

# Pellet gun vandalism caused \$7,350 damage last year

By BEN DUMMETT  
Herald Staff

Some use pellet guns to hunt or practise target shooting; others use them to vandalize or injure.

During the past month someone shot six store front windows and a bay store window causing \$2,000 in damages at an Armstrong Avenue Plaza in Georgetown over the July 1st weekend. Halton Regional Police also report that \$200 in damages was caused to a front glass window of a Prince Charles Street home in Georgetown after someone shot it with pellets July 5.

Statistics recently compiled by Milton District Crime Prevention officer Larry Brassard reveal that a pellet gun was used in 21 vandalism-related incidents at a cost of \$7,350.

Four people were shot by pellets in Georgetown last year.

However, Georgetown compared favorably to the Region's other districts.

Georgetown had the lowest number of vandalism incidents and the second lowest number of people shot. Oakville statistics were the highest in both categories. There were 128 vandalism cases at a total cost of \$41,734.21, and nine people were wounded.

Although Const. Brassard didn't have comparable figures for previous years, he said there has been an increase in air gun related incidents throughout the Region. He blamed youths for the majority of cases where these guns are misused.

Detective Greg Tyrell of 11 Division in Georgetown agreed, saying youths were the primary reason for a rash of pellet gun incidents occurring at the end of last year and the beginning of this year. He added that the situation was unique for the town.

Lori Chapman, the North Halton services coordinator for the Community Resource Services of Halton is another, who says youths are the majority abusers of pellet guns.

As a service coordinator Ms. Chapman works out of the provincial court house in Milton and she supervises those on probation assigned to perform community service work. One such person she recently worked with, was a 16-year-old Milton male charged with possession of a dangerous weapon, after a pellet he shot struck another male in the jaw.

This incident and another in which her 10-year-old son was nearly hit by a pellet while playing in a Milton park last August, convinced her pellet guns are too easily attained.

Ms. Chapman said the 16-year-old male purchased his pellet gun through the 1988 Sears Christmas Wish Book.

Ms. Chapman, who asked Const. Brassard to compile the pellet gun statistics, wants this firearm

licensed to better control their "misuse."

Currently anyone aged 16 or over can purchase a pellet gun.

She is lobbying the federal government to introduce the necessary legislation. But to date the government is unwilling to make any changes, she said.

In the government's most recent reply to her requests, a ministry of justice officer says his office "needs additional information

about the problem before considering any changes to the Criminal Code." The ministry also says that "under the current Criminal Code it is an indictable offence to possess a weapon or imitation for a purpose dangerous to the public peace or for the purpose of committing an offence."

But Ms. Chapman is unfazed. She intends to continue to push for tighter restrictions on pellet guns.

## Deal runs out on Fernbrook homes

A deal between Fernbrook Homes and the company's developer that expired yesterday could leave 93 home buyers in the lurch.

Fernbrook and Enterac Property Corporation agreed on an extension that would allow the builder until Aug. 1 to get building permits for the homes on the west side of Mountainview Road South in Georgetown.

Regional approval of sewer system and water mains has slowed down the process. The builder must pass Halton Region's inspection before the Region will tell the Town of Halton Hills to issue building permits, said the town's engineering service manager Tim Stuart.

"They (Fernbrook) are just in the final stages of the base service."

"When base servicing is approved, there will be 93 permits available."

Fernbrook and Enterac have met several times since February to get extensions on the property's lots. If no extension is reached for this month, buyers who purchased homes in late 1988 could have to repurchase their homes at 1989 prices.

Enterac Homes representative Toby Barwick said Tuesday that he had not been contacted by Fernbrook president Danny Salvatore to talk about another extension for Fernbrook.

Mr. Salvatore could not be reached for comment on the building situation.

Building permits for the east side of Mountainview Road have been issued, said Mr. Stuart. Fernbrook was originally sold 114 homes on the east side of the road, but water shortages forced the builder to cut back to 93 homes.

### In the hills

#### Adult learning

The Adult and Continuing Education program will be offering credit and general interest classes as well as adult learning centres this fall. Registration in Georgetown will be held on Aug. 29-31 for the learning centres from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Registration for credit and general interest courses will be held on Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information call 333-3499.

#### Immunization clinic

The Halton Regional Health Department immunization clinic is held on the second Tuesday of each month alternating between the Georgetown office at 93 Main St. S. and the Milton office at 251 Main St.

For an appointment in Halton Hills call 877-2238.

