

## Police Beat

### Rifle incident

Halton Regional Police say a 17-year-old youth who was being verbally abused by students on a school bus opened fire with a pellet rifle near the corner of Highway 7 and Town Line in Acton. No injuries were reported but the bus received \$40 damage. The incident occurred at 4 p.m. May 1.

### Stolen property

Police have arrested a man for possession of stolen property in connection with a theft from an Armstrong Ave. business last December. The trailer that was taken was not reported missing immediately because the owners thought it was one of a kind trailer that they would find. When they spotted the trailer the owners approached the person who was in possession of it and asked the man to return it April 20. The man followed the owners back to the Georgetown business and left it there. After several failed attempts by the owners to contact the man later on, they decided to press charges. Police arrested a 30-year-old man May 6. The man will appear in the Milton courthouse May 28.

### Tape deck stolen

A \$500 tape deck was stolen from a 1981 Chevrolet parked in its driveway on Trafalgar Road near Sideroad 22. The car door was locked but pried open, police say. The culprit left an amplifier that was situated beside the tape deck. The theft occurred at 1 p.m. May 4.

### Purse stolen

A woman had her purse stolen while attending Club 2000 at 1

a.m. May 5, police say. The woman was standing at a bar and put her purse on the floor beside her, just before the purse went missing. The value of the contents of the purse is approximately \$250.

### Probation breach

A 44-year-old Georgetown man has been charged with breach of probation after being given an order to stay away from alcohol. At 12:40 p.m. May 5, a man went into the Guelph Street Police Station in Georgetown to "sign in" after being released with conditions for another offense. The man was originally arrested by Guelph Police for a charge of threatening.

### Motocross theft

A 1987 Honda Motocross worth approximately \$1,400 was stolen from an unlocked garden shed on Irwin Crescent in Georgetown between 4 p.m. May 3 and 4:30 p.m. May 5. Police are still investigating the incident.

### Fraud charge laid

A man has been charged with theft under \$1,000 and fraud, police say. A 37-year-old Acton man was arrested by police at 9:43 p.m. May 4 at his Acton home. A man used a company credit card for personal use at a Highway 7 gas station in Halton Hills, police say.

### Failing to stop

A man has been charged with failing to stop following an accident at 11:10 a.m. May 5 at the intersection of Back Street and Alley Street in Georgetown. A 1988 Cadillac, driven by a 61-year-old Georgetown man, collided with a 1986 Ford, driven by a 36-year-old Georgetown man. The Cadillac received severe damage and the Ford received moderate damage.

## Officer assaulted

A Halton Regional Police Officer was assaulted outside an automotive store on Main Street in Georgetown at 5:15 p.m. May 5. The female police officer stopped at the business after seeing six men, a woman and a small child standing around a pickup truck. The adults were drinking beer.

The officer then escorted one of the men, who said the beer was his, to the police cruiser. While he sat in the back seat the officer discovered the man had two outstanding traffic tickets. Once the officer questioned the man about the tickets he became agitated and verbally abusive, police say.

The man got out of the cruiser and returned to his wife and child. He then picked up the child and held the child in his right arm while kicking the officer in the legs and groin area. The kicks caused bruising to the officer, police say.

The officer stood back to prevent injury to the child during the scuffle.

During the incident another man stood in the way of the officer and refused to move when asked, police say.

Charged with assaulting a peace officer is a 29-year-old Georgetown man. Charged with obstructing a peace officer is a 33-year-old Acton man. Both men will appear in Milton Court, June 4.

## Government grant is welcomed

Continued from Page 1

of Education, Lou Piovesan, said the school will only be for French speaking students.

To introduce a French immersion course into the school would only slow down the learning process for the majority of students whose first language is French, he explained.

In accordance with recent provincial government legislation, a daycare centre will be part of the new building.

Although all ratepayers will be

allowed to send their children to the centre, Mr. Piovesan hopes there will be a leaning towards teaching the French language.

As for Wrigglesworth school, Halton's public school board is still unsure what it will do with the building once the lease with the Catholic board has expired, said the board's assistant superintendent for business services, Gord Dixon.

