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Herald columnist comes to town

Paul J. Rockel, a modern day pioneer in the financial planning, mutual fund, and insurance industry and a columnist with the Halton Hills Herald will visit Georgetown this Tuesday. Rockel will speak on "Managing Money for the Nineties" at Cedarvale Community Centre, 7:30 p.m.

Paul will cover investment and

a common sense look at the ins and outs of personal finance, for all age groups. Those interested are invited to attend.

Paul Rockel, a lifetime resident of Waterloo, Ontario has been in the financial services industry for over 29 years. For most of those years has shared his ideas of how an ordinary working Canadian can become a millionaire.

He is Chairman and founder of Regal Capital Planners Limited, now entering its 24th year as one of the oldest organizations of its type in Canada. The company, with offices from St. John's, Newfoundland to Victoria, B.C., is totally independent and represents many competing financial institutions.

Rockel is also an associate member of the Investment Funds Institute of Canada, and serves on several of its committees. He is also on the advisory committee to the Templeton Foundation.

In addition to his own business, Paul is an active lecturer, newspaper columnist, (It's Your Money), author, (Why I Invest in Mutual Funds) radio personality and television commentator.

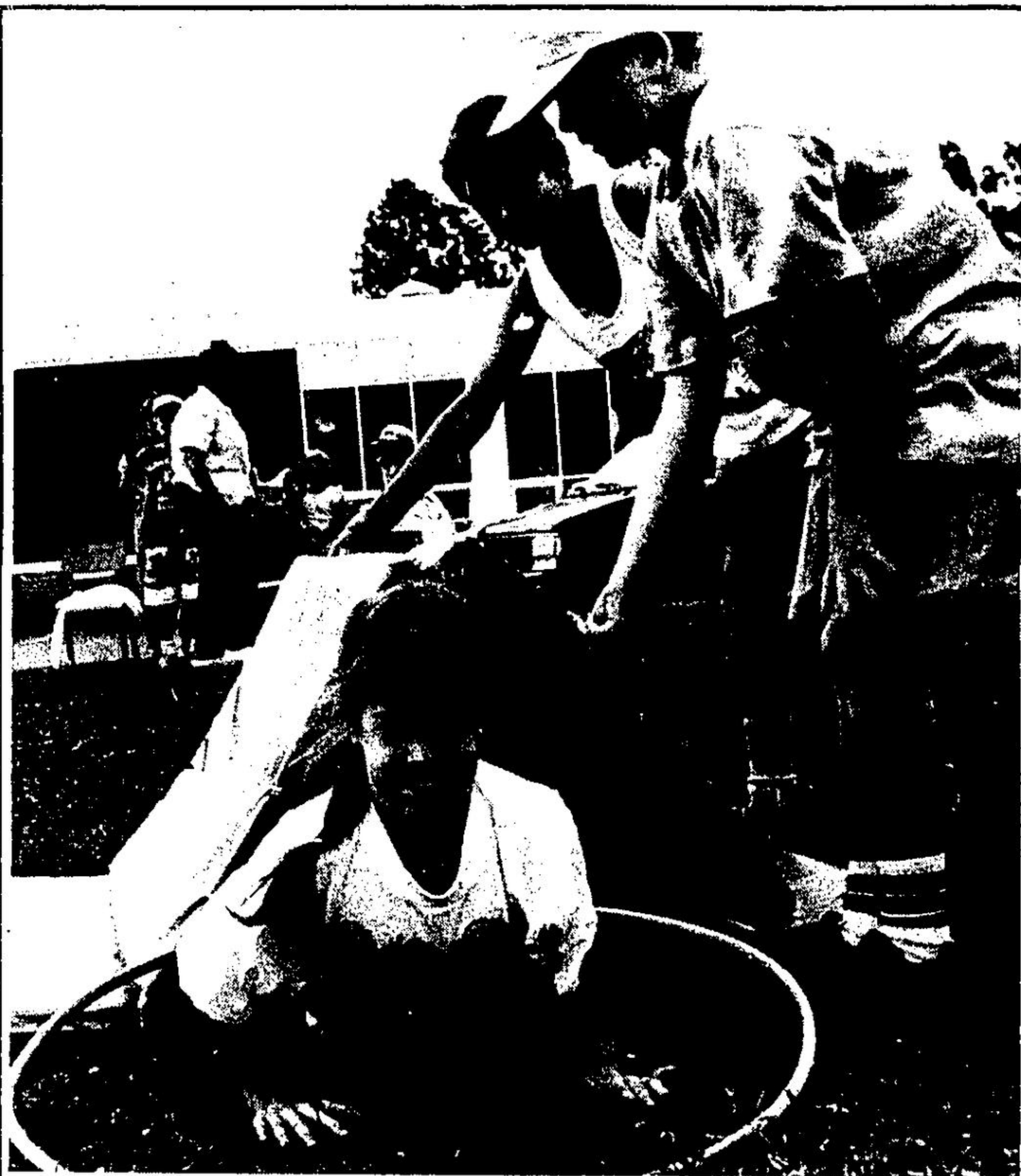
An Inside Look

Police Beat 2	People's Forum . 11
Crimestoppers . . . 2	Community
Features 3	In Focus 12
Environment 5	Religion 13
Seniors 6	Town Gardener . 14
Editorial 10	Sports 17-19
Poet's Corner . . . 10	Youth Page 20
Weir's World . . . 10	Entertainment . . 21
Opinion 11	Classified 22-27

Quote of the Week

"Edmonton is not the end of the world. It's just easier to see it from there."

Ralph Klein Former Mayor of Calgary.



Harrison Play Day

Carolyn Benson of Harrison Public School in Georgetown had lots of fun crawling under the tent and hoola hoop while her classmate Brendan Louth and friend prevent the tent from collapsing on her during one of the many activities students took part in during the school's Play Day activities Wednesday. (Herald photo by Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot)



Black Bart

Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce welcomes the notorious "Black Bart" alias Jim Flett to the "Back to Acton Days" celebration Saturday. Black Bart, one of North America's fastest guns, has appeared in many movies, TV commercials, grand openings, and stunt work. He holds the Canadian record for fast draw at 3/100 of a second. He will be challenging all you quick draw artists from 12-5 p.m. Saturday. So come out to Prospect Park and try your luck. Along with Black Bart will be Country and Western singer "Tom Destry" as entertainer and M.C. of the show. Also included in the entertainment will be pony rides for the little cowpokes and a demonstration of modern square dancing by the "Star Thru Squares Club", organized two years ago in Acton. (Photo submitted)

Town avoids issue—resident

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

