

School News

Catholic board slashes budget

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

Halton Roman Catholic School Board trustees are considering reductions totalling over \$2.4 million from the proposed \$36.7 million budget for 1991 which was presented at an April 23 meeting of the budget committee.

"We're required by law to file a balanced budget," said Halton Hill's French language trustee, Ken Norman who is also the vice-chair of the budget committee. He explained that since the board submitted a deficit budget last year, the budget committee was mandated by the Ministry of Education to present a balance budget this year. The board will have to repay the deficit to the ministry within the next three years.

To balance the budget, the committee has recommended \$2.4 million worth of reductions from programs and education personnel. The recommendation was voted on Tuesday night.

"We're down to a bare bones budget," said Mr. Norman. "We're not looking at new programming. We're just maintaining the status quo."

The major effects of the proposed 1991 budget reductions are:

- no summer students will be hired for 1991
- temporary employees work-

ing in the maintenance and custodial area will be released by the end of the current school year

- maintenance and repair work will be reduced with only emergency repairs to be done
- no planned maintenance work for 1991 with all work to be deferred to 1992 or beyond

In the operational part of the budget, reductions for programming have amounted to \$343,200 of which \$32,700 was taken from field trips, \$54,000 taken from texts and resources and \$34,000 from staff development. The remaining reduction costs come from such items as capital, school concerts and temporary assistants, etc.

Other implications of the proposed reduction were outlined by the Director of Education, C. Byrnes at the meeting. He said split grades will be more common and there will be a more effective utilization of existing texts. As well, the board's three Enrichment Centres for the elementary level will be closed, he said, as there is a move to reorganize resources for gifted students.

This closure has upset some groups, said Mr. Norman. "We've had some groups suggest we limit the reductions to the budget but I think the approach taken by board staff has been the proper one."



Educational tour

A futuristic X-Ray machine developed by Corigan Instrumentation Ltd. in Georgetown was one of the machines students at St. Francis of Assisi Separate School in Georgetown viewed Thursday when they were given a tour of the industry by product manager Rick Rodwell. On this machine, student Rachel Bryan-Maloney pushed a briefcase

through the machine and the contents of the case were viewed in black and white and color by Michael Corbett (middle) and Matthew Kubinec (right). The tour was part of the school's community-oriented activities during education week.

(Herald photo)

Teachers urge shop at home

The Ontario Teachers' Federation is urging its 126,000 members to consider the serious consequences of cross border shopping on the Ontario economy as well as on the province's education system. Ontario teachers are being asked to support their own economy by shopping at home.

The Federation's Board of Governors, which met in Toronto early in April, expressed grave concern about the effect of cross border shopping fever on small businesses, especially in Canadian border communities. "The number of small business closures is alarming and the unemployment ripple effect further escalates the cycle of consumer restraint," said Guill Archambault, OTF's president.

OTF is reminding its members that Ontario's economy and school system are inextricably linked. "Our schools, as well as our social and health care service, are supported by commercial, industrial and real property taxes. As businesses close, our taxes diminish and so, too, does education funding," said Archambault.

Margaret Wilson, secretary-treasurer of OTF, expressed the need to maintain and support our labor standards. "We pay more for chicken in Canada because we believe our chicken farmers deserve a decent living," she said. "Our market system, which allows Canadians to expect a decent day's pay for a decent day's work, does not exist in the U.S. If we value our own system, we must strive to protect it. We must recognize that cross border shopping is not just the benign escapade it used to be. It has become a hazard to our economy."

OTF is also seeking the co-operation of the Ontario Federation of Labor in asking its members to support our economy by shopping in Ontario.



A new 'mom'

Rachel Zinke of Acton is now a mom after this kid goat, 'Sweetness' adopted her while she was using the animal to see if nurturing could overcome the biological bond in her science project called bonding. Rachel took Sweetness away from her biological mother at birth and raised her for two weeks and when she brought her back to the mother goat, Sweetness rejected her and came baaling back to Rachel. Sweetness and the project were exhibited at Acton High School's science fair Wednesday. (Herald photo)

