

Accident with bus incites anger

Five Limehouse Public School students narrowly escaped injury Sept. 19 after a gravel truck slammed into the side of a school bus van on the Fourth Line.

One of the children had just gotten off the bus and dashed for cover once he saw the gravel truck approaching. The truck jack-knifed and knocked the van, which was stopped, into a ditch.

The incident prompted an angry reaction from Coun. Pam Sheldon who demanded a hidden driveway sign be put up.

Two consultants' studies had the Acton landfill study group questioning their accuracy in September. Georgetown residents were told for the first time that their drinking water supply will be affected by leachate leaking from the proposed dump, although the amount would be negligible.

And residents hotly disputed a consultant's claim that property values of homes surrounding the site would go down only 15 per cent if the dump is built.

Residents also objected to the claim that only houses within half a

September

kilometre of the dump will be affected.

Almost 18,000 people poured through the gates of the Georgetown Fall Fair the weekend of Sept. 9-11. The successful fair experienced a huge increase in attendance over the previous edition.

Longtime Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermid was rewarded for his undying support of free trade in Sept. 18 with a cabinet post.

Mr. McDermid was appointed Minister of State for Housing and Minister of State for International Trade by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

The appointment ended months of speculation and even speculation of retirement about Mr. McDermid.

Mayor Russ Miller kicked off his election campaign at the Cedar Springs Motel Sept. 3. Over 200 people, including 10 councillors, attended the barbecue. The Mayor took on Regional Coun. Pam Sheldon in the election.

Rural residents had some harsh words for town councillors Sept. 26 saying gravel trucks are running other motor vehicles off the road.

"I want these gravel trucks off Sideroad 17, the Fourth Line, the Fifth Line, the Sixth Line and Halton Road 43," one Limehouse resident said.

The town responded by recommending the new council hire a traffic consultant to study the truck traffic problem in Halton Hills.

In a bid to curtail deficit spending, the Halton Children's Aid Society announced it was cutting infant adoption services, the last week in September.

The CAS agreed to service the 250 families on the infant adoption waiting list, but it said no more requests would be accepted.

Committee pulls out

Dr. Douglas Hallett said that a walkout by members of the Acton landfill quarry study group would not delay Reclamation Systems ultimate goal of opening a landfill site.

Committee members pulled out of a public information process meeting at the Milton Lions Club.

The walkout caused the public information process, demanded by the environmental assessment act, to end a month early, said Dr. Hallett.

Committee members staged the walkout in protest to the way in which RSI is conducting the meetings and the type of information that is coming from them, said committee leader Barbara Halsall.

More than 50 politicians and specialists split up into workshops to discuss a final report by the IBI Group recommending a pipeline be brought up from Lake Ontario to service Milton and the Highway 401 industrial corridor.

The multi-million dollar project was not to be in the works until early in the next century.

Halton Hills councillors said that such a pipeline could spell the end of much of the agricultural land in southern Halton Hills because of the servicing, and that it could lead to pressure from developers to build on the land.

The 1988 projected taxes for Halton citizens brought both good and bad news. Water and sewer rates were to increase only 2.5 per cent in 1988, but the solid waste budget was to increase to 42 per cent.

The increase in the solid waste budget was mainly due to the fact that 1988 was to be the first year Halton exports 100 per cent of its garbage.

This meant that Halton taxpayers would have to pay a total of seven per cent more in utilities for the 88 year.

Director of the Halton Board of Education 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.

"Until we have an opportunity to sort this out, it means 'no prayers,'" he said.

Mr. Williams said the Board consulted lawyers to determine an interim decision before the Ministry of Education hands down a definite directive.

A rash of property damages caused by someone using a pellet gun had

October

Halton Regional Police frustrated.

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

Halton Region's 86 Public Health nurses voted "overwhelmingly" to strike Oct. 3, according to Ontario Nurses Association Local 001 President Laura Cook.

The union was demanding an increase in wages and benefits, but Ms. Cook would not say how much of an increase the members were seeking.

The Town of Halton Hills hired lawyer Roger Bearman to help in the fight against the Acton landfill proposal.

Mr. Bearman, of the law firm Thompson, Rogers, will help guide the town through the complicated steps of the Environmental Assessment process in the fight against the dump.

The next step was to be to hire an environmental specialist, followed by consultants in the areas of needed study, such as hydrology.

Lois Gibbs, one of the key players in the fight of Love Canal in New York was at Georgetown High School to tell people about the dangers of living next to a landfill site. Ms. Gibbs' horrifying tale was the subject of a television movie. The emotional and dynamic speech was followed by hearty applause. She urged residents to make the fight against the landfill a political battle.

Inaction concerning the problems with heavy truck traffic on Fourth Line and Sideroad 17 spurred Margaret Bruton, a resident of the area to chastize Councillor Joe Hewitt before council.

Mrs. Bruton was the mother of a boy who was narrowly missed by a gravel truck in a collision with a school bus containing five children on Fourth Line in September of 1988.

In addition to some concessions made by town council, Mrs. Bruton also urged Halton police to consider re-deploying some officers into the North of Halton and to set up a truck traffic department similar to the one set up in Peel region.



Prime Minister Brian Mulroney chose to kick off his 1988 federal election campaign with a tour of Mold-Masters Ltd. in Georgetown. Mr. Mulroney spoke on the

benefits Free Trade would bring for companies such as Mold-Masters, but turned a cold shoulder to members of the press who showed up in massive numbers.

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