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HALTON HILLS, ONTARIO

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It's Worth the Drive to Acton!

IN THE HILLS

Board meeting

An open meeting of the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital Board of Directors will take place on Thursday, Oct. 27, at 4:15 p.m., in the Board Room. The agenda will be posted by 9 a.m. the day of the meeting in the administration offices.

Those wishing to address the board must forward a request in writing to the Chairman, Board of Directors, Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital, Princess Anne Drive, Georgetown, Ont., L7G 2B8, by Oct. 19.

Immunizations

The Halton Regional Health Department holds its immunization clinics the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between its Georgetown and Milton offices.

The Georgetown office is located at 83 Main St. South, while the Milton office is at 251 Main St.

For more information on Halton Hills, call 877-2238, and for Milton call 878-7261.

POWER meets

POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources) will hold their next meeting at Limehouse School on Thursday, Oct. 20.

The meeting begins at 8:15 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend.

Beef dinner

Knox Presbyterian Church will host their annual beef dinner on Friday, Oct. 21, with three sittings at 4:45 p.m., 6 p.m., and 7:15 p.m.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. They are available by calling the church office at 877-7585, or by calling Mrs. Anderson at 877-4518. They may also be bought at the door if any remain available.

Knox Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Main and Church Streets in Georgetown.

Rummage sale

Everyone is invited to come and rummage through a wide assortment of items, including used clothing and household goods, which will be available at a St. Andrew's United Church rummage sale, this Saturday, Oct. 15 from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

St. Andrew's Church is located at 89 Mountainview Road South.

Quit smoking

It's a ghost of an idea to register for the Oakville "Cold Turkey" Smoking Cessation Clinic. This one-week, sudden stop smoking program will be held at the Oakville Trafalgar Hospital, Oct. 31 - Nov. 4, 1988, each evening from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

There is a \$10 registration fee for this Lung Association program which boasts a 60 per cent success rate. For more information, or to register, phone the Lung Association (The Christmas Seal People) at 652-8499.

LaLeche meets

La Leche League welcomes all women interested in breastfeeding information to the next meeting on Monday, Oct. 17, 7:30 at 27 Windsor Rd. in Georgetown.

Informal discussion will centre on how to manage those first hectic weeks, as well as tips for mother and baby. Pregnant women and nursing babies are always welcome. For further information call 878-4732 or 878-3894.

Cancer Society

The Halton Hills unit of the Canadian Cancer Society will hold its annual general meeting this Monday, Oct. 17 at St. George's Anglican Church, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Interested volunteers or anyone from the public is welcome to attend.

Youth basketball

Register now for the YBA basketball for boys and girls aged 8 to 15 years old.

Register at the YMCA office at 37 Main St. S. in Georgetown or call 877-6163.

Chimney fire

A chimney fire in Stewarttown caused \$5,000 damage Sunday night. Fire officials say the blaze began in the chimney and spread to an adjoining wall around 8 p.m. A Halton Hills Fire Prevention Officer will survey the blaze site at Lot 16, Con. 7 to determine if the fire was caused by faulty construction, say fire officials. No injuries were reported.



United Way

The United Way residential canvass for Acton begins today. Give generously!

Police ponder pellet problem

A rash of property damages caused by someone using a pellet gun has Halton Regional Police frustrated.

Police have reported many incidents of pellets being shot through windows and other objects in the past few weeks and this past week there were five more occurrences.

The shots started again early in the month when someone shot a pellet through the family room window on the third floor of a house on Oct. 2 sometime between 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at 40 Calvert Drive. Damage to the window was listed at \$200.

The shooter struck again sometime between 8 p.m. on Oct. 4 and 6 a.m. on Oct. 5 at a house under construction at 5 Delrex Boulevard. The front window was broken causing \$400 damage.

The third attack was on a Maple Avenue home on Oct. 5 sometime between 11 a.m. and noon. Police say a pellet was fired through a window causing \$400 damage.

Then, sometime between 2:30 p.m. Oct. 5 and 6 p.m. Oct. 7, a kitchen window was shot by a pellet gun at 156 Delrex Boulevard. Damage to the storm window is \$100.

