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## Assault cases on the rise

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT  
The Herald

Despite an increased number of incidents which police officers investigated last year, Halton Regional Police in Halton Hills and Milton were able to solve 44.2 percent of their cases which surpassed the regional figure of 40.7 percent and the district's goal of 42 percent.

"Our criminal clearance rate is excellent," said Staff Inspector for the District, Richard Kivell. "It's the highest we've ever had in the district since I arrived in 1980."

Unfortunately, he said, the number of criminal offences reported didn't decline this year but rose to 4,935 from 4,408 in 1989 in the district. Two hundred and ninety two of the increase came from Halton Hills while the remaining 235 were in Milton. Region wide, criminal offences went up 1,211 for a total of 19,456.

Of the increase, the highest rise was in assaults. "We saw huge increases in assaults and most of them took place at drinking establishments," revealed Staff Inspector Kivell. "We've started taking preventive action in this area by increasing our patrols and spot checks at these establishments."

In Halton Hills, officers in-

vestigated 169 assault cases last year compared to 109 in 1989. Forty-four of the cases took place at Club 2000.

Reported domestic assaults were down, however, from 64 in 1989 to 57 in 1990 in Halton Hills.

Other criminal offences such as robbery (theft with threat of violence or violence) were up drastically from only one in Halton Hills two years ago to eight in 1990. Six of the robberies were solved.

Preventing the chances for robbery is something the local force is concentrating on this year, said Staff Inspector Kivell. The police will be conducting seminars and teaching business owners, including gas station and convenience store owners who are often the targets of robbery, how to take preventative measures.

Staff Inspector Kivell said Halton Hills is seeing a "spillover" of robbers from Toronto and Brampton and blames the economy for some of the increase.

"As the economy goes down, crime goes up," said Detective Sergeant Mike Eacrett.

Break and enters in the area increased last year as well. In 1989, there were 179 reported cases but that increased to 295 in 1990. Police really excelled in clearing up these cases earning a 56.6 percentage clearance rate for the 167 cases they solved.

In 1989, 40.7 percent of the break and enters were cleared.

"We found in 1990 that several different groups were responsible for numerous break and enters," said Staff Inspector Kivell. "They weren't organized crime but they weren't just a bunch of guys either. They were semi-organized groups coming from outside the area. We were able to clear more break and enter cases because one arrest in a group would solve a few crimes."

He also credits community help in solving many cases.

"A number of the arrests we were able to execute were the result of people phoning in and tipping us to suspicious behavior," said Staff Inspector Kivell.

He hopes in 1991, there will be fewer criminal cases overall since the force will be striving to inform the public about preventative measures.

"My goal is to reduce the calls for service."

Last year, actual calls for service declined in the district to 24,584 from 25,072 in 1989 but that's only because the system of calls changed so that liquor offences weren't classified under service calls. If the 750 liquor offences are included in the figure, the number of calls received in 1990 increases beyond 1989's

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## Robbie Burns Supper

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 120 Georgetown Ladies Auxiliary hosted the annual Robbie Burns Dinner and Dance in support of 'Talking Books for the Blind' last Saturday at the Legion Branch located on Mill Street. The evening was hailed once again as a 'great success.' Pictured above parading in the Haggis are, left to right, Standard Bearer Harry Bottoms, Piper Alex McArthur and Haggis

Bearer Max Jack. Dr. Allister McIntosh gave the address to the Haggis while Rev. Peter Barrow provided a toast and delivered a speech to the Immortal Memory of Burns. The evening was further highlighted by performances of the Georgetown Highland Dancers under the direction of Susan McCarroll. (Herald photo by Colin Gibbon)

## Announcement

Starting with today's issue of The Halton Hills Herald (Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1991) our newspapers available at stores and news dealers will now cost 25¢.

The price adjustment will not affect home delivery of the Herald.

Herald publisher, Bob Malcolmson, in announcing the 25¢ charge, felt it was time to give news dealers a return on their investment. All the stores, he stated, have carried the Herald as a convenience to their customers for many years.

Mr. Malcolmson further explained that with rapidly escalating costs in newsprint and other related supplies such as ink, it was found necessary to charge for single copies at its dealers and newsstands.

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## Snowmobile death

Halton Regional Police report a Mississauga man was killed after the snowmobile he was driving struck a tree in a wooded area west of Hwy. 25 in Halton Hills, Saturday afternoon.

Paul William Arseneault, 30, was taking turns driving the snowmobile with his friend, Scott Bowman, of Mississauga. Mr. Bowman reported that Mr. Arseneault had driven off in a westerly direction when he heard a crash.

Mr. Bowman ran to the area and discovered his friend had collided with a tree. He rushed him back to a neighborhood house and called an ambulance. Mr. Arseneault was transported to Milton District Hospital where he died a short time later.

## Environmentalists foiled again

By BEN DUMMETT

The Herald

A local environmental group has again failed in its bid to gain Halton Hills council's support to stop United Aggregates from quarrying part of its land on the southside of Sideroad 22 in town.

The company, however, has also failed to gain Town Council support to outright reject the proposal put forth by Ecology Awareness Group - Landscape and Environment (E.A.G.L.E.).

EAGLE has requested the Niagara Escarpment Commission amend the Niagara Escarpment Plan so United Aggregates can't quarry between 50 and 100 acres of its 325 acre property on the southside of Sideroad 22.

Council voted Monday to support a previous Town General Committee recommendation describing EAGLE's proposed amendment as "premature."

In doing so council members rejected a request by United Aggregates representative, Brent Clarkson, that the Town reject the amendment outright.

EAGLE argues quarrying by United Aggregates on the southside of the company's property will mean a possible destruction of environmentally sensitive areas, a possible devaluation of properties neighboring the quarry, traffic noise and a negative impact on well water.

Although the Niagara Escarp-

ment Commission ultimately decides on the amendment's fate, Town Council has been requested to give its position on the amendment.

Council supported a Town planning staff report that outlined several reasons why the amendment is premature most of which centred on the quarry company's

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## Con man at work

Halton Regional Police say a man who deceitfully received money from two gas stations in Georgetown may be the same person responsible for similar occurrences in Burlington, Oakville and Milton.

The first incident occurred at a gas station on Guelph Street in Georgetown Friday when a male approached a worker there and said his car had been run off the road and he needed \$91 for a tow truck. Believing the male would be back in an hour to pay back the

money, the victim gave him \$100.

The same man might have struck again on Saturday at another Guelph Street gas station where a male asked the victim for \$40 for a tow, saying he would be back in 45 minutes. Again, the victim believed the suspect would be back to repay the money and gave the man money.

The second victim reported the suspect drove away in a 1981 blue Ford Escort.

Police are investigating a possible suspect.