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## Officer faces charges

A Halton Regional police officer has been charged with two counts of obstructing justice and theft under \$1,000.00 after a traffic offense notice went missing from Milton police division.

Thirty-five-year-old Constable David Lowe, a 15-year member of the Halton force, who serves out of Milton, was charged Sept. 7 and has been suspended from duty. He is scheduled to appear in Milton Provincial Court on Oct. 8.

The Halton Police Professional Standard Bureau will be conducting an internal discipline investigation.

## Purse-snatcher sought by local police

Police require the public's assistance in locating a male involved in a purse-snatching incident Saturday at approximately 9:30 p.m. near Church and Edith Streets.

Police say a Georgetown woman was walking home from the Georgetown Fall Fairgrounds northbound on Edith Street when she was approached by a man who asked for her purse. When the woman refused to hand over the purse to the man, he demanded to know the amount of money contained in the purse.

A struggle ensued and the male grabbed the purse from the woman and ran to a vehicle containing at least three males.

The purse was recovered in a ditch on the Ninth Line Monday morning by a Georgetown man. Police picked up the purse at the woman's request. Only \$15 dollars was removed from the purse.

Police are looking for a white man, about 19 years of age, 5 ft. 11 in., 160 pounds, with mid-length curling blonde hair. The male fled in the four-door light colored vehicle.

Anyone with information leading to the arrest of the individuals involved is asked to contact Det. Sgt. Eacrett at Halton Regional Police, 877-5511, ext. 415 or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-668-5151.

### An Inside Look

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## Fall Fair strides along

A team of Commercial Horses, shown by Jim McKay of Dobbinton, Ont., and driven by Scott Cummins, accompanied by Neil McKay (the owner's son) attempt to put their best hoofs forward during competition at the Georgetown Fall Fair, staged Friday, Saturday and Sunday

at the Georgetown Fairgrounds. Blessed with 'fair' weather, the Georgetown autumn 'fest' attracted people in record numbers. For more pictures on the 1990 edition of the Georgetown Fall Fair, please turn to pages 10 and 11. (Herald photo by Bob Malcolmson)

# Halton Hills Council overturns decision on Beechbrook project

By BEN DUMMETT

The Herald

In a surprise turnaround, Halton Hills council Monday overturned a Sept. 4 decision by town general committee and voted eight-to-five in favor of a 20 estate lot rural housing development proposed by Beechbrook Development for the rural area in Ballinafad.

The general committee is comprised of town councillors.

Mayor Russ Miller and town councillor Al Cook made the difference this time around when they switched their positions from the general committee meeting and voted support the development.

Mayor Miller told council he spent eight hours pouring over the town staff report on the development proposal, in which staff recommended council approve the development, and said there was a positive comment on each of the 27 pages of the report.

Every concern raised about the development was answered by the town planning staff, the mayor told about 50 residents who showed up in opposition to the proposal.

In response to the Niagara Escarpment Commission, (NEC),

and its opposition to the proposal, as a commenting agency, the Mayor said the NEC was bowing to special interest groups rather than acting responsibly to the public at large.

Some of the NEC commissioners opposed the development proposal without first visiting the site, said Mayor Miller.

The commission originally supported the development application but subsequently objected to it after several residents living in the area presented letters to the commission arguing against the development and a representative of the residents spoke before the commission against the proposal.

Coun. Al Cook said he changed his mind Monday night because after talking with the various commenting agencies and the town staff about the validity of the proposal, he couldn't find any justification that the proposal didn't comply with the town's development criteria. The NEC was the only commenting agency to oppose the development. Coun. Cook originally voted against the proposal in order to obtain more information.

The councillor suggested that if council didn't want any development in the rural area it should pass the appropriate bylaw. But it is unfair to the developer and the public to oppose a development only because council may not like it, argued Coun. Cook.

Joining the mayor and Coun. Cook in support of the application were Councillors Ann Currie, Pam Johnston, Rick Bonnette, Gerald Rennie, Joe Hewitt, and Lil Bowman. Councillors opposing the application included Norm Elliott, Pat McCarthy, Marilyn Serjeantson, Alf Spence and Robert Heaton.

Halton Region still must approve the development and the NEC must agree to issue development permits before construction can actually go ahead.

Bruce Summers, who spoke against the development Monday, argued Ken Whitbread, a planner with the NEC, told him the commission opposed the development because 20 houses does not comply with the Niagara Escarpment Plan definition of low density. Mr. Summers told council before the commission would issue development

permits for the houses, it would ask the Ontario Municipal Board to oppose the development.

Coun. Joe Hewitt, who also sits on the commission, said he was "upset" and "surprised" that an NEC staff member would suggest the NEC would be appealing the application without first clearing it with the commissioners.

The 'opposing resident's' representative at Monday's council meeting, Andre Levesque, argued that Council didn't have enough information concerning the impact the proposal would have on well water supply, and the surrounding farmland to support the application. He also argued against the proposal saying the NEC opposes the application.

Coun. Rick Bonnette suggested Mr. Levesque was contradicting himself after he agreed that while the NEC is a legitimate agency the Halton Agriculture Advisory Committee, (HAAC), is also another legitimate agency. HAAC, acting as a commenting agency, contradicted the residents and said the proposed property isn't good enough farmland to prevent the building of a development.