

# Police expand auxiliary force

By ALAN MACKIE  
the Herald

The Halton Region Auxiliary Police Force is looking for a few good people. Auxiliary Staff Sgt. Jim James said the force is looking to expand by another 10 people.

There are already 10 new people ready for training in mid-March, he said, but we need another 10 after them.

Staff Inspector Wayne Jessop said anyone can apply. The requirements for the unit are "not that much different from a regular police officer," he said. He also noted, although the auxiliary officers are trained in both handgun and Modnacock Stick skills, they do not carry guns.

Mr. Jessop said they try not to place the auxiliary officers into any dangerous situations.

Auxiliary Officer John Tatham said: "They don't try to keep us out of them either." If you are on a call nobody can tell you how dangerous the call will be, he explained.

Const. Tatham joined the auxiliary police because he could not be on call as a volunteer fireman or ambulance. He lives in Georgetown and commutes to his Toronto Transit Commission job of 23 years in Toronto. He is a supervisor for the TTC.

Don Brockie, an auxiliary officer for Oakville, said he joined the force "to give something back to the community I've lived in all my life."

Const. Tatham agreed and said, "I think Georgetown's made up of a lot of volunteer people." He cited the fire department, ambulance service and service groups as examples of the volunteer bases in Georgetown.

"That, I believe, is what makes this community a good place to live," he added.

Both auxiliary constables Brockie and Tatham admit parts of the training can be hard. Const. Brockie said the toughest part is learning the criminal code intensively for four or five nights. "You've got to be sure of it, and understand it because it means so much when you're out there."

Const. Tatham noted that while the physical part of the training is hard, it also gets people back in shape.

Jim James, Staff Sgt. of the auxiliary force, said, "We think it's one of the best auxiliary training packages." He said the auxiliary police are trained to take charge in an emergency situation but are really only there to assist the Halton Regional Police officers.

"I think it's been very successful," he said. It has brought a lot of "good comments" from the regular officers, he added.

Staff Sgt. James has been an auxiliary officer since 1964 when

he joined in a class of 27 people. He was the only one remaining at the end of the program. At the time he joined there were only five regular police officers in Georgetown. He graduated his program in 1965. "The same year the police department swore me in as a special constable."

Const. Tatham said acceptance from the "regular force" has been good. He could not stress enough how good the Halton police force is. "They're an excellent force," he said.

Const. Brockie said he believes "they're glad to have the extra manpower."

He also said the auxiliary police officers can bring a new point of view to the officers. Const. Brockie said the auxiliary force "brings a little more realism and 'saneism' back into the picture," for the regular officers.

Const. Tatham agreed and said that society makes the police officers' life very lonely and "we show them there are people who care."

Staff Sgt. James says he is looking forward to the enlarged auxiliary force, because he finds the auxiliary officers take pride in both their appearance and value.



The Halton Regional Auxiliary Police Force is in the process of enlarging their force by 20 people. New officers will go through an extensive training program. After the training the officers work with the regular force. Auxiliary Constables Don Brockie, of Oakville (seated), and John Tatham, of Georgetown, are two of the Auxiliary officers that have been through the training and work with District One police. (Herald photo)

# Sunday shopping charges against drug mart will be dropped

Several charges laid against Shoppers Drug Mart in Georgetown under the province's Retail Business Holiday's Act will be dropped, says Ontario Provincial Prosecutor William Phipps.

Halton Regional Police were informed by Mr. Phipps early last week that an amendment to the act a year ago permits pharmacies under 7,500 square feet to open Sundays with an unlimited number of employees.

Any charges laid against the pharmacy that resulted from the size of the store or the number of employees working in the store on a Sunday will be dropped, Mr. Phipps said.

But he didn't know how many charges will be dropped in town.

Police were laying charges against the pharmacy under the premise that there had been no amendment to the RBHA until this past Sunday.

Before the amendment pharmacy owners could be charged with opening on Sunday if the business was larger than 2,400 square feet and had more than three employees working.

When asked why police have been laying charges against Shoppers Drug Mart since the amendment, Sergeant Dave Pruitt of Halton Regional Police's 11 Division in Georgetown, said "We received a memo (about the amendment) Feb. 5, 1990."

The amendment also states that

police are no longer required to check to see if a store is open on Saturdays before charging its owner under the act for opening Sunday, said Mr. Phipps.

The law as it stood before the amendment stated that any store could be open either Saturday or Sunday but it couldn't be open on both weekend days.

Under the amendment store owners can open their businesses on Sundays as long as they close one day during the week. Mr. Phipps stressed the day of closing has to be consistent and it has to be for religious reasons.


If police charge a store owner for opening on Sundays the onus is on the owner to prove the store is closed regularly on another day for religious reasons to avoid a verdict of guilty, said Mr. Phipps.

Flight-Line and Leathertown West Warehouse were the only two stores charged this past weekend for opening Sunday in Halton Hills.

A March 12 court date has been scheduled in connection with the charges.

## Cub car rally

The first and third Acton Cubs met last Saturday at the Acton Scout Hall to have a run off before the North Halton District Annual Kub Kar Rally to be held on Feb. 17 at the Acton Legion. Registration starts at 9 a.m.



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Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 301 of the Municipal Act, being Chapter 302 of the revised statutes of Ontario, 1980, that the Council of the Town of Halton Hills, at its meeting to be held in the Civic Centre at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 26, 1990, will consider the passing of by-laws for the road construction as set out below:

**4th Line/17 Sideroad Reconstruction, Phase 4**  
(4th Line, 17 Sideroad to Halton Region Road 43)

Plans detailing this project and proposed by-laws are available for viewing during normal business hours at the Engineering Department office. Any inquiries should be directed to the Engineering Department at 873-2600.

The Council will hear, in person, or by his Counsel, any person who claims that his lands will be prejudicially affected by the said by-laws and who applies to be heard. Persons wishing to be heard should notify the office of the undersigned no later than Thursday, March 22, 1990.

R. C. Austin, P. Eng.  
Town Engineer  
The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills  
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