



Newcomers  
want to  
talk to you

Page 3



Maria Beeney  
celebrates  
90th birthday

Page 4



Sunny Acres  
finish first

Page 23

**G.S.S.**  
"In Business  
For Business"  
**G.S.S.**  
**OFFICE SUPPLIES**  
Georgetown Secretarial Services  
4-348 GUELPH ST., GEORGETOWN 877-2282

SHOP THE LIGHTS *Fantastic*  
**LIVING LIGHTING**  
Over 80 Showrooms  
throughout Canada  
245 Guelph St. (Hwy. 7), Georgetown  
Mon. to Fri. 9:00-9:00  
Saturday 9:00-6:00 **873-2996**

**the HERALD**  
Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Established 1866

FREE DISTRIBUTION

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24th, 1990

44 PAGES

# Police consider 12.8 per cent budget increase



## 'The Hawk' was in top form

The Hawk, Rompin Ronnie Hawkins, swooped in to Club 2000 in Norval to play some good old rock 'n' roll Sunday night. Those who braved the poor weather con-

ditions were treated to a selection of good old stomping music and ballads. See story Page 29. (Herald photo by Ben Dummett)

By BEN DUMMETT  
the Herald

Halton's board of police commissioners will consider Thursday one of the highest police budget increases in recent years.

Halton Region allocated a 12.8 per cent increase for this year's police budget in its preliminary tax-supported budget after consulting police.

If the board approves the budget the Regional government will have to then decide to accept an increase in police expenditures from just over \$28 million last year to about \$31 million in 1990. Halton's tax-supported budget will go before Regional council in early March.

The police budget typifies a trend of increasing police projected expenditures over the past few years. The 1987 budget increased by 8.3 per cent in 1986, then it increased to \$22.6 million in 1987. The 1987 budget increased by 9.4 per cent to \$24.8 million and in 1989 it went up by 11.2 per cent to \$27.5 million.

The police budget makes up by far the largest chunk of the Regional government's tax-supported budget representing well over 50 per cent.

Meanwhile police are unwilling to say much until after the board meeting.

"I can't say anything until the board approves it (the proposed budget) Thursday," said Regional Deputy Police Chief Bob Midgaugh.

The deputy chief did say the budget includes items that would naturally have to be taken into account in meeting the force's expenses. The budget provides for

the expected increase in Halton's population and police related service calls, he said.

It also provides for new services including court security and training staff to administer the Freedom of Information Act which comes into effect January 1991.

The Region's tax-supported proposed budget shows that police are asking for \$234,000 to meet its court security expenses. This expenditure results from provincial legislation passed last year. Court security was previously a provincial responsibility.

Other police expenses for this year outlined in the tax-supported budget include:

- \$1.4 million for the 1990 salary settlement;
- \$115,000 owing on the new Regional headquarters;
- \$310,000 for the annualization of 1989 program changes;
- \$200,000 to meet federal and provincial government legislated benefit changes;
- \$790,000 in program changes.

## Vito's in 'catch 22' over Sunday openings

The Sunday shopping opening issue has created a "Catch 22" scenario for the owner of Vito's Fruit Market in Georgetown.

Christopher Vito says he can't open Sundays during the summer months as is permitted by the provincial Retail Business Holidays Act for fruit markets because he sells groceries. And the current law prohibits Mr. Vito from opening his business on Sundays during the rest of the year because the business is recognized as a fruit market and not a variety store, under the act.

Vito's Fruit Market was one of five businesses in Halton Hills Regional police charged for opening last Sunday.

The other businesses were

Leathertown Wearhouse, Flight Line, both located in Acton, Georgetown Fruit Market and Shoppers Drug Mart on Guelph Street. A Feb. 5 court date has been scheduled in connection with the Vito's Fruit Market charge. The other stores facing charges will be heard Feb. 19.

Mr. Vito argues that variety stores like his business sell varieties of goods including fruit and groceries.

The law needs to be defined more exactly, he says. But he's confident it will be cleared up after a few more court cases are heard.

Meanwhile Mr. Vito has appealed to Mayor Russ Miller and the police to consider allowing his business to open Sundays.