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HALTON HILLS, ONTARIO

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 the olde Hide House
 It's Worth the Drive to Acton!

In The Hills

Sunday shop talk

The town wants to find out what Halton Hills residents think about Sunday shopping.
 At the urging of Councillor Gerald Rennie, council decided May 24 to strike a committee to find out what residents think about the issue.
 Councillor Rennie read a lengthy prepared text describing all the groups which may be in favor and opposed to Sunday shopping.
 He also wants the fate of Sunday shopping left in the hands of municipalities, not in regions as provincial proposals suggest.

House destroyed

A house burned to the ground Thursday morning after 14 firemen battled the blaze for approximately four hours. Owner of the house, located on Lot 27, Concession 10, Dean Marchmont, 33, was awakened by the fire, which is suspected to have started by careless smoking in a living room couch.
 Firemen arrived on the scene at 12:29 a.m. and continued dousing the flames until 4:14 a.m.
 There were no injuries in the fire which caused \$84,000 damage.

Red Cross AGM

Everyone is welcome to attend the annual meeting of the Georgetown and District Red Cross.
 The annual meeting and awards night will be held Tuesday, June 7 at the North Halton Golf and Country Club at 7:30 p.m.
 Guest speakers will be Judy and Brian Robinson of Georgetown, who will show slides of their South American tour, which was sponsored by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

Violence workshop

The Halton Women's Place will conduct a workshop on family violence in Oakville on Tuesday, June 7.
 The subject of the workshop is "Together we can stop family violence," and it is to be held at St. John's United Church, at Dunn and Randall Streets in Oakville, at 7:30 p.m.
 For more information, contact Liz Smith at 878-7757.

To coin a phrase

Once again Georgetown Lionsess Club will be holding a "Kilometre of Coins" appeal on Saturday, June 4 at the Georgetown Market Place Plaza from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Lionsess will be stationed between Zellers and the Liquor Store ready to receive all donations.
 Every penny will be going to help people who are on kidney dialysis enjoy a holiday with their families at the Lions Camp Dorset and still receive their usual dialysis treatment.

Lobsterfest time

People can expect a little of the down east hospitality this Friday, when they take in the annual Kiwanis Lobsterfest at the Georgetown District High School cafeteria.
 The event gets under way at 7 p.m., with a dance to follow.
 Tom Shillington, who is in charge of promotion for the event, said Monday the Georgetown Kiwanis are hoping to sell out the 500 tickets that are available for the Lobsterfest, which is the club's major fund raiser for the year.
 The locale for this year's Lobsterfest has been changed to accommodate more people for the feast. Last year, at Holy Cross Auditorium, about 350 people took in the Lobsterfest, and with the larger facilities at the high school, the Kiwanis will strive to give 500 their fill of the Maritime delicacy.
 Since the club has increased in members, Mr. Shillington says they have more manpower to handle the larger crowd.
 And the event promises to be a great time for all involved.
 "We appreciate the support we get," says Mr. Shillington. "People always have a good time. We know, because year after year, it's many of the same parties who come back."
 Providing music for the dance portion of the evening will be Sonic Entertainment.
 But, of course, the prime attraction for Lobsterfest will be the lobster, and the Kiwanis are bringing in 2,000-lb. of the delicacy to ensure there is lots to go around.
 Members of the Kiwanis will cook the live lobster right there, to ensure each meal is fresh. Trucks will transport the lobster from the airport, upon their arrival.
 To complement the main course, there will be salads and other condiments, as well.
 There are still tickets available for Friday's Lobsterfest, and they can be obtained from any Kiwanis member; the Denture Therapy Clinic on Church Street (877-2359); the Halton Hills Herald (45 Guelph St. 877-2201); or Mac's Milk on Mountainview Road (877-9741).
 Cost of the event is \$35 per person, which includes all you can eat for dinner, and admission to the dance, which follows.

Dump talks turning nasty Residents want answers in laymen's terms

By BRIAN MacLEOD
 Herald Staff

Portions of the Acton quarry study group meeting turned nasty May 26. Several committee members levelled severe criticisms at Eco Logic's Douglas Hallett on the process and how the information meetings are being conducted.
 Jim McColl was furious with Dr. Hallett, saying members of the committee and public are not getting sufficient time to study the proposal.
 The first hydrology meeting was not detailed enough, said Mr. McColl.
 "The only thing we've had a kick at the cat on, is brook trout and seagulls," said Mr. McColl.
 He said the documents the committee and the public are being asked to study are far too technical for laymen to understand.
 "I work with most of the consultants he's (Mr. Hallett) working with. Consultants can write in such a manner that people can understand it," said Mr. McColl.
 "They're scientific," replied Mr. Hallett.
 Mr. McColl referred to much of the conclusions which wrap up the documents as "verbal diarrhea."
 Barbara Halsall was also incensed about the technical reports.
 "They have money. We have no money. They have experts. We have no experts. They have technical documents in their language," she said.
 "This is being pushed on the people in this area and we have nothing to fight it with."

