



Foamy fallout

Firemen sprayed hundreds of gallons of fire resistant foam on the leaking Naphtha Petroleum truck at Park Thermal Ltd. on Todd Road early Thursday. Workers spent 12 hours cleaning up the spill which Deputy Fire

Chief Bob Hyde termed the "biggest we've had in Georgetown." Halton's Emergency Spills response team was on hand to help clean up the combustible fluid. (Herald photo)

Six awarded by Halton safety group

Six residents of Halton Hills were honored by the Halton Safety Council for their heroic efforts and service to safety.

Barry Page, Gerald Wilcox, Douglas Andrews, Andrew Kavanagh, Andrew Jackman and Keith Sim each received awards at a banquet held in their honor in Oakville.

Douglas Andrews is a volunteer firefighter from Acton who awoke June 18 to the screams of a female in distress. He ran outside and saw heavy smoke coming from his neighbor's house. A woman was leaning out of her second storey window with a baby in her arms.

As his wife summoned the fire department, Mr. Andrews convinced the woman to drop the baby down to him and passed the baby to his wife. He then retrieved a ladder and climbed to the window and rescued the woman. Mr. Andrews then learned of yet another victim asleep in the basement, but, despite his attempt, was unable to effect a rescue because of the advance stages of the fire.



Douglas Andrews

Barry Page was recognized posthumously for his work with the safety council as a committee member. Mr. Page, 57, suffered a heart attack in September while on holidays in the Dominican Republic.

Mr. Page was a faithful committee member who rarely missed meetings. His constant presence lent continuity to committee projects, said Mayor Russ Miller.

Andrew Kavanagh, Andrew Jackman and Keith Sim helped to save the life of a man found asleep in his basement on Academy Road in Acton last August 27.

A grease fire broke out on the main floor in the kitchen. Glen Gordon was carried to safety just as the smoke had begun to enter the basement area. Andrew Jackman extinguished the flames with a portable extinguisher. Along with Keith Sim, the other men, Andrew Kavanagh and Andrew Jackman, carried the resident to safety.

Gerard Wilcox was recognized for his 30 years of service to the Georgetown volunteer ambulance.

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'Tough financial year'

\$38 increase in town tax bill

By BRIAN MacLEOD
Herald Staff

Taxpayers who live in the urban areas of Halton Hills will pay \$38 more for their municipal bill in 1988.

Rural taxpayers who don't have to bear the financial burden of street lighting, child crossing patrols and garbage collection and disposal will only pay about \$26 more on their tax bill this year.

The town passed a \$12.3 million budget containing a 7.9 per cent increase over last year on Monday.

The budget includes more than \$5 million for capital projects for the town, the Conservation Authority and the Hydro Commission.

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority projects to be done in Halton Hills this year require sup-

plements of just under \$600,000 from the town.

The Halton Hills Hydro Commission wants to sell its building in Georgetown and consolidate its operation in Acton. To do that they need to borrow almost \$1.8 million from the town to upgrade the building in Acton. The Hydro Commission will repay that debt.

The remaining capital projects for general administration, transportation services, the fire department, recreation and cultural services and the library will cost a total of \$2.5 million.

The \$12.3 million budget includes more than \$1.1 million for urban services, almost \$7,000 for street lighting in Esqueping and some

\$71,000 the town collects in taxes for the Business Improvement Area.

The 7.9 per cent increase in the 1988 budget translates into a \$1.2 million increase.

To the taxpayer in Halton Hills, that means those who live in the urban service area will pay \$42 for municipal taxes this year.

In the rural area, Ward 2, the tax bill will be lower at \$349.

While the inflation rate in the Toronto area is running at just under five per cent, Town Treasurer Ray King has had to deal with a one per cent assessment growth and a two per cent increase in provincial grants this year.

While attempting to keep the increase under eight per cent, the town had to pay \$474,000 to finance the new Civic Centre.

The town is also hiring two fire prevention officers, a public works foreman, a development technician, a custodian-handyman and converting a part-time secretary to a permanent job. All those new jobs will cost the town almost \$74,000.

Nothing was cut out of the capital budget proposed by the town's budget committee early in March.

Councillors passed the budget after a few remarks by Budget Chairman John McDonald. "1988 was a very, very tough financial year," said Coun. McDonald.

Attempts to keep the budget increase low while financing the civic centre and hiring new employees proved difficult, he said.

The town has also "sent a clear message" to service and fundraising groups to "not rely so heavily on the municipal taxpayers" this year, said Coun. McDonald.

Scrum over field use ends in compromise

The North Halton Rugby Club will not be able to use the soccer parks at Cedarvale or Gordon Alcott Arena to play their home regular season games.

A request by Rugby Club President Sandy McKenzie to use the fields for eight home Saturday games and for one doubleheader against a club from Tomporidge, England on Aug. 24 was denied by council Monday.

The rugby club offered to pay the \$700 cost to move the composite posts (to allow soccer and rugby on the same field) from a field beside Neilson's to one of the two lighted parks in Georgetown.

The club also offered to mark the lines on the two parks.

Mr. McKenzie said the rugby club would move back to the Acton High School field, where it currently plays, if the weather was bad to avoid damaging either Cedarvale or Alcott fields.

None of the other fields in Halton Hills are suitable for rugby either because of their size or dilapidated condition and the Georgetown High School field has been made too dangerous for rugby because of the addition of a broad jump pit close to the sidelines, he said.

Soccer groups are vehemently opposed to rugby on the fields. "I think we could work with the soccer groups but they won't work with us at all," said Mr. McKenzie.

Georgetown Soccer Club President Dave Maloney said he has a 200-name petition opposing rugby on Cedarvale field.

He said volunteers are threatening to abandon soccer if rugby is played on the fields.

"I was angry when I heard about this," he said. Soccer has restricted play to four days a week on the fields, one less than last year, to allow rejuvenation of the fields in between games, said Mr. Maloney.

If rugby moves onto one of the fields, flag football wouldn't be far behind, he said.

The rugby club maintains the Acton field is not suitable for rugby and there are no change rooms or lights available for their games.

Mr. Maloney said the rugby club is

using the field at Wrigglesworth School for their practices without a permit.

"Kids are people too," said Mr. Maloney.

"In this society... it's all yuppie stuff. All the small groups want their own thing."

"But not at the expense of the kids," he added.

Minor soccer has over 800 girls and boys registered, he said.

Rugby has about 150 men playing, Mr. McKenzie said.

Inter-County Soccer President Alex Tough said Alcott and Cedarvale fields are the only two good soccer fields left in Halton Hills.

He feels rugby will destroy them.

Mr. Tough said the soccer club no longer invites touring clubs from other countries to play at Cedarvale. If a touring club visits, Georgetown plays them in another community, he said.

A report by Town Recreation Director Tom Shepard is also strongly against playing rugby at either of the two fields.

Rugby would "set back all that we have tried to accomplish over the years by restricting soccer use (and) denying other groups' requests to use it," said Mr. Shepard.

Councillors denied the request for regular season home games but they instructed Mr. Shepard to report back on the possibility of allowing the doubleheader on Aug. 24.

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