



Burned to the ground

A Georgetown home on 6th Line west of Hwy 7 burned to the ground while its owners, Bob and Margaret Brown, were out shopping. The house was already engulfed in flames when Halton Hills firefighters attempted in vain to extinguish it.

Damage was estimated at \$250,000. Firefighters later discovered the fire started in the basement where some spot welding had been done earlier that day. (Herald Photo)

Teacher arrested

A former teacher at the E.C. Drury School for the Deaf in Milton, was arrested in connection with seven alleged sexual offences after an investigation by police about complaints about physical and sexual abuse, which was said to have occurred at the school approximately 20 years earlier.

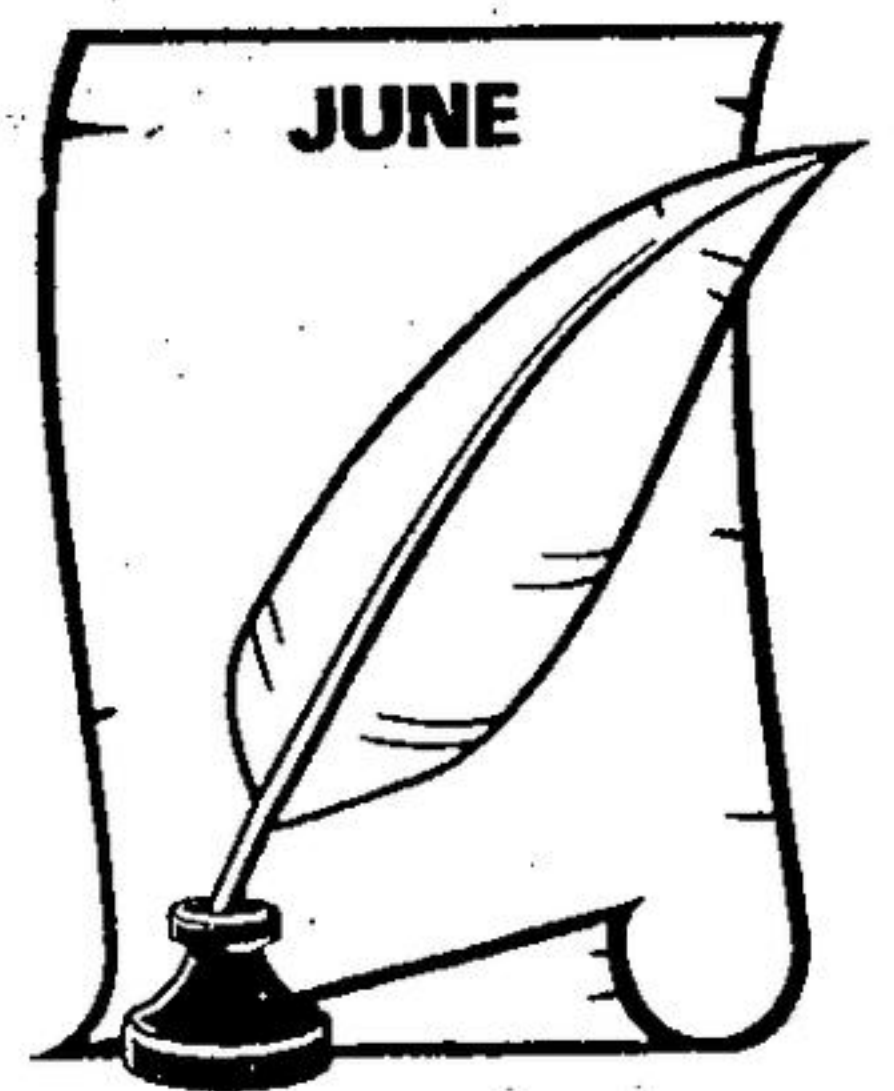
Gerald Hall of London, Ontario was charged by London City Police earlier this week with sexual assault. An investigation about similar allegations of abuse was being conducted at Robarts School for the Deaf in London.

So far, Halton Region police has not laid any charges but, Detective Sergeant Michael Eacrett said Mr. Hall had been employed by E.C. Drury "for a while" before leaving for the Robarts School. If charges are to be laid, there is a possibility they will be done so before the week is finished, said Det. Sgt. Eacrett. He also said the investigation surrounding the allegations has taken a long time because witnesses are still coming forward.

A request by local realtors to designate the Town as a tourist location was refused by Halton Hills General Committee members, saying a Town-wide designation would not be the answer.

This designation would list the Town as a tourist area and allow businesses to remain open on Sundays, despite the Sunday shopping law.

Local realtors Gary Brand and Finn Poulstrup appeared before the committee to ask the Town to put in a request to Halton Region for a Town-wide tourist designation under the province's Retail Business Holidays Act (RBHA).



Mr. Brand and Mr. Poulstrup said the current legislation denied realtors "the freedom of choice to practise their profession on Sundays."

