

Musical equipment theft

Halton Regional Police report \$1,200 of electrical music equipment was stolen from a 1988 Ford in the Limehouse area overnight on Dec. 21. Police say there was no sign of forced entry though the car was reported locked.

Car damaged

At midnight on Dec. 22 on Mountainview South in Georgetown, unknown suspects caused \$900 damage to the hood of a 1984 Buick, police say.

A large dent was left in the hood.

Vehicle vandalized

Police say someone caused \$500 damage to a 1988 Ford on Guelph Street in Georgetown on the evening of Dec. 21. The vehicle was parked outside the Hollywood Tavern when an unknown suspect entered the unlocked vehicle and tore out a C.B. radio, heater controls, glove box and then smashed the windshield with a large object. Nothing was stolen and police found no visible foot impressions at the scene.

Windshield smashed

Approximately \$300 in damage was done to a vehicle parked in the GO Station parking lot at King Street and Elgin Street in Georgetown overnight on Dec. 20. Police say in the a.m. hours, the complainant parked the vehicle and upon arrival in the lot found the front windshield smashed.

Hit and run

A town employee reported to police a hit and run on Dec. 21 in the afternoon at Georgetown Fairgrounds. He told police a vehi-

cle ran into a limestone pillar at the Charles St. entrance to the fairgrounds. The pillar was removed by the town for safety reasons before the police were called, but the employee told police there were traces of brown paint on it and that it would have caused heavy damage to the vehicle that struck the pillar.

Car break-in

Police report a 1989 Nissan parked in Market Plaza in Georgetown on Dec. 21 was broken into. Unknown person(s) smashed the rear passenger window and removed one pair of ladies sunglasses between 4:30 and 5:50 p.m.

Residence damaged

Unknown culprits caused \$50 damage to a residence on Guelph Street, police say. Between 4:14 and 4:30 a.m., someone kicked in a panel to the rear bay door of the building causing the motion detector to go off. The person(s) left before entering the establishment.

Snow racer stolen

A snow racer was stolen from the front door of a Rosetta Street establishment on Dec. 23 at about 5:00 p.m. in Georgetown. The racer was valued at \$40.

Moderate damage

Two vehicles were moderately damaged after an accident on Rosefield Drive, west of Wilson Court, Monday afternoon, when a 1990 Ford struck a 1986 Ford in the right side while the car was attempting to turn. The 1986 Ford was beginning to turn when the driver of the 1990 Ford, noticing the turn, began passing on the right side and struck the turning vehicle, causing it to slide up on the curb. The drivers weren't injured but a passenger in the 1986 Ford received minor injuries.

Fire calls

Chimney fire

Halton Hills Fire Department report \$5,000 damage was caused to a house located on the Sixth Line south of Sideroad 15 in Georgetown Wednesday afternoon due to a chimney fire. A build-up of creosote - an oily substance - caused the fire, said a department spokesperson.

Earlier that morning firefighters responded to a false alarm activation at an Eighth Line house in Halton Hills. The cause is unknown.

False alarms

The fire department responded to two false alarm activations this past week. Last Saturday morning an equipment malfunction caused a fire at the McFarlane Drive apartment complex in Georgetown. Early Sunday morning a false alarm went off at a First Line and Sideroad 22 house in Acton. The cause is unknown, said the department spokesperson.

Police promotions

The Halton Regional Police Service is pleased to announce the promotion of two officers, as approved by the Board of Commissioners on Thursday, December 13, 1990.

Sergeant Murray Drinkwater, 35 years, a 16 year veteran, was promoted to the rank of Sergeant,

having served in the Uniform and Criminal Investigation Divisions of Burlington, Oakville, Milton and Georgetown. The Burlington resident spent three years as a Detective Constable assigned to the Major Crime Unit, where he was involved in Homicide Investigation.

Sgt. Drinkwater will be a Uniform Supervisor at 11 Division (Georgetown).

Staff Sergeant Michael Kingston, 35 years, a Burlington native, has been a police officer with the Halton Regional Police Service for 14 years. He was a Sergeant for the last four years, serving in the Uniform and Criminal Investigation Divisions of Milton and Georgetown. He will be supervising a Uniform Platoon in No. 1 District (Milton and Halton Hills).

Acton winner

Acton resident, Margaret Palmer, received her Christmas present a little early this year, and what a present it was.

Ms. Palmer, 59, was one of three people who won \$300,874.60 in the Dec. 8 Lotto 6-49 draw.

