

**ACTON
SOCIAL SERVICES
AND
INFORMATION
CENTRE**



As of July 1st, the doctors offices are no longer accepting OHIP numbers. They require a Health Card or they must fill out

Health card change now in effect

special forms before they can process the billing for your account.

If you still need to apply for the white and red Health Card, you can pick up an application form at Acton Social Services and Information Centre, 19 Willow Street North, Acton or call 1-800-268-1154 between eight a.m.

and nine p.m. Be prepared to send along a copy of your birth certificate with the form. It will take approximately six to eight weeks to process.

Individual inquiries or further information may be obtained by calling 1-800-268-1154 or 1-800-263-2187.

For Seniors reaching 65 years

of age, a new card with Plus 65 will be sent automatically six to eight weeks after your birthdate.

Police warn motorists 'lock it, or lose it'

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

The number of valuables Sonia Bujan of Georgetown found in unlocked vehicles at the Georgetown Marketplace Wednesday could have made her a rich person if she didn't have a conscience.

She had the chance to steal several wallets, tennis rackets, bikes, briefcases, cellular phones, cameras, radios, jewellery and power tools that were all left in unlocked cars in plain sight.

Instead, she popped a yellow card reading "Lock It Or Lose it" in each unlocked car warning the motorist his or her care could just have easily been robbed.

Miss Bujan is a Police Ethnic and Cultural Education Project (PEACE) student working at the Georgetown station of the Halton Regional Police Service this summer. She spent all day Wednesday roaming the parking lot at the plaza doing a study on the number of unlocked cars versus locked cars as part of the police service's attempt to reduce the number of petty thefts from automobiles in Halton Hills.

"I just can't believe the stuff people leave in the cars in plain view," said Miss Bujan, who discovered that out of 100 cars parked in the Georgetown Marketplace parking lot, 64 were unlocked. Even worse, 21 per cent of the unlocked cars had valuables in plain view.

She also checked cars on Guelph Street, Main Street and the municipal parking lots in downtown Georgetown.

Here's what she found:

- out of 50 cars parked on Guelph Street, 35 were unlocked and 10 of these cars had valuables in plain sight.

- on Main Street, eight of the 14 cars she checked were unlocked, two had valuable items in sight.

- in the municipal parking lots, she found 22 of the 79 cars were unlocked and 18 of them had valuable items in view.

"I think it's incredible that people just leave their wallets in the car and don't bother to lock it," said Crime Prevention Sergeant Dave Gwilliams.

He said Halton Hills has a high rate of automobile break-ins, as does all of Halton Region. In June and up to July 22, 40 cars parked in Georgetown and Acton were broken into. The total value of items stolen was \$16,165 meaning the average value of property lost per each car break-in is \$401.

Sergeant Gwilliams assigned PEACE student Miss Bujan to investigate the break-ins with the hope she could find a common location for these break-ins so police could assign officers to patrol these areas.

He said it's very difficult for police to catch the person responsible for the auto break and enters.

"The crime only takes 30 to 40 seconds so the chances of detection are very slim," he said. "As in all cases of petty theft, nine out of 10 occurrences are crimes of opportunity."

That's why he's trying to educate the public with the "Lock It or Lose It" cards so the public

is aware and will hopefully reduce the opportunities for culprits.

"We want people to take precautions like locking the car, placing valuables out of sight and parking the car in a garage if

they have one," he said.

Vehicle owners or people who park their cars on Guelph Street, Reid Street, Mill Street and Mountainview Road should take extra precautions since these areas often hit by culprits.



Police Ethnic and Cultural Education (PEACE) student Sonia Bujan pops a "Lock It or Lose It" card in an unlocked car at the Halton Regional Police station in Georgetown. Miss Bujan has been helping Crime Prevention Sergeant Dave Gwilliams investigate how many cars in the area are left unlocked with valuables in sight. (Herald photo)

Region water restriction program will continue

The Region of Halton's Public Works Department is requesting a Region-wide reduction in the use of municipal water. In order to do this, Halton is continuing the program of the mandatory lawn watering restrictions.

Properties with odd numbered municipal addresses (eg. 1, 3, 5, etc.) will be allowed to water their lawns on odd calendar days (eg. August 1, 3, 5, etc.). Properties with even numbered municipal addresses will be allowed to water their lawns on

even calendar days (eg. August 2, 4, 6, etc.). Townhouse units where the unit number is included in the municipal address (i.e. no. 101, 2 Main Street), the unit number will apply - i.e. no. 101 is not 2 Main Street.

Effective immediately, this program is being implemented on a Region-wide year round basis for all properties serviced by municipal water supply. Private wells and surface water from ponds and streams are excluded from this program.

The introduction of water conservation initiatives such as even/odd day lawn watering restrictions will assist greatly in reducing peak demands and thereby delay the need for plant expansions, reservoir construction, and reduce some operating costs.

Over the past several years, the Region has had extremely high peak flows which drastically lowered our reservoir levels and gave staff serious concerns as to their ability to supply water to the consumer and for fire-fighting purposes.

This request is being taken as a precautionary step in order to maintain the levels of the reservoirs in Halton in case reserves are required for a major fire or an operating emergency. The cooperation of Halton residents in respecting this program would be greatly appreciated.

The water restriction program does not include the following:

- car washing,
- flower, garden and tree water-

ing by hand,

- water uses via handheld spray nozzles,

- newly placed sodding within maintenance period.

The water restriction program does include the following:

- all residential, commercial and industrial properties,
- all municipal-owned properties such as schools, parks, arenas, community centres, public works facilities, etc.
- golf courses using municipal water.

The program will be enforced by Halton's Public Works staff and a maximum fine of \$2,000 will be assessed on violators found to be contravening this provision of the Regional water use by-law 93-89, as amended.

A water conservation program addresses the sound management of our water resources. When one uses only the water which is needed to conduct a task, then it generally can be said the conservation of water is being practised.

**British Days
in Acton**

A wide variety of colorful displays and exciting activities will be part of the second annual Wetherby's British Days in Acton August 3, 4 and 5.

Highlighted at this three-day event will be a steam rally held Sunday afternoon. A special display of quarter scale working steam English and Canadian Traction Engines by the Hamilton Model Engineering Club will be featured for all to enjoy.

To complement the steam rally, those attending have an opportunity to see Tony Potter's collection of British model trains: 00 Gauge, Steam, Diesel and Electric trains.

For the creative audience,

Mississauga artist Margaret Elizabeth Oxley will be on hand to meet the public. Ms. Oxley is a member of the Central Ontario Art Association and Visual Arts Mississauga. She paints mainly in watercolor, finding the medium ideal for capturing the vibrant tones of the rugged Canadian terrain as well as the more subtle pastel shades of the gently rolling hills as in her native England.

Other activities during British Days will include a special showing of British videos, games for the children, and musical entertainment.

Wetherby's is located at 149 Church Street East in Acton. For more information concerning British Day, call (519) 853-1633.

— Police Beat —

Assault charge

An Acton man has been charged with assault and will appear in Milton Court Aug. 12. Police say the man allegedly struck another man in the face as a result of being jealous of his own wife. The victim has to be taken to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital where he received stitches for a cut above his right eye.

Thieves foiled

Police believe the same culprits were unsuccessful in breaking into two automobile-related shops between July 25 and 26. The Sunoco Gas Station on Guelph St. and the Midas Muffler Shop on Guelph St. both had broken windows as unknown culprits tried to break in. Police say the culprits weren't able to get inside the shops and nothing was taken.

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