Committee members recommended a new resolution which would exempt realtors in the same way it exempts tourist areas from having to close on Sundays.

Local firefighters and public employees received new contracts after being without them since April of 1991.

These two-year contracts would ensure a five per cent wage increase a year for public workers such as park maintenance workers, arena operators and road improvement staff. Local firefighters' settlement calls for work hours to increase to 40 from 35 per week. Wages for a first-class firefighter are \$46,000 for the first year and will increase to \$49,368 in the second year of the contract.

Terrified victim

A man ran into the Georgetown police station after being severely beaten by three men.

The victim had been followed into Acton and Georgetown from a Mississauga nightclub where he worked as a bouncer.

The victim was followed by three men in separate cars into Georgetown and was cornered on Hwy 25 and 25 Sideroad. The drivers approached the car and proceeded to hit the victim in the head with a baseball bat, smash the front windshield and jab a sharp object through the roof of the car.

The man had picked up a carton of milk and had gone to pay for the milk, but instead pulled a knife on the cashier and demanded money.

After obtaining a description of the robber, Detective Sergeant Keith Woudstra obtained a search warrant for Cunningham's house.

Mr. Cunningham was charged with armed robbery and three counts of break and enter, and theft in connection with two robberies at The Smoke Shoppe in Acton and Kal's Gas Bar in Acton.

A development proposal for the River Drive area by developer Larry Law and the planning consulting company, John Bousfield and Associates, went before the Ontario Municipal Board, July 15.

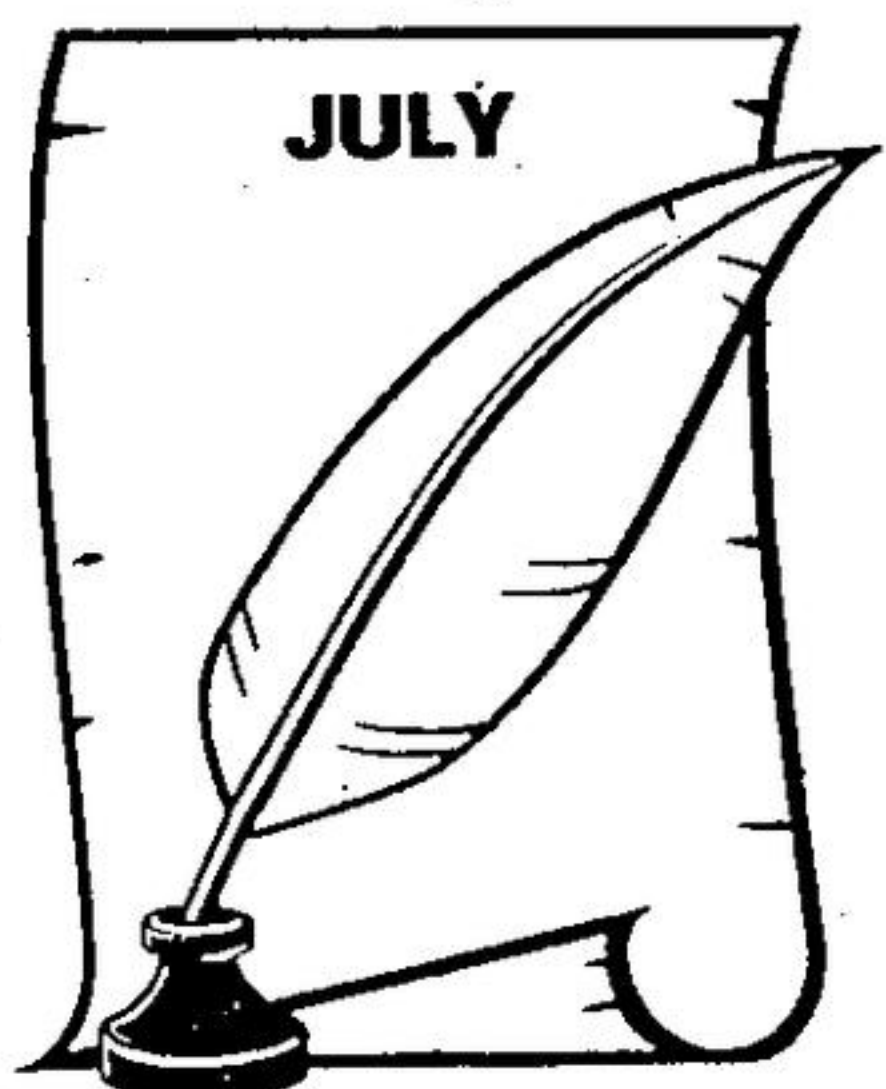
This proposal would allow for the building of 175 townhouses, which Peter Smith, planning consultant for John Bousfield and Associates and Mr. Law, described as "affordable housing." He said the houses are priced at \$157,000 or less.