A gang of five youths were spotted with a pellet gun on Oct. 5 at 9:25 p.m. on Confederation Street and Glen Road in Glen Williams.

The youths were seen shooting at street lights.

Two lights were broken causing \$150 damage.



Magic of Markus

Markus (Mark Domenico) and his guitar named Gary entertained nursery and kindergarten school children Tuesday afternoon at the John Elliott Theatre. This was Markus' first visit to Georgetown, but children from Acton, Georgetown and Hornby schools seemed to enjoy his animal songs and musical skills. Nathan Williamson, 5, of M.Z. Bennett School in Acton, was given a cassette tape of Markus for leading the children in "The Unicorn Song." (Herald photos by Donna Kell)

Board awaits definite directive

Local schools stop Lord's Prayer recitations

By DONNA KELL

Although the Halton Board of Education hasn't reached an official policy on mandatory prayer in the school, board director Bob Williams told principals to stop reciting the Lord's Prayer following a government memorandum Sept. 28.

"I've asked them to refrain from reciting the Lord's Prayer in the interim (before a policy is reached)," said Mr. Williams last week.

The Ministry of Education contacted the Halton School Board to suggest they "exercise discretion" following a recent ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada Sept. 23 to abolish mandatory prayer in the schools.

"Until we have an opportunity to sort this out, it means 'no prayers,'" said Mr. Williams last week.

Mr. Williams said the Board consulted lawyers to determine an interim decision before the Ministry of

Education hands down a definite directive.

"No final directive has come yet. Our director is complying with the spirit and content of the recent ruling," said Acton High School principal Karl Sory.

Mr. Sory added that different school boards are taking different tactics.

However, the Peel Board of Education will also follow the directive handed down by the government.

"Peel immediately followed the rules and ceased the Lord's Prayer," said the Board's Superintendent of Special Projects, John Berges. He said the decision could change since no meeting has been held for the school board since the Sept. 28 government memorandum.

Halton's first board of education meeting since the prayer issue arose in late September will be held Thurs-

day night (Oct. 13).

In lieu of the Lord's Prayer, Halton schools will recite alternate readings in the morning, but will continue to play "O Canada" or "God Save the Queen."

"We have an anthology of readings from various sacred texts," said Mr. Sory. "The saying of the Lord's Prayer can continue if it's not the only prayer recited daily."

At Centennial Public School in Georgetown, a moment of silence will replace the Lord's Prayer.

"In order to uphold the Supreme

Court decision, this is what we're doing," said principal Carol Matheson. Parents were contacted and asked to recommend "appropriate thoughts" for the moment of silent meditation, she said.

Although the Lord's Prayer issue is not officially on the agenda for the next Halton School Board meeting, director Bob Williams said the issue will be discussed due to correspondence received from the public.

"We may have to consider developing a local board policy," he said.

Police investigate tire slashings

Someone wielding a sharp object went on a tire slashing spree late Sunday night or early Monday morning.

Halton Regional Police report that six cars had their tires slashed in the spree.

Nine tires in total were slashed causing an estimated \$800 damage, police say.

Three tires were slashed on a car parked at 15 Rexway Dr. causing \$300 damage.

At 28 Rexway Dr another car had one tire slashed causing \$75 damage.

A car parked at 20 Main St. North had one tire slashed causing \$45 damage.

The slasher then moved onto Prince Charles Drive.

A car at 44 Prince Charles Dr had one tire slashed causing \$90 damage.

One tire was slashed on a car parked at 46 Prince Charles Dr. causing \$90 damage and another car parked at 50 Prince Charles Dr. had two tires slashed causing \$200 damage.

Police have no suspects in the slashing incidents.

Lois Gibbs speaks Friday

Lois Gibbs, one of the crusaders in the Love Canal controversy of New York State several years ago, will be the guest speaker at a special meeting this Friday night at Georgetown District High School.

The meeting, which features Ms. Gibbs speaking on landfill sites, is scheduled to get under way at 8 p.m. at the high school.

Ms. Gibbs will arrive Friday afternoon and will view the Acton quarry where a landfill is being proposed. Following dinner at the Jack Tanner's Table of the Old Hide House in Acton, Ms. Gibbs and the rest in the group will proceed to the high school for the open public meeting.