But it's likely, explained Mr. Dixon, the board would need to use it once again as a school. Mr. Dix-

on, like most, agree Halton Hills is expected to grow significantly in the future.

Halton Hills public school trustee Dick Howitt agreed, saying the province's requirement that Ontario school boards in 1993 introduce four-year-old junior kindergarten and the emphasis on smaller class sizes means the school board will probably require more classrooms. He also suggested a possibility exists that the school could be used for a public school French immersion program.

## Children's Aid Society workers looking at strike possibility

By BEN DUMMETT

The Halton Children's Aid Society could be faced with its 38 social workers striking in the near future if their salaries aren't substantially increased, said the new president of the CAS board of directors, Kevin Flynn, in an interview Monday. Contract talks between the Society and social workers is currently ongoing. The social workers last contract ended in December, 1989.

"They are starting to get impatient," said Mr. Flynn of the social workers, who he says are "grossly underpaid."

"I hope it never comes to a strike. That's why the issue has to be addressed by the board and certainly by the province."

The salary of a social worker at the CAS as of last year ranged from \$21,130 to \$38,449, depending on education and work experience.

Mr. Flynn, who has sat on the CAS board for the last five years, was appointed new president last Wednesday at the agency's 76th annual meeting in Oakville.

Mr. Flynn is also an Oakville-Halton Region councillor. He replaces outgoing CAS president Grant Dickinson.

The CAS must rely primarily on the province for increased funding to pay the social workers what they deserve, explained Mr. Flynn, because the province funds 80 per cent of the CAS budget.

During the last several years, the province has only increased funding by 4.5 per cent, which is lower than the inflation rate, he said. Halton Region funds 20 per cent of the budget which is \$5.9 million this year.

As the Region continues to grow, so will the problems children in

Halton have to face.

"The CAS's case load doesn't magically keep pace with the inflation rate," said Mr. Flynn.

And the Halton CAS isn't the only CAS facing underfunding. CAS's across the province need money to do the job, he said.

"The CAS's in Southern Ontario are running deficits. And it's unlikely it's because we are all poor money managers."

But Mr. Flynn's experience in dealing with the province as a board member doesn't leave him overly optimistic that increased grants will be forthcoming.

However, he did concede the province has started to admit that there is an under-funding problem.

Besides trying to acquire better provincial funding, another of Mr. Flynn's goals is to have the CAS provide more preventative services. Most of the CAS expenditures currently go towards paying for "outside paid institutions."

In this capacity, said Mr. Flynn, the CAS pays the expenses for a child in need of a specific and specialized treatment. The cost of such treatment can cost the CAS up to \$130 per child per day, he said.

Children whose problems have gone undetected or unchecked for a long time require this kind of care, explained Mr. Flynn.

He hopes the CAS works more closely with both the Halton public and Catholic school boards in the future to prevent potential problems faced by children from developing.

This way, a family might not have to be separated, said Mr. Flynn.

"It's a lot harder for children to grow up today." As Halton grows larger there will be more runaways and family break-ups, predicted Mr. Flynn.

As part of the CAS general meeting, Mr. Flynn, along with other CAS members in attendance, listed to guest speaker Dr. Dan O'ford of the McMaster-Chedoke Medical Centre say that while the majority of children don't have mental health problems, children who have one problem tend to have several.

Such risk factors as poverty, parents living on social assistance, parents living in subsidized housing, or a child having a chronic health problem make it more likely for a child to have mental health problems.

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Unless noxious weeds are destroyed by May 22nd, 1990, and as often as necessary throughout the season to prevent the ripening of their seeds and dispersal of their pollens, the Town of Halton Hills may enter private property and destroy these weeds. The costs will be charged against the property owner and collected in like manner as municipal taxes.

Goatsbeard, thistles, poison ivy, ragweed, wild carrot and milkweed are among the weeds considered noxious, and must be destroyed wherever found. Complaints regarding dandelions and golden rod will not be accepted as these are not considered noxious under the terms of The Weed Control Act.

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Keith Leslie, Weed Inspector, Town of Halton Hills (416) 877-3283 or (416) 873-0517 Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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