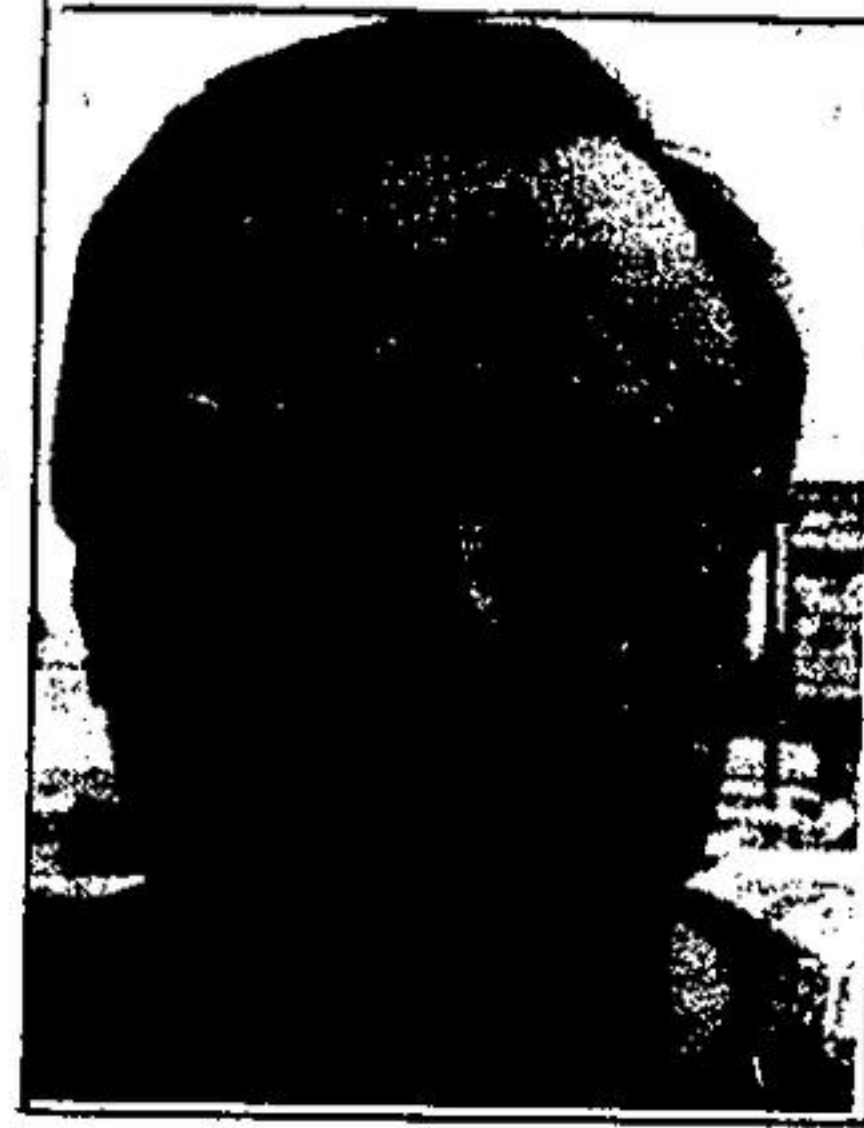
According to a Lotto 6-49 official, Ms. Palmer plans to give some of the money to her four children and invest the rest so she and her husband, Ralph, can buy a new house. Ms. Palmer also has seven grandchildren.

Ms. Palmer, who is a regular player of lotteries, bought the lucky ticket at the Willow West Mall in Guelph.