Dr. Len Landry will serve as emcee for the evening and among the guests who will be addressing

the group will be Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller and Coun. Pam Sheldon, Ruth French of POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources, and a representative of EAGLE (Ecology Awareness Group Landscape and Environment), and Ms. Gibbs.

A message will also be related to the children of Limehouse School and the GDHS Dranna Club will present a skit on the landfill issue.

Albert Shames, supervisor of waste reduction will give a recycling demonstration, as well.

Tickets for the meeting are \$10 each of \$15 per couple, and are available at Georgetown Fabrics or Dr. L.A. Landry's office.

For more information, contact Rita Landry at 878-7817.

Region's solid waste budget escalates

There is good news and bad news for Halton taxpayers in the 1989 utilities budget.

The good news: water and sewer rates will increase by only 2.5 per cent over the 1988 bill.

The bad news: a staggering 42-per-cent increase in the solid waste budget - mainly because 1989 will be the first year Halton exports 100 per cent of its garbage - means Halton taxpayers will pay a total of seven per cent more for their utilities next year.

Halton also pays \$72 a tonne for its recycling program.

The water and sewer bill represents \$258 of the Regional utility bill. That's up only \$7 from last year's budget, said Mr. Rinaldo.

About 61 per cent of all water and sewer services is provided to residential developments, but homeowners pay 67 per cent of the utility bill, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Despite the increase in spending for capital projects, Halton is still unable to accommodate \$39 million in needed growth-related capital projects, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Halton hopes to find ways of funding the projects next year, he said.

To put the water and sewer rates into perspective, a one-per-cent increase represents an increase in revenue of almost \$3.5 million, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Utility rates typically make up about 13 per cent of the Regional tax bill, said Mr. Rinaldo.

The tax supported budget, expected later this year, makes up about 11 per cent of the total Regional tax bill, while the municipal tax bill represents 26 per cent.

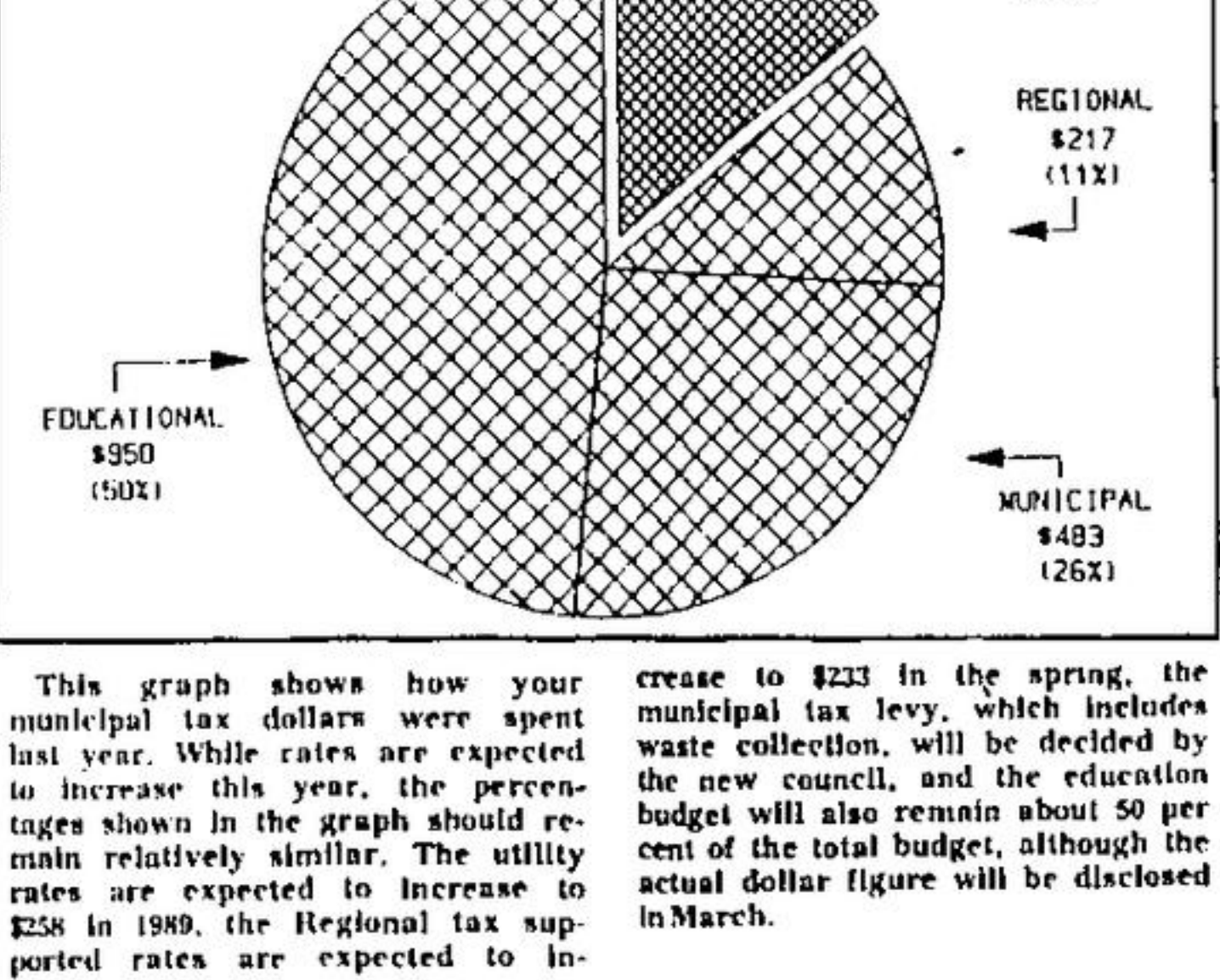
By far the largest portion of the Regional tax bill is the educational component which continues to grow, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Education takes up 50 per cent of the Region's total expenditures.