However, Acton resident Michael Armstrong is strongly opposed to Mr. Law's development proposal because of some of the setbacks for the parking spaces, and some of the sizes of parking spaces for the units.

The OMB meeting is scheduled until July 18.

The Georgetown Falcons soccer club came out victorious in a 4-0 win over the undefeated Burlington team at a home game, July 18.

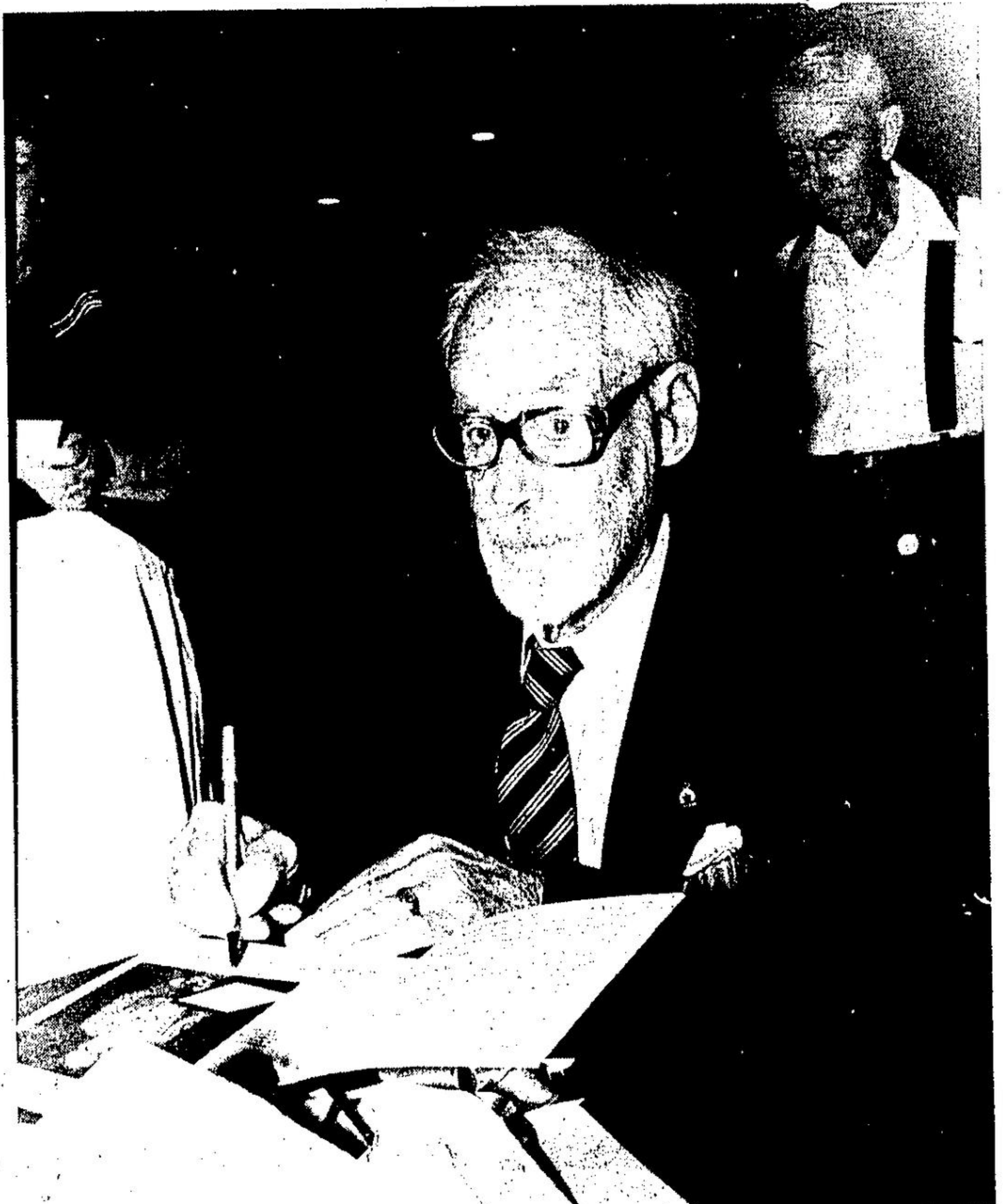
Georgetown managed to score the first goal of the game and the rest that followed was said to be the best soccer of the season.



A Georgetown man suspected in a convenience store heist surrendered peacefully to Halton Region Police after barricading himself in his house the morning of July 26.

Halton's Tactical Rescue Unit had surrounded 127 Prince Charles Drive in Georgetown when Victor Steven Cunningham came out of the house and was arrested by Halton Region police.

The robbery occurred after midnight on July 26 at the Mac's Milk on Mountainview Road.



Celebrating a century

Georgetown resident Gilbert English celebrated his 100th birthday on July 14. Mr. English is the oldest member of Branch 120 of the Royal Canadian Legion in Georgetown. (Herald Photo)

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