

meeting.

Mr. Ward wants to set the wheels in motion setting up a seniors complex rather than wait for a building.

He wants to get the "people side" organized.

But he doesn't think a separate senior's community centre is a likely prospect for Georgetown in the near future. "Right now, I'm at the doubtful stage," he said.

Mr. Shepard acknowledged the Wrigglesworth School proposal would not match the scheme proposed by Mr. Ward.

Mr. Shepard doesn't oppose the idea of a separate seniors complex but he said it's "not something I'm pursuing".

Halton's Co-ordinator of Elderly Services Val O'Hara, who was at the Dec. 9 meeting, said the Halton Hills

population can sustain a seniors centre but it depends on how active the seniors population is in a particular area.

In order to qualify for provincial assistance, the town must agree to pay 20 per cent of the operating costs, said Ms. O'Hara.

A similar survey conducted in Milton showed "loud and clear" that seniors wanted their own complex, Ms. O'Hara said.

Milton has now approved funding for a seniors centre in a refurbished Legion building, she said.

Mr. McDonald has high hopes for the survey, but he cautioned against counting on a separate seniors complex.

"Whatever we do, it has to be practical," he said.

## New Year's revellers count down last seconds

Rosey-cheeked revellers counted down the seconds in Halton Hills in both Acton and Georgetown during New Year's Eve celebrations.

In Georgetown, there was a definite Scottish flavor to the evening, as Georgetown Girls Pipe Band Major Virginia Hulme played for the crowds.

Pipe band members were the 1987 citizens of the year in Georgetown, as selected by the Lions service club. Ms. Hulme, dressed in her colorful tartan kilts, piped out the tune of Auld Lang Syne while an estimated crowd of over 200 sang along.

"Everyone crossed hands and sang," said Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson, who was inside Knox Presbyterian Church on Main Street ringing the bell. She said she wasn't sure if anyone heard the bell because the bagpipes were playing down the minutes at the same time outside the church.

In other years, hundreds of balloons were let go out of a huge net, but this year, something different was tried. Everyone was given a balloon on a string and participants let the helium-filled spheres escape at midnight.

There were a lot of families who attended the Georgetown event, said Coun. Serjeantson. Hot chocolate was given to the people who braved the cold to join others in the New Year's Eve celebration.

The next day, the Mayor's New Year Levee was staged, featuring the entertainment of an upbeat group of musicians playing jazzy dance music.

Members of the band are Lou Darcy, and the Emmans family featuring grandfather Charlie on the horn, son Peter on the piano and grandson Craig Grant on the drums. Mr. Darcy played double bass and also the piano.

"The group certainly added a lot to it (the Levee)," said Coun. Serjeantson.

A draw was held for a Shirley Deaville print, with the proceeds going to the youth drop-in centre Open Door. Town staff members from the library and recreation department baked some special goodies for the guests who ventured out to say hello to Mayor Russ Miller and other members of town council.

The Open Door draw was won by Craig Smith of Brampton who took home the Shirley Deaville print donated by Al Marah Studios.

There was a steady stream of people at the New Year's Levee, said Coun. Serjeantson. Rev. Peter Barrow conducted the introductions in lieu of the town clerk.

A 50th anniversary plaque was given to a couple living on Fagan Drive. Lorne and Rose Geddes were quietly honored at the gathering with a certificate from the provincial government.



Baby Tony Nicholas Turnhout was a wee bit early, but at the same time a wee bit later when he was born Jan. 2, 11:27 p.m. at Georgetown District Memorial Hospital. The 8 lbs., 2 ozs. infant came a week earlier than expected, although he didn't make it for the first day of 1988. Tony Jr. is the first child of Jean and Tony of Terra Cotta. The baby's second name is given for his great grandfather back in Holland. (Herald photo)

## Multi-use Y centre proposed

The YMCA's quest to turn Howard Wrigglesworth school into a community services centre could be a reality by March.

YMCA Regional Manager Claudette Smith said negotiations between the town and the Halton Board of Education appear to be positive and she hopes to secure a lease by mid-February and start renovations in March.

The YMCA asked the town to negotiate the lease from the Board of Education because legal details give the town first crack at a lease, said Ms. Smith.

The school will need between \$120,000 and \$150,000 in renovations, she said.

The YMCA would pay for those renovations then recover the costs in rent paid by subletting space to various agencies in town, she said.

The YMCA would also ask Halton Region and the province for money to complete the renovations, she said.

The YMCA would likely give up its lease at St. Andrew's United Church on Mountainview Road and move into the school.

space for children, youths and seniors, said Ms. Smith.