Halton's tax supported budget will not be finalized until the spring but earlier this year Regional council instructed Mr. Rinaldo to allow for a 7.3-per-cent increase on that side of the bill.

Administrative services, grants to conservation authorities and operation of Regional services.

The rate supported budget will be presented to Regional council in December. The tax supported budget will be formally approved in April.



Those figures were presented to councillors for their appraisal by Regional treasurer Joe Rinaldo on Wednesday.

Although Halton taxpayers will pay more than \$302 for utilities in 1989, the \$44 for waste disposal will actually show up on the municipal tax bill.

Last year Halton residents paid a total of \$282 for utilities.

That \$44 figure is up from \$31 last year and it is expected to rise much higher before Halton is able to bury its own garbage when the Regional landfill site is in place in 1994.

Currently, Halton pays \$71 in tipping fees - the price per tonne to ship waste to a landfill site in Thorold and an energy from waste plant in Niagara Falls, New York - but that is expected to increase to a total of \$111 a tonne in 1992, Mr. Rinaldo said.

Halton residents will pay more than \$15.7 million - or \$1.3 million a month - to get rid of their waste this

year, Mr. Rinaldo said.

Halton also pays \$72 a tonne for its recycling program.

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About 61 per cent of all water and sewer services is provided to residential developments, but homeowners pay 67 per cent of the utility bill, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Halton has been trying to close the gap between how much of the water and sewer services residents use - as opposed to commercial and industrial use - and how much they pay. The current figures are the closest they've ever been, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Halton has experienced a four-per-cent growth rate in 1988 and that, along with the drought this summer, is reflected in significantly increased consumption of water this year, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Combined water and sewer expenditures, which make up 53 per cent of the budget (tax supported operations make up the other 47 per cent), were up by 11 per cent or \$4.2 million over last year, he said.

And Halton expects to spend \$17.3 million - more than \$4.1 million more than last year - on capital water and sewer projects this year.

But capital expenditures shouldn't affect the budget because funding will come from current reserves, lot levies and borrowing, said Mr. Rinaldo.

That would bring the tax supported rates for the average homeowner up to \$233 a year from the current level of \$217.

The tax supported budget pays for all other Regional services other than utilities. They include all Halton's boards and agencies, police, grants to agencies like the Children's Aid Society, ad-

crease to \$233 in the spring, the municipal tax levy, which includes waste collection, will be decided by the new council, and the education budget will also remain about 50 per cent of the total budget, although the actual dollar figure will be disclosed in March.