

Councillors will soon mull over 39 reports

Town councillors want to know more about everything from jumping off bridges to operating illegal apartments.

There are 39 outstanding reports requested by Halton Hills town council or general committee. Nine reports are due from the clerk's office, four are due from each the engineering and parks and recreation department, 18 are on their way from the planning department, and there are two reports each to come from the finance and building departments.

One report before the clerk's department will investigate diving and jumping from bridges in Halton Hills. Another report will consider constructing a building for the Georgetown Agricultural Society in the Georgetown Fairgrounds.

There is a report due that will discuss a parking agreement between the town of Halton Hills and the McGibbon Hotel and councillors can expect a report to in-

vestigate "violations of single family residence zoning restrictions."

A future parks and recreation report will discuss a possible walkway from George Kennedy Public School through Joseph Gibbons Park.

Engineering reports will outline alternatives to passing through Acton on Mill Street to get to Highway 7, parking problems at condominiums on Acton's Kingham Road, a possible reduction of the speed limit between the Ninth and Tenth Lines on Sideroad Five, and a study on yield signs for Glen Williams.

A planning report on the councillors' wish list will outline current parking space in Acton's downtown business area and will outline future parking needs.

Building department reports will discuss minimum maintenance standards for rental buildings. A finance report due will discuss collecting taxes for education.

Signs of the times

The Town of Halton Hills could have a bylaw in place in four to six weeks to put a stop to illegal signs being placed at the side of the road.

Town staff presented a report to councillors Monday saying signage could be controlled by a bylaw that would take six to eight weeks to prepare if a motion is passed by town council next Monday.

The town's lawyer and officials from Halton Region are looking at what power the town has to control signs on private and government-owned roads.

The study was prompted by Georgetown Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson in November, who said there are multiple signs on some Halton Hills roads.

\$60.00 damage

Police say someone caused \$60 damage to a 1986 Chevrolet parked on Mountainview Road South in Georgetown when the culprit snapped off the vehicle's rear windshield wiper sometime between Friday night and Sunday morning.

Yuletide singers

You can sing your favorite Christmas carols on Monday, Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church. Join with the many choristers who are banding together from the many community choirs under the baton of Dale Wood and be sung to and sing-along with them in this Carol Festival.

Admission is free and children are especially welcome. If you wish to give a donation, all proceeds will be given to the Optimist Club of Georgetown to be put towards the annual Children's Christmas party they hold for the Saturday Centre.

Holly Days!

Volunteers for the Halton Hills Lung Association will be out in the local malls, shopping centres and hospitals selling holly to raise money to help continue the association's work, Dec. 8 and 9.

The two-day event is called "Happy Holly Days" and every dollar raised by the 10th annual event will go to either community health education programs, or to advance medical research to prevent, control and cure lung disease, says the association's Halton Region president, Mary Campbell.

Although the annual Christmas Seal Campaign is in progress the "Happy Holly Days" gives volunteers an opportunity to talk with people, she says.

Gravel company doesn't affect water Halton region says

Water shortages at Eighth Line and Sideroad 22 have little to do with a nearby sand and gravel company, Halton Region environmental health supervisor Neil Pattullo says.

Mr. Pattullo responded to questions from Halton Hills Ward 2 Councillor Joe Hewitt at a town general committee meeting Monday night. Mr. Pattullo, one of several Regional staff present for a 60-page report on Fairy Lake, told councillors water shortages are a "problem all over" and reach as far as Durham Region.

Eleven Eighth Line residents sent a petition to the town asking that Albion Sand and Gravel Ltd. stop all extraction at or below the aquifer level. The group also wants the town to "co-ordinate with Regional and provincial governments" until costs for drilling deeper wells are determined.

An aquifer is a layer of rock containing ground water.

The petitioners further ask council to "investigate on behalf of the (residents) the routing of town

water" to the Eighth Line, Sideroad 22 area where they say wells are of "questionable value."

Mr. Pattullo told councillors dry summers and light snowfall have contributed to dry wells. But the environmental health supervisor said pumping from a gravel pit could lower the water table.

Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller suggested the town meet with the provincial minister of the environment and natural resources to find the cause of the water shortage.

"(We should) sit down and generally talk about it because there's a lot of people out of water. There's no doubt about that."

