

Outlook on Halton Hills



HALTON HILLS CIVIC CENTRE

St. Francis students show civic pride

By LOIS FRASER
Herald Special

The Civic Centre is taking shape and Halton Hills citizens are gaining enthusiasm for the project.

The school children at St. Francis of Assisi School have raised enough money for a bicycle rack and the Halton Hills family of schools are in the midst of raising funds to buy three flags for the building. Why are the children getting involved in this? Surely the town can afford to buy some of these items with tax dollars. The answer is civic pride.

As I spoke to the group of youngsters at a local school I could see the pride on the faces of these young students. They were doing something positive for their town and felt good about it. Of course there was some confusion on the part of the younger ones. When I asked who owned the Civic Centre one said, "the Mayor," (maybe we should send Russ the mortgage, huh?) Eventually we reached the conclusion that we all own the building.

The Civic Centre Donations Committee is anxious to involve the townspeople in the creation of our Civic Centre. One way people can feel part of something is to donate time or money to the project. A group of children raising \$250 could easily be equal to the effort of a corporate donation of thousands of dollars. It is the thought that counts. How many times have we heard that expression? Well, we believe it. That's why all donations, large or small, are recognized on a list contained in the time capsule.

In addition, a tasteful plaque will be erected in the front lobby containing the names of all citizens who have donated \$50 or more. The committee has a wish list of items to enhance the building and environs of the new centre. For more information on how you can be part of it all, call Gary Brand at 873-0300 or Fred Nelson at 877-5206.



St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic School raised \$250 to donate a bicycle rack to Halton Hills' new civic centre. School treasurer Kevin Galway hands a

cheque to Lois Fraser of the Civic Centre Donations Committee while Mayor Russ Miller looks on. (Herald photo)

Police warn skiers to be wary

Trusting skiers at Glen Eden have been told by police to lock up their equipment following a rash of ski thefts this season.

Halton Regional Police issued a warning last week to people who ski at the Glen Eden resort in Kelso Conservation Area following a report of 16 thefts of equipment valued at a total of \$6,665.

"The value of the equipment has gone up over the years. People just don't seem to think about locking their things up when they leave them alone," said Sandy Bell, Manager of the Conservation Area's Division of the Halton Region Conservation Authority.

"There are people out there who are going to take advantage, if someone leaves a valuable set of skis there. And it's something that's very hard to catch."

Police say in all but two of the reported ski thefts, equipment was left unlocked and unattended.

Police are suggesting skiers lock their skis, and code them with serial numbers.

The Property Identification Program encourages skiers to engrave or mark their driver's licence number on their skis, bindings and poles and to affix a special ski check sticker to identify the skis as being marked for police identification.

Halton Regional Police invite anyone to go to the local police station and pick up a kit on loan, take it home and mark their skis. An identification card is also provided to record serial numbers already inscribed on some equipment.

Police will make "increased patrols" of the ski area in the next few months, but encourage skiers to safeguard their equipment.

And Mr. Bell warns that the ski area, although private property, should be treated as a public place in regard to theft.

"People wouldn't leave their skis sitting out on the street," he said.

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NORTHVIEW CENTRE

Mandatory recycling gets green light

Halton's mandatory recycling program has been given the stamp of approval by the Region's 24 councillors.

As of Jan. 1, 1990, Halton will no longer accept clear plastic pop bottles and tin cans at their waste disposal facilities.

Halton councillors hope the ban will force residents to use their blue boxes to the fullest extent.

The blue box recycling program is now in effect in all four of Halton's municipalities. It was introduced in Halton Hills earlier this year. Residents put their blue boxes, containing newspaper, metal cans and clear plastic pop bottles, out with their garbage and the box is emptied by town workers.

About 80 per cent of the households in the Region are using the blue boxes, Halton's public works commissioner reports.

Once the ban comes into effect, waste pickup attendants will keep an eye out for blue boxes. If a

household continually refuses to use its blue box, their garbage won't be picked up.

Halton banned newspaper at its waste disposal facilities in 1981 and industries were forbidden to send corrugated cardboard to Halton's landfill site last year.

Halton is also considering introducing mixed plastic bottles into the recycling efforts.

Oakville Coun. Janet Mitchell wants Region staff to study the possibility of including mixed plastic bottles in the recycling program. Region staff were instructed to study the idea and report back to the planning and public works committee.

Meanwhile, Halton Hills Coun. Joe Hewitt is worried about the effect of the ban on the town's huge rural area. Blue boxes haven't even been handed out in the rural areas yet, said Coun. Hewitt.

He wants more time to allow the rural residents to implement the recycling program.