"We're taking years out of our lives... to find out that we can't understand portions of it and we can't go to someone who will explain it," she said.
 Halton Hills Councillors Rick Bonnette and Pam Sheldon were on hand at the meeting although the town has yet to officially appoint a member to the committee.
 Coun. Sheldon wants the public to be more involved in the meetings.
 "There is a difference between (meetings) which are open to the public and public meetings," she said.
 She also wants the agendas reduced in size.
 "We're getting too much (information) at one meeting and not enough in advance."
 "This is supposed to be an exchanging of ideas to inform the public. If we need more meetings to do that, I think that should be allowed," she said.
 Committee member Richard Brocklebank zeroed in on responsibility for the dump.
 The committee was told by Reclamation Systems Inc. representative Walter Graziani that his firm, which consists of Comcor, Armbro Construction, Lake Ontario Cement and St. Mary's Cement, are partners in RSI.
 "Who do we sue if a problem arises?" asked Ms. Halsall.
 Ed Crosby, who is in charge of finance and administration at RSI, said any lawsuits would be filed against RSI.

"What are the total assets of RSI," asked Coun. Bonnette.
 "If they've got no money where does that leave us?"
 Mr. Crosby said the quarry land becomes RSI's assets once the application for a landfill is approved.
 Committee members also wanted to know what is going to happen with

the information coming out of the meeting.
 Mr. Brocklebank and Coun. Sheldon called for a meeting with Environment Minister James Bradley to discuss the purpose of the committee.
 But Tim Sharp, a planner with the

Ministry of Environment, said the meetings are simply to exchange information between the proponents and the public.
 If the proponents file an application they are entitled to an Environmental Assessment hearing even if the study group and the MOE reject the proposal, he said.



"Okay, okay, it IS worth the drive..."
 His hands held high for everyone to see his shackles said Metro Toronto, unlike Acton, is a tourist town. High Constable (Regional Chairman) Pete Pomeroy sentenced Mr. Lastman to tour Acton until he realized "it's worth ye drive to Acton." For more on Mayor Lastman's visit, see page A6. (Herald photo by Brian MacLeod)

Get that BIG feeling

This weekend the BIG Celebrations will finally get rolling after months of anticipation, and everything has been carefully planned to ensure all will have an entertaining time.
 Much of the excitement will be focused around the Alcott Arena, where a trade show is being staged to highlight the various businesses of the community. But there are many other events to take in during the weekend action.
 To find out exactly what you have to look forward to during the BIG celebrations, be sure to see the special 20-page supplement, included with today's issue of The Herald.
 Then take the family and go out for a good time.

Council considers options in bridge closure

The bridge on Main Street in Glen Williams will be closed completely later this summer for repairs to the deck.
 Local business owners had asked town councillors to reconsider a proposal to close down the bridge near the intersection of Wildwood Road and Confederation Street during the busy summer months.
 Many businesses depend on the increased tourism in the summer and closing down the bridge using a detour route would likely mean motorists would not come back into Prince Street to visit local businesses, said Brenda Gove, co-owner of the Copper Kettle Restaurant in Glen Williams.
 Mrs. Gove's complaints were endorsed by at least five other business owners, including Park Lincoln Mercury's Walt Dixon who said his business stands to lose at least \$2,000 if the bridge is closed for the

scheduled five weeks.
 Residents asked the town to close just one lane at a time to repair the bridge. That would allow access to Prince Street businesses much better than the proposed detour route up to Mountain Street then back onto Main Street, said Mrs. Gove.
 Town Engineering Services Manager Tim Stuart said the scheduled \$115,000 project would skyrocket in price to \$170,000 if the bridge was closed for nine weeks repairing only one lane at a time.
 The alternative was to delay construction until early next spring when tourism isn't such a factor in Glen Williams.
 But council decided May 24 to tender a contract for completely closing the bridge. The town will ask bidders to work for extended hours to knock some time off the bridge closure.
 The extra cost involved in closing down the bridge one lane at a time,

and the extra congestion at the intersection, made that alternative unadvisable, said Engineering Director Bob Austin.
 And the town would lose a substantial subsidy from the Ministry of Transportation if the project was delayed, he said.
 Any extra costs incurred in leaving one lane open would likely be absorbed by the town, he added.
 The only other alternative would be to switch bridge construction with another project earmarked for next year, thus saving a good portion of Ministry subsidy, said Mr. Austin.
 He suggested switching the bridge project with replacement of a box culvert on Sideroad 32, although the town would still lose money - about \$26,000.
 Subsidy increases each year are already tough to acquire without "giving money back to the ministry," said Mr. Austin.
 The three councillors representing Ward 2 took different positions on

the project.
 Coun. Joe Hewitt urged his colleagues to go ahead with the construction this year by closing down the bridge for the shortest period of time.
 "It's just not the thing to do - giving money back to the province," he said.
 He favored heavily signing the detour route and possibly helping some businesses, should they run into financial trouble from the bridge closure.
 Coun. Peter Norton favored switching the project with the box culvert replacement.
 The town wouldn't lose much money that way and needed construction on other bridges in Glen Williams won't merge with the proposed project, he said.
 Coun. Pam Sheldon said holding construction off until the spring is a "viable alternative."
 Mountain Street is not equipped to