The Town of Halton Hills' response to the Ontario Human Rights Commission on the issue of the Town's snow removal policies avoids addressing the needs of the community's handicapped, says Georgetown resident Neil Brookbanks.

Mr. Brookbanks, who relies on an electrical wheelchair or specialized scooter for mobility, filed a complaint earlier this year with the Human Rights Commission claiming the Town's snow removal policies discriminate against the handicapped. He received a copy from the Commission Wednesday of the Town's reply to the complaint.

During an interview, Mr. Brookbanks said the response shows the Town "is looking for a way out of adopting a snow removal bylaw."

In his complaint Mr. Brookbanks states, "I believe the respondents (Town) have refrained from adopting a bylaw for snow clearing, as they don't consider a handicapped pedestrian in use of a wheelchair as a motorist."

The Town responded by stating, "We believe that Mr. Brookbanks is a pedestrian with

all the rights and subject to the same restrictions and regulations set out in the Highway Traffic Act." The Town goes on to state "Council has not passed a bylaw because the Town does not have the resources to enforce the bylaw."

Mr. Brookbanks suffers from chronic osteoarthritis and chronic fibrositis. Both ailments result in inflammation of the soft tissues of the joints.

Mr. Brookbanks wants the Town to adopt a bylaw that betters the Town's snow removal practices and forces local businesses and residents to clear the sidewalk areas bordering their respective properties.

"A lack of money is not a legitimate excuse (for not adopting a bylaw)," he said. "You can't compare the value of someone's life to the cost of clearing a sidewalk."

The Town's 1990/91 snow removal policy calls for the Town to clear snow from designated sidewalks and roadways after a three-inch snow fall. The designated roads and sidewalks are determined yearly by the Town's Snow Removal Committee. Most of the Town snow clearing is done in the Halton Hills business area and the highways.

When questioned why he doesn't use the Town's transportation service (Activan), to travel around Town during the winter months, Mr. Brookbanks said, "the service isn't available on short notice." He made this concern known in his complaint stating, "the local transit facility for handicapped persons offers limited route and time schedules that renders the service frequently inopportune."

The Town replied by saying, "If Mr. Brookbanks were more flexible in his time schedule he would find the Activan service has many opportunities for shopping trips, during the week."

Mr. Brookbanks is quick to point out the service doesn't operate after 5 p.m. during the week and on the weekends.

Mr. Brookbanks has a van equipped with a special lift for his scooter, however, he said the lift cannot accommodate his wheelchair. He also said his wife uses the van during the week to travel to and from work.

The commission has told both Mr. Brookbanks and the Town that the file is currently inactive because of a backlog of cases. The commission has given no indication when it will be able to deal with the case.