Speed limits remain

A proposal to lower the speed limit on all of Halton's Regional roads to 60 kilometres per hour fell on deaf ears Wednesday.

In the midst of a lengthy and detailed debate on proposed provincial legislation governing aggregate production, Milton Coun. Bill Johnson made the motion to drop the speed limits "until the (provincial) government hands over the money to fix them."

Halton's roads are severely damaged by aggregate trucks and

the proposed legislation doesn't give regions and municipalities enough money to fix them, said Coun. Johnson at the planning and public works committee meeting.

"Some areas are death traps," said Coun. Johnson, singling out the Guelph Line.

"Our roads are safe but they are not up to standard," said Halton's public works commissioner Robert Moore.

Only Coun. Johnson voted in favor of the lowered speed limits.

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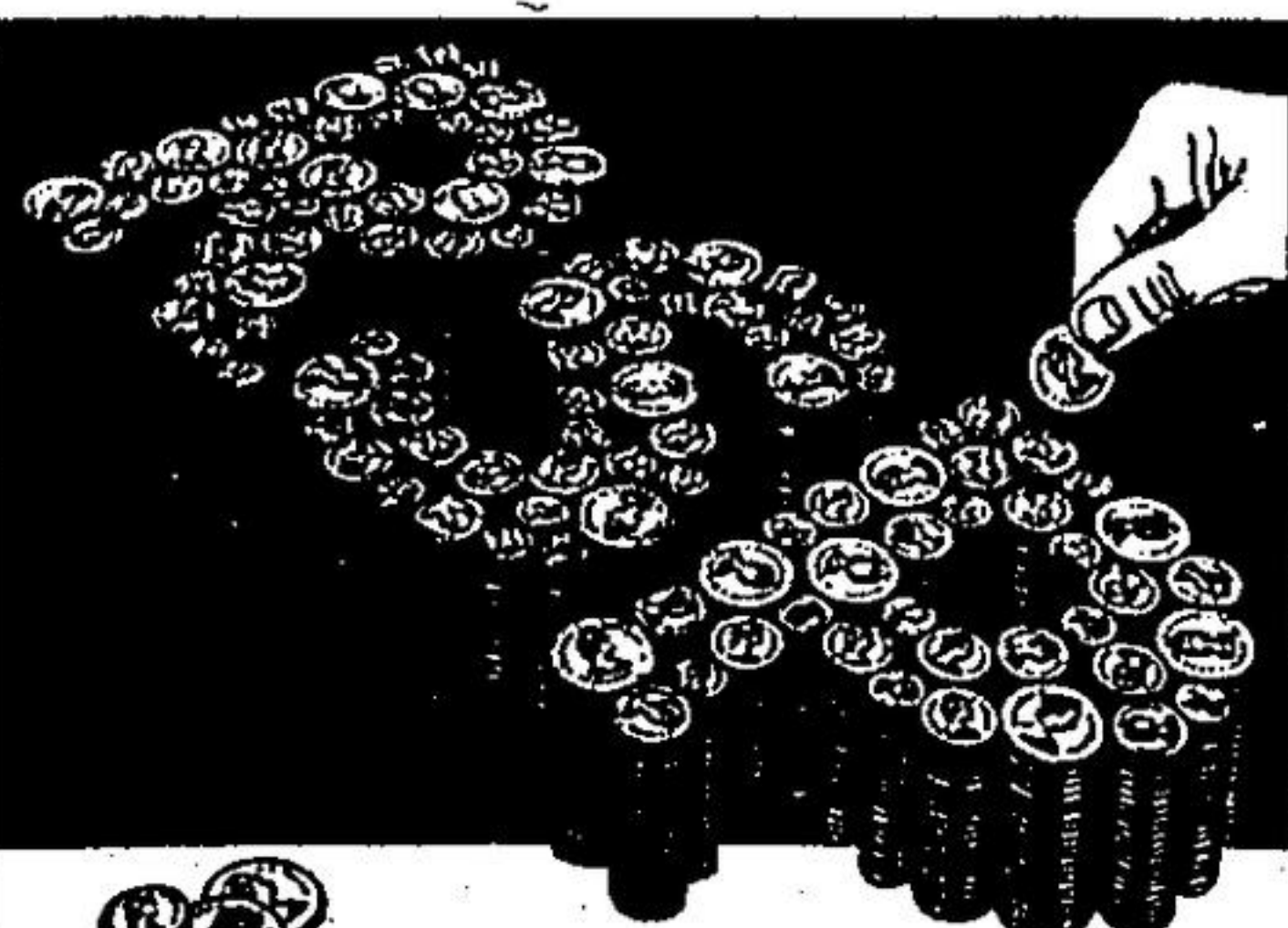
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