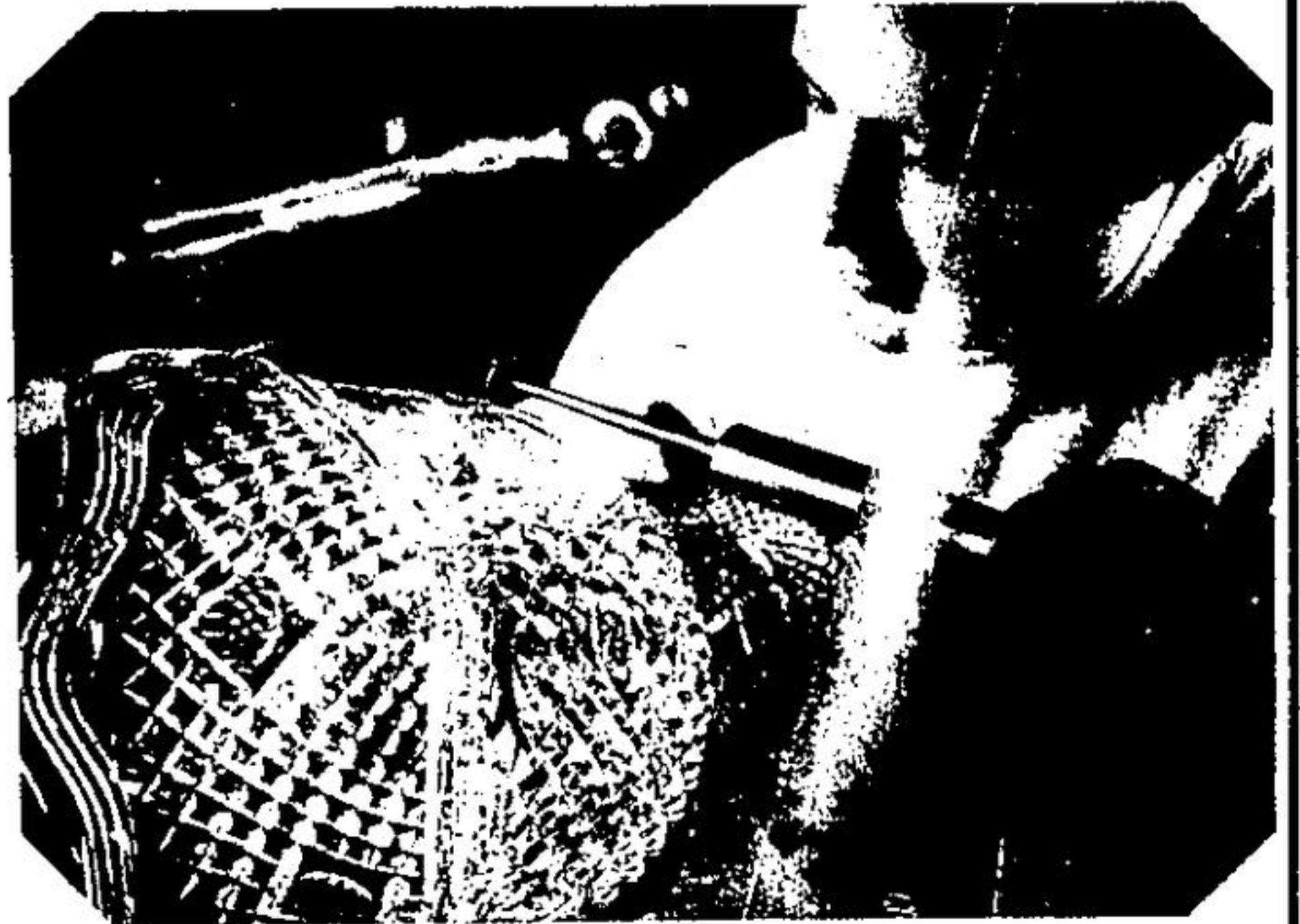
The mayor said he wants to know what effect the aggregate industry has on groundwater.

Acton Coun. Norm Elliott said the town should hire a hydrogeologist for indepth study of the water problem.

"Let's go the whole 100 yards and find out from people who know," he said. "If we're going to make some inquiries, let's go beyond measuring rainfall."

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