handle gravel trucks and a private swim class, of about 80 children will be walking Mountain Street. There are no sidewalks, which means their safety would be in jeopardy, she said.
 Mayor Miller also encouraged heavy signing of the detour route.
 "It might cost a few extra bucks but it's worth it," he said.
 Local residents said Mountain Street can't handle the extra traffic, especially gravel trucks.
 Tweedie Street resident John Minns applauded council's attempts to resolve the dilemma but he urged them to do the project next spring.
 Businesses and residents would know the bridge closure is coming, he said.
 Kelly Rowe said the swim classes and gravel trucks will make Mountain Street perilous. "Kids just wouldn't have a chance," she said.
 The town will attempt to restrict truck traffic on the road, said Mayor Miller.

Camping allowed at Games

Overnight camping will be allowed at the Highland Games this year despite town bylaws which prohibit it.
 Several months ago Ward 3 Councillor Pam Johnston asked the town to remind Halton Regional Police that no overnight camping is allowed at the Georgetown Fairgrounds.
 Since then, Coun. Johnston found out that the Highland Games Association advertises overnight camping and actually rents space out.
 Coun. Johnston told her colleagues May 24 that the town shouldn't prohibit camping for the games, but that the Highland Games Association should assume any liability for damages resulting from camping.
 The Fairgrounds doesn't have facilities for camping, she said.
 Highland Games organizer Gordon Ritchie said the Association is going to "do everything in our power to make sure there is no bad feeling" after the games.
 The only people who camp overnight are those concession owners from out of town who need to set up the night before the games, said Mr. Ritchie.
 "The concession owners need to keep an eye on their equipment, he said.
 Typically only a dozen or so campers stay over on the Friday night before the games, he said.
 Last year cars were found racing around the track after the games.
 But Mr. Ritchie said those people were not associated with the Highland Games.
 Town Administrator Ray King said having the Association sign a liability claim doesn't absolve the town from responsibility or damages.

10,000 balloons to be released A challenging project 'gets off the ground'

Sending 10,000 helium-filled balloons into the wild blue yonder is no small feat, but it's a challenge that Trudy Thomas will relish right up to the final countdown, this Saturday.
 The send-off, sure to be one of the most spectacular of all the BIG events this weekend, will be a first for the province.
 "To my knowledge, and my supplier's knowledge, there has never been any larger balloon send-off in Ontario," Ms. Thomas says. "And if we can squeeze an extra couple in, we're going to."
 Ms. Thomas was the natural choice to head up the monumental project, since balloons are her life. As the owner of Up, Up, and Away Balloons on Main Street, her business of selling balloons for any occasion has been ever-expanding.
 The challenge for Ms. Thomas started in January, with the first few meetings of the BIG (Business In Georgetown) committee. Chairman Dave Kentner suggested that it would be appropriate to use balloons to instill the party spirit.
 But "as sometimes happens when creative minds get together," Ms. Thomas says, discussion elevated to a more grandiose level, and the balloon send-off was proposed. When asked, Ms. Thomas didn't back down from the challenge of launching 10,000 balloons.
 "I have to thank the Chamber for giving me the opportunity," she said. "This will certainly put Georgetown on the map, and this business, too."
 Proper preparations for the large-scale send-off were, of

course, paramount. The order for the different colored balloons, was placed well in advance to ensure it could be filled. The cresting will have the "Head For The Hills" logo, and "BIG Celebrations" emblazoned on them.
 Finding the proper "launching pad" was also important, but the Gordon Alcott tennis courts fit the bill well, since the top could be covered.
 A special truck "loaded to the hilt" will provide the helium for blowing up the balloons.
 A total of 33 volunteers will be on hand to help fill the balloons, beginning at 5 a.m. Saturday. Ms. Thomas will be making preparations as early as 3 a.m. Saturday.
 A great deal of coordination, and detailing has gone into the project to get it off the ground (pun intended).
 Ms. Thomas called Orangeville for a few tips, when she heard there was a group there that sent off 5,000 balloons last year. But the truth was, it was only 500 balloons - hardly comparable to the undertaking that will culminate this weekend.
 If there's one thing that could put a damper on the proceedings, it's rain. Ms. Thomas is fearful the send-off could be hampered by inclement weather, but she is keeping in close touch with weather authorities.
 Presently though, Ms. Thomas and the 33 enthusiastic volunteers are in wait, preparing for the Saturday 2 p.m. launch time.
 "We're hoping the weather is on our side," says Ms. Thomas. "Nothing else is going to stand in our way."



Trudy Thomas, of Up, Up and Away Balloons, has had her hands full lately preparing for the BIG balloon release this Saturday. A total of 10,000 helium-filled balloons will be sent off, as part of the BIG celebration. (Herald photo)