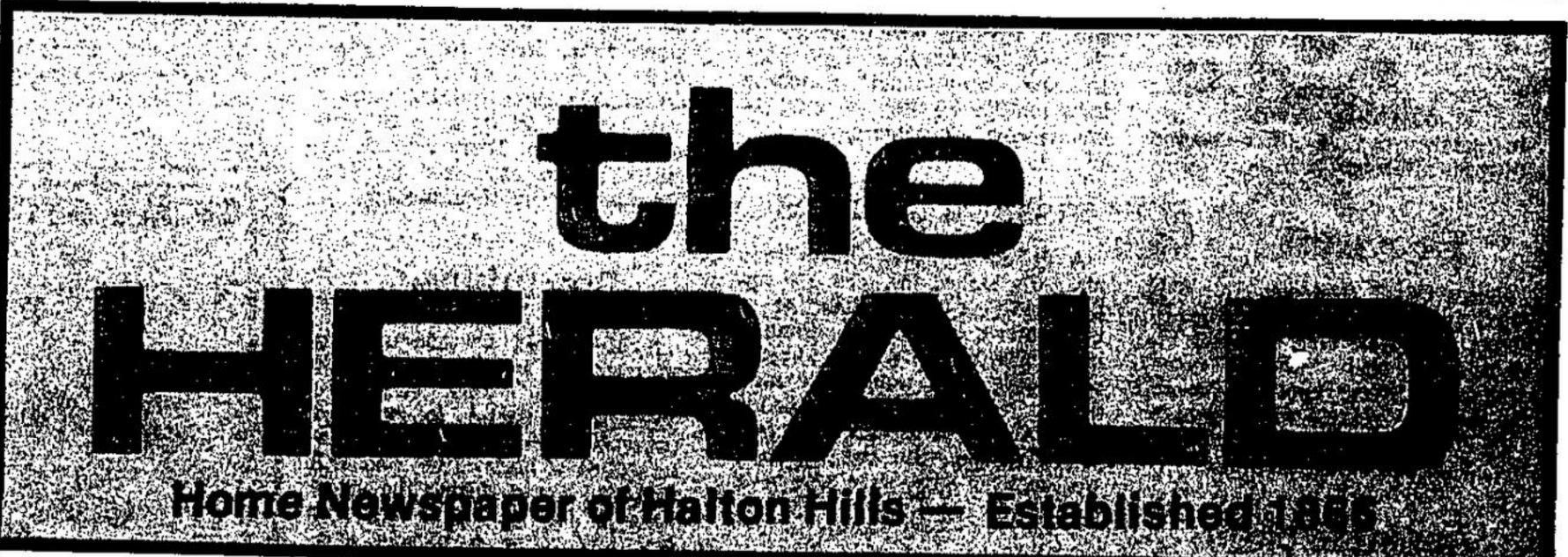






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Playing with fire

Stuart Fraser of Brampton dazzled onlookers at Cedarvale Park with his fire-juggling act last week. Stuart, 20, and his partner Corin Raymond, 16, of Georgetown, also juggle with knives and colored balls. Although they are not in a formal group, the jugglers frequent parks and beaches to show off their skills. (Photo by Donna Kell)

Highland games gets town's written support

By DONNA KELL Herald Staff

Following a series of misunderstandings and muddled communication, the Town of Halton Hills will give the Highland Games Association a written pledge of allegiance.

The 14th Annual Halton-Peel Highland Games held in Georgetown in June were successful but there was no camping allowed and there was a "change of atmosphere" at the Games, Highland Games president Ewen MacDonald said last week.



Ewen MacDonald

The Games Association wants the "goodwill and support" of council, he said.

"The goodwill of council reflects the goodwill of the community."

Former Highland Games president Keith Spicer appeared before town councillors June 12 saying there were problems with electricity and water at the Georgetown Fairgrounds June 9 and 10.

Councillors said people at the Games blamed the town for the problems.

"I was disheartened to hear some of the comments just sitting as a spectator at the stands," said Acton Coun. Norm Elliott Monday night. "There has never, been, in the last few years, at this council table a feeling that the (Highland Games) weren't welcome."

There was "an apparent breakdown in communication" between the town and the Highland Games Association, Coun. Elliott said.

"I certainly don't want to see the end of the Highland Games," said Coun. Elliott, responding to threats that the Games would be disbanded after this year. "The Georgetown Highland Games have certainly become a trademark in the community."

Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller said requests for camping at the

Fairgrounds were not discovered by the town until the "eleventh hour."

He said he thought the Games committee was "completely satisfied" with the agreement with town staff, and added that the Games committee should "get your house in order" before negotiating with the town for next year's event.

"I take some of the blame last year because I was not able to attend your meetings," Mayor Miller said. He added that the town is "desirous to have the Highland Games remain here."

Town councillors agreed to put their support in writing. Georgetown Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson told Mr. MacDonald that she hoped the Highland Games would stay here and become "bigger and better."

Retired Senior wins \$114,000 in Lotto 649

A Georgetown retired senior believes in magic - the magic of lotteries that is - after winning second prize of \$114,000 in the Lotto 649 draw last week.

Dorothy Vinkle, 68, of Maple Avenue isn't sure what she'll do with her windfall, but for now, it's safely in the bank.

"It was unexpected," said Mrs. Vinkle, who returned from vacationing a week after the Saturday night draw. She checked her numbers in the Sunday Sun, and presto, discovered she was a winner.

"I clocked out the numbers in the newspaper and said, 'oh. I have five numbers.' And then I saw I also had the bonus number."

Mrs. Vinkle and nine other winners split the 649 prize.

A faithful lottery player, the retired woman will likely spend her winnings on real estate somewhere in her original home town of Elliot Lake.

Although lightning hasn't exactly struck twice in Mrs. Vinkle's lottery career, she has won \$900 during her 25 years in Georgetown.

"I've been faithful. I've been playing for so many years. It's certainly nice to get a windfall."