#### Teen dance

The Open Door Drop-in Centre is holding a teen dance on Wednesday, Aug. 2 from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

The dance will be held at Sacre Coeur Hall.

Admission is \$5 per person.

#### Living with Cancer

The Living with Cancer Group will hold group discussions every second Thursday at St. Paul's United Church at 123 Main St. in Milton.

The meetings, which run from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., help to provide emotional support and practical guidance to patients, families and friends.

Groups are sponsored by the Canadian Cancer Society and led by nurses.

The next meetings will be held on Aug. 10 and Aug. 24.

For more information call 878-5228 or 878-1876.

#### Beach party

The Ballinafad Community Centre will host a beach party dance on Saturday, Aug. 12 starting at 9 p.m.

Music will be supplied by a disc jockey. The cost is \$15 per couple. Organizers are asking those who attend to come in costume.

Door prizes and spot prizes will be awarded throughout the night.

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## CONSULTING CONTRACT TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES FOR HALTON

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The Halton District Health Council is undertaking a project to develop a strategic plan for Mental Health and Addiction Services for Halton.

Consultants, with relevant experience, are invited to submit 'letters of interest' regarding the above-mentioned proposal by August 14, 1989 to:

Marlene Langdon  
Executive Director  
Halton District Health Council  
700 Dorval Drive, Suite 503,  
Oakville, Ontario  
L6K 3V3



Jean Collins  
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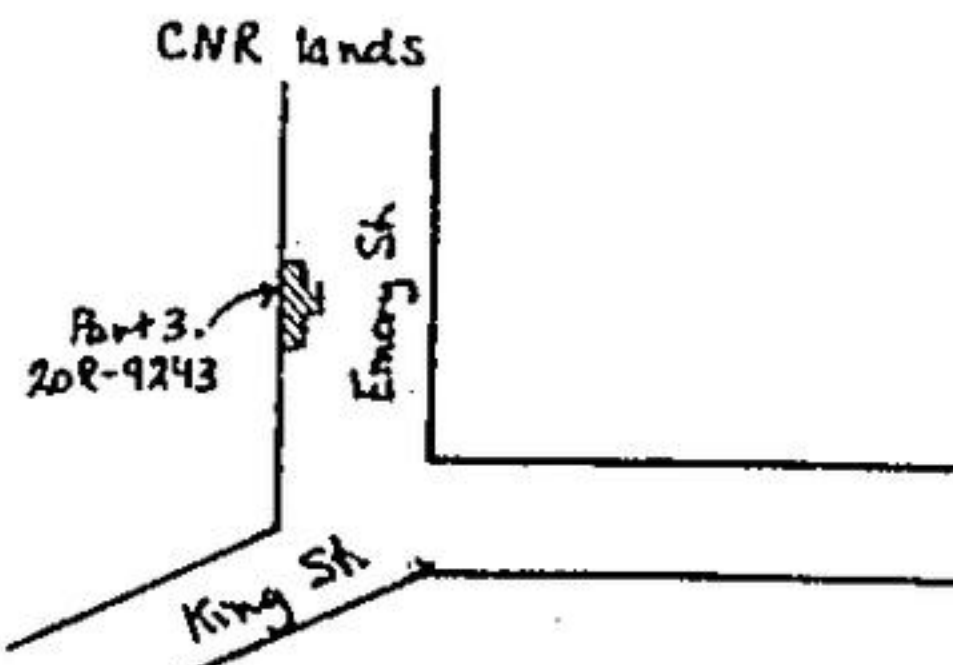


### TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

36 MAIN ST., SOUTH  
HALTON HILLS (GEORGETOWN)  
877-5185

## NOTICE

Notice of the intention to stop up, close and convey a portion of Emery Street, a road allowance in the former Town of Georgetown, running off of King Street and being described as Part of Emery Street being Part 3 on Reference Plan 20R-9243.



Notice is hereby given that the Council for the Town of Halton Hills intends to enact a by-law to stop up, close and convey a portion Emery Street to convey it to the owners of a house which encroaches onto the road allowance.

The Council will hear any person who claims that their lands will be prejudicially affected by the by-law and who applies to be heard at its regular meeting to be held at the Council Chambers located at 1 Halton Hills Drive in the Town of Halton Hills on Tuesday August 8th, 1989 at the hour of 7:00 P.M.

This notice is first published on the 5th day of July, 1989.

Stephen Thomson  
Administrative Assistant  
Town of Halton Hills  
P.O. Box 128  
Halton Hills, Ontario  
L7G 5G2  
873-2600, Ext. 336



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