



Thanksgiving crafts

Crista Sargeant, 7, (left) and Kimberly Grace, 7, were a number of the children who participated in the Halton Hills Library Thanksgiving program held last Saturday at the Georgetown Library. To celebrate the holiday of giving the children learned how to make turkey serving bowls. A similar crafts program was held at the Acton Library. (Herald photo)

Furious debate at Region

A land severance application by an Acton couple sparked a furious debate among Halton Regional Councillors Wednesday during which Burlington Mayor Roly Bird questioned the integrity of the councillors who supported the application.

On Oct. 3, the Region's Planning and Public Works Committee, which is comprised of seven Regional councillors, overturned a staff position and recommended that Pamela and Werner Heutschi be permitted to create a non-farm related lot on the north side of Sideroad 17 west of the First Line in Halton Hills.

But in response to this recommendation Mayor Bird asked Wednesday "is there some friendship (between the committee members and the couple)?" To which Burlington Regional councillor and planning and public works committee member Rob Forbes said, "It's inappropriate to suggest someone (a planning and public works committee member) did something to help a friend."

Once a Regional committee makes a recommendation, it goes before the entire Regional council the following week for final approval.

At the end of the lengthy debate council voted 12 to 10 in favor of the land severance. Regional councillor Joe Hewitt was the only Halton Hills Regional representative to vote against the land severance. The other Halton Hills Regional councillors include Pam Johnston, Marilyn Serjeanston, Mayor Russ Miller and Rick Bonnette.

Mayor Bird supported Regional staff's opposition to the severance because it doesn't conform to either the Halton Regional Official Plan or the Halton Hills Official Plan. To support the severance, argued Mayor Bird, would give other

people hope of obtaining similar approvals.

Mayor Bird, in emphasizing the section of the staff report, explained that the severance would further contribute to the strip development in the subject area. According to the Region's official plan, the Region is trying to prevent further strip development along rural roads in Halton, said Mayor Bird.

Local Regional representative Coun. Marilyn Serjeanston voiced the opinion of those who supported the application. She argued the application didn't contradict the intent of the Regional Official Plan despite its non-conformity with the plan.

According to the plan, non-farm related lots can be created in the rural area only if the distance between the proposed lots and the next house is no more than 100 metres. But the distance between the subject lot and the adjacent house is 136 metres.

Coun. Serjeanston argued the deviation was so slight the exception was warranted.

Burlington Coun. Walter Mulkeewich pointed out that the six foot difference represented a 30 per cent deviation. "And I don't consider 30 per cent to be insignificant."

Burlington Coun. Pat McLaughlin speaking in support of the application urged the council to use "common sense". While acknowledging the severance doesn't meet the criteria of the Region's official plan, he argued there are already nine houses along the road. Another house, therefore, wouldn't change the characteristic of the area.

Town of Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller said the severance should be supported because the land is "useless for farming." He continued by saying the Region must make land available for housing or Halton's young people will be unable to own a home.

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CVCA creates new fee category

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) has created a new processing fee category for submitted development applications, confirmed Marilyn Eger, the CVCA manager of Resource Planning.

While the CVCA previously had three fee categories, one for individuals, another for municipalities and a third simply entitled other, it now has four, the new category being for subdivisions.

Subdivision applications were included in the "other" category, meaning the CVCA would charge a subdivision developer \$110, to process the application. Under the new category the CVCA charges developers \$500 to process an application that includes 10 or fewer lots and \$1,000 to process applications with more than 10 lots.

Although the number of subdivision and other development type applications submitted to the CVCA has remained constant over the past couple of years, Ms. Eger explained that in 1985 there was a significant increase. But the fees weren't adjusted at that time to accommodate the increased workload, explained Ms. Eger.

According to a CVCA report on the new processing fee category, the CVCA found that other conservation authorities have a similar subdivision category. The Grand River Conservation

Authority charges \$150 per lot up to three lots and \$600 for applications over that maximum. The authority in Nottawasaga charges \$50 per lot up to a maximum of \$5,000. The Otonabee Authority charges \$500 for applications up to 10 lots and \$100 per lot for applications of 10 or more lots up to \$10,000.

The CVCA charges \$50 to process an application submitted by an individual property owner or one submitted by a municipality.

Ms. Eger said these processing fees will increase for 1991 but only at the rate of inflation.

Rabies clinics

Low cost rabies clinics will be held in Acton and Georgetown Saturday, Oct. 20 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and residents are encouraged to do their part and bring their pets to the clinics.

In Acton, the clinic will be held at Prospect Park and in Georgetown the clinic will be held in Cedarvale Park. There is an \$8 charge, however, there is no examination fee.

The Department of Health is renting the facilities to promote the importance of ensuring all pets receive rabies shots.

According to the Toronto Academy of Veterinary Medicine, although only eight per cent of all reported rabid animals are dogs and cats, they account for 60 per cent of all post-exposure rabies treatment.

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Rummage sale

St. Andrews United Church, 89 Mountainview Road South, Georgetown, will be holding its Fall rummage sale Oct. 20 from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Bargains galore are promised. Further information can be obtained by contacting Marlene Beitz at 877-4324.

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