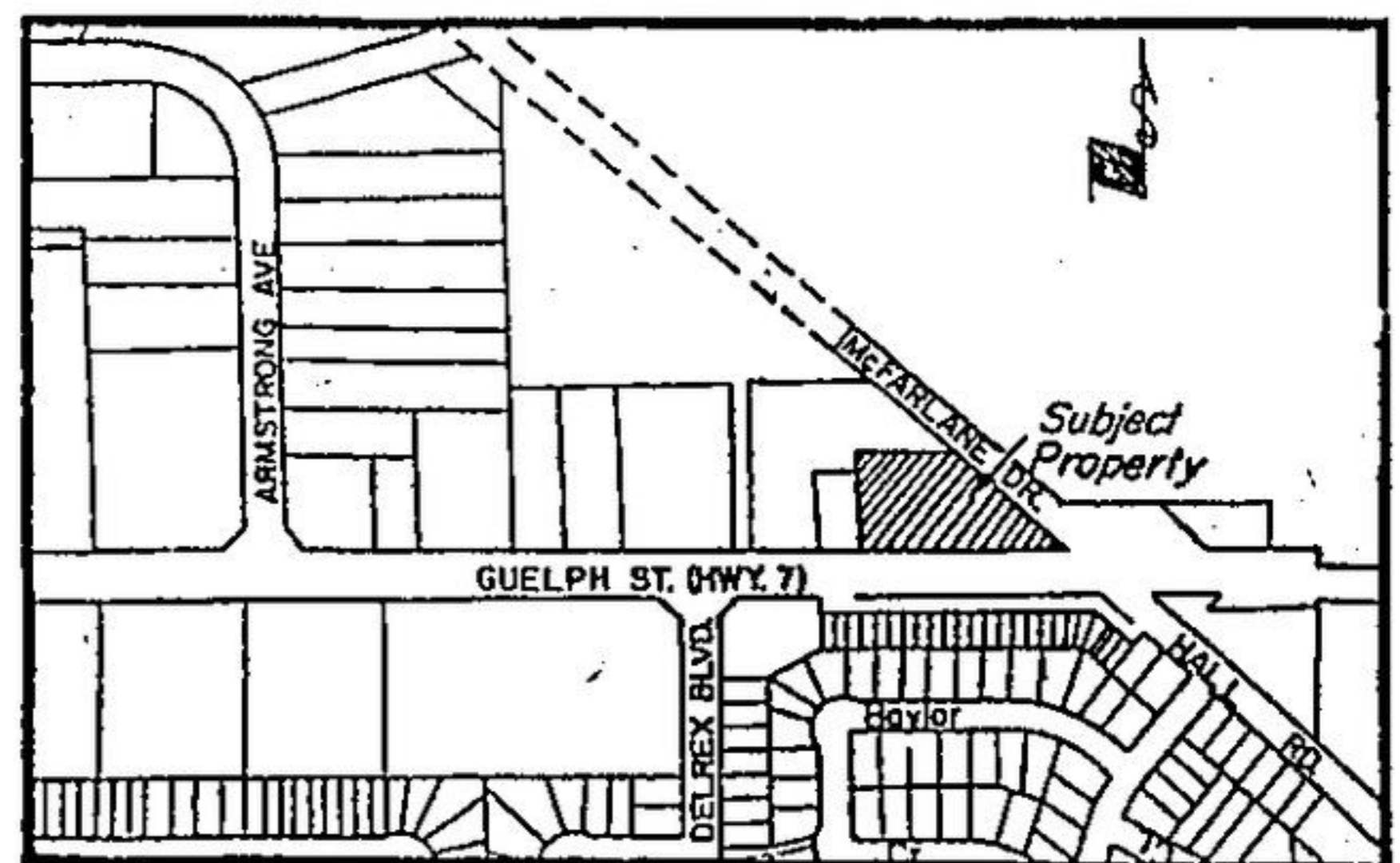


Helping out

Even the squirrels were out cleaning up garbage on Earth Day at Park Public School in Georgetown. (Herald photo by Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot)

THE CORPORATION OF THE
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING WARD 4 / GUELPH STREET / McFARLANE DRIVE



Council for the Town of Halton Hills will conduct a Public Meeting to examine and discuss a proposed amendment to Zoning By-law 57-91 to permit a commercial plaza Development.

The subject property is located on the northwest corner of Guelph Street (Highway No. 7) and McFarlane Drive in Georgetown, with the property being described as Part of Lots 13 and 14, Concession 10, Town of Halton Hills (Georgetown).

Further information is available in the Planning Department.

ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE WELCOME

Time: 7:10 p.m.
Date: Tuesday, May 21, 1991
Location: Council Chambers
Halton Hills Civic Centre
1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown
File No: D14/Ricciuto

AD No. 1397

PET JUNCTION
All Breed Grooming and Supplies - Cats Welcome
HOURS 7:30 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Seniors get 10% off every day.
Refer us to someone and get 10% off next bath or clip.
EARLY DROPOFFS - LATE PICKUPS
Earlier dropoffs can be arranged.
Bring a picture of your pet for our wall.
PHONE FOR APPOINTMENT
873-7990
Appointments not always necessary.
9 JAMES STREET, GEORGETOWN
L6G 2H2

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877-3802
DON'T FORGET OUR ADDRESS CHANGE!
265 GUELPH ST. SMCLEAR PLACE Next to Belamy's GEORGETOWN

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- Scotch Guard
- Fire Retardant
- Engine Shampoo
- Perma Sheen
- Paint Touch-Up