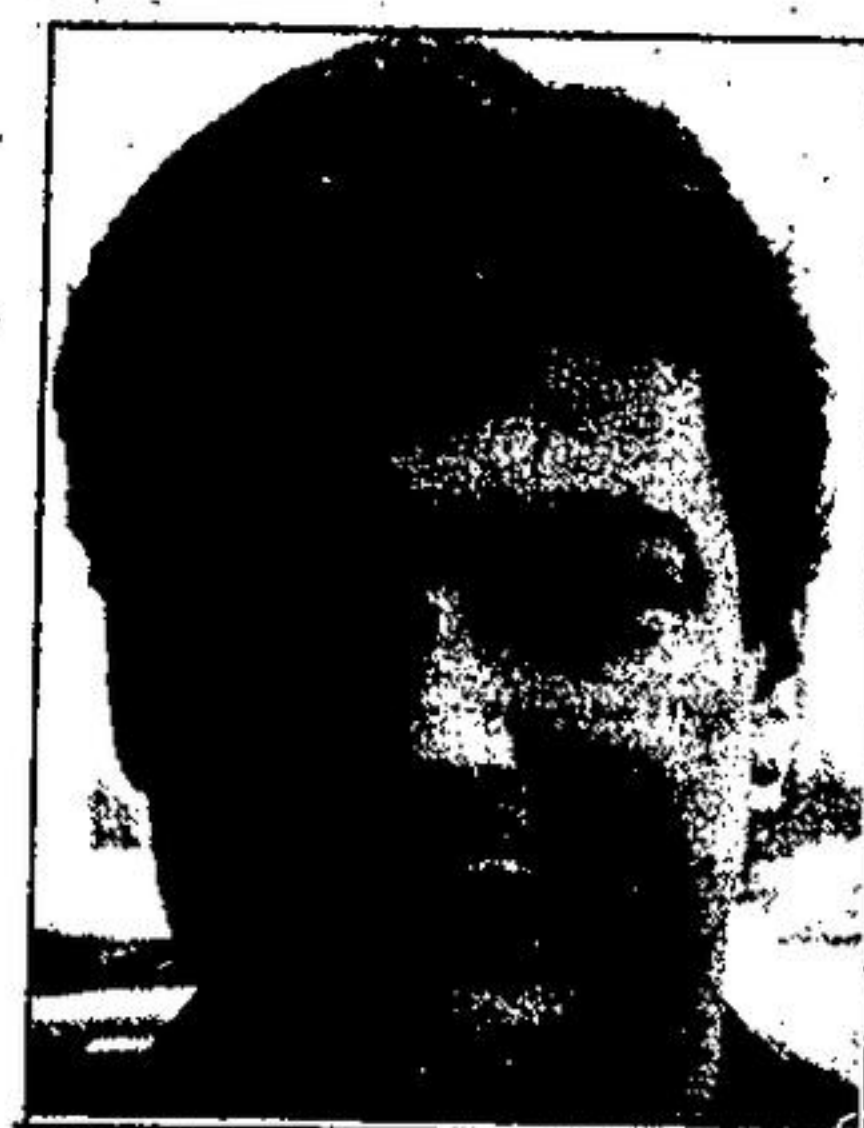
The official said Ms. Palmer always plays the same number. She uses numbers corresponding to special dates in her life: On average, Ms. Palmer buys five tickets a week, and she will continue to buy them, said the spokesperson.

Community Forum

What are your New Year's resolutions?



Klaus Fromm, Acton: "I'm not making any New Year's resolutions at all, because I know I won't be able to keep them."



Randy Seaman, Georgetown: "I'm going to try and quit smoking in the New Year. At least, I'm going to do my best."



Rose Morrison, Georgetown: "I'm not making any New Year's resolutions because I'm quite content the way things are in my life."

Building infractions might be left uncorrected

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

At least half of the 30 building infractions in Halton Hills the town's building department is investigating will probably go uncorrected due to a lack of staff, said Building Department Director Ron Shettell Dec. 21.

The 30 cases involve industrial, commercial and residential construction activity not in accordance with the province's Building Code and related acts such as Planning Act and the Water Resources Act, said the Building Director.

Six of the cases involve illegal apartments that are currently occupied and may be presenting a safety hazard to the occupants, said Mr. Shettell. The 30 investigations relate to construction activity scattered throughout Halton Hills, he said.

The department currently has two building inspectors, and a plumbing inspector, said Mr. Shettell, but another is necessary to properly oversee all town construction.

Once a person is charged under the building code, explained Mr. Shettell, that person must be brought to court within a definite period of time or the court will dismiss the case, ruling too much time has passed between the charge and the court hearing to justify hearing the case.

As proof the department doesn't have the manpower to enforce all building infractions, Mr. Shettell offered, it took one staff member an entire week plus overtime to deal with the Royal Ascot apartment complex on Hall Road in Georgetown, and the elevator and building problems going on at the location.

After two weeks of trying, the town was able to convince Northern Elevator Service Limited of Toronto to replace a computer chip controlling the elevator's movement. The company had removed the chip because the builder, Toronto's Granville Construction, owed the elevator company \$60,000 for the initial installation of the elevator.

The building department had three building inspectors as late as the fall but one left to go to another municipality. At about the same time, Town Council

passed a resolution saying departments could only replace a staff vacancy with council approval. This course of action had not been necessary before. Town council said at the time the action was necessary to cut Town costs.

In thinking about replacing the building inspector position, council originally decided it would consider filling it, said Mr. Shettell. Subsequently, however, council decided not to fill it, he went on to say.

Mr. Shettell predicts a new building inspector could pay for him or herself.

The Town collected in excess of \$15,000 from people who only ended up paying for a building permit after being ordered to by a building inspector.

"We weren't even looking for these people," said Mr. Shettell.

"The town found out about the infractions from citizen complaints," he explained.

Mr. Shettell said over and above the 30 cases, there are 15 industrial and commercial applications that can't be processed because of the lack of staff. That means a loss of revenue to the town, said Mr. Shettell.

"We need one more person to cope with the growth and the current building activity in town," said Mr. Shettell.

Town Mayor Russ Miller said Friday he understands Mr. Shettell's position but, "if we (the Town) can't afford it (refilling the position) we can't afford it." Council, however, will be looking at the possibility of adding a building inspector to the staff payroll during the ongoing budget deliberation, he said.

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Monday through Thursday

commencing January 7th, 1991 for medical problems requiring immediate care.