A day-care centre could operate at the school as well as the pre-school drop-in centre and a toy library, she said.

The Open Door youth drop-in centre is also interested in moving into the school and several seniors groups have toured the building and are pleased with the facilities, said Ms. Smith.

The Association for the Developmentally Handicapped and the Children's Assessment and treatment centre are also interested in moving into Wrigglesworth School, she said.

The YMCA would operate the school as a break-even operation, said Ms. Smith.

"We view it as a real investment in the community that will allow the YMCA and other agencies to improve programs and offer more," she said.

A space at one end of the building would be designated as a senior's community centre, space or seniors would include a large "program" room, a kitchen area and a drop-in lounge area, said Ms. Smith.

## Dignitaries ponder their resolutions

By CHERYL MOODER  
Herald Staff

'Tis the time of year not only for good cheer but for many Halton Hills residents to promise to lose weight, stop smoking or exercise more. And as the last page is lifted from the 1987 calendar many councillors have made their own New Year's resolutions.

For herself, Regional Councillor Pam Sheldon resolves "to read at least one book per month for purely entertainment value." With all the reading Ms. Sheldon does for council she finds she has little time for relaxation reading.

Ms. Sheldon foresees a lot of important issues which council needs

to tackle in the new year.

"I would like to divert more funds into the transportation sector of the budget," she said. She would like to see more monies used for town road maintenance and capital projects.

Regional Councillor Richard Bonnette has never made New Year's resolutions ever since he was a kid. "I do not believe in making them because I will end up breaking them anyway," he said.

Personally, Regional Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson said, "I have to lose some weight." In the council end of things Ms. Serjeantson wants to do a good job, keep on top of things and make sure she is personally satisfied with the work she is doing.

The president of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, Murray Lawton, has not made any personal New Year's resolutions. For the Chamber though, the BIG celebrations will be going on this year, and Mr. Lawton said the tourism office will be set up and completed.

Area Councillor Joe Hewitt has not made any extremely, fabulous or fantastically exciting New Year's resolutions, but he said, "I want to read a couple more books I never had the chance to read last year and vowed to read this year."

As well the councillor wants to get back into shape by losing a little weight, playing squash a little more and perhaps getting in a little more

skiing, he said.

In the political field, Mr. Hewitt wants to get the province to move on a comprehensive garbage plan. "I would like to see council work more as a unit," he said. Instead of attacking ideas, Mr. Hewitt would like to see everybody building on them.

Personally, area Councillor Gerald Rennie would like to do more reading and writing in the new year. Apart from that, he said, "I have not made any great and wonderful resolutions."

Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermid wishes for peace in the world. "I shutter every night to see what is going on in Lebanon, Israel,

Continued on page A7

## Curwood Packaging strike could be long one

Workers at Curwood Packaging Ltd. are still walking the picket lines and there appears to be no early end to the nine-day-old strike.

Over 100 workers of the Graphic Communications International Union Local 500 walked off the job Dec. 29 after talks failed Dec. 21.

"People (employees) are frustrated and they also feel very strong," said Local 500 President Mike Zajac.

Workers are asking for increased wages, better benefits, increased shift premiums and no expanded continental work week.

This is the first strike at the Curwood plant, said Curwood President Barry Kedwell.

He is currently attempting to reach the conciliator to discuss the company's next move in the dispute.

Meanwhile the union is standing firm with no plans to contact management to set a date to get back to the bargaining table, said Mr. Zajac.

Mr. Kedwell said he felt there was progress made at the Dec. 21 meeting, but Mr. Zajac said earlier that meeting produced no progress whatsoever.

Mr. Kedwell declined to talk about the union's demands, reiterating his stance that "we are not going to negotiate through the media."

He said it is "very difficult to say" if the strike could be settled within the next week.

Local 500 is negotiating its first contract since gaining certification in April.

The certification process spawned a number of complaints which the union has before the Ontario Labor Relations Board.

Mr. Kedwell said management had also lodged a complaint against the union but the complaint was "overruled."



Striking workers outside Curwood Packaging Ltd. on Armstrong Avenue gathered around a fire to keep warm in the freezing temperatures Jan. 4. The Graphic Communications International Union went on strike Dec. 29. About 115 workers are demanding more money, better

benefits, higher shift premiums and no continental work week. Keeping the fire going is Dave Veitch, Kevin Rice, Scott Sutor (facing away from the wind), Al Hachey, Jim McInven and Mike Ruslan. (Herald photo)