



Building a bridge

Members of the Georgetown Community Consultation Committee met recently at the Halton Regional Police Community Room, as they discussed the policing needs of specific areas in Georgetown and subjects of mutual concern. The committee will hopefully meet monthly to build a liaison between the police and the residents of

Georgetown. Any interested persons can attend. More information is available at the desk of the police station. Members of the committee include, (front, from left) Al Cook, Marilyn Serjeantson, and Elaine Frel. In back, Const. Georges Gauthier, Sgt. Dave Gwilliams, Staff Sgt. Mike Kingston and Rawle Kassie.

Police Blotter

School break-in

Someone pried open and smashed the east side window to Centennial School in Georgetown sometime over the long weekend. The culprit entered the school through the window and got into a northeastern classroom. He then rifled through two teachers' desks, police said. A pile of papers was left nearby, as if the culprit tried unsuccessfully to set them on fire. The alarm system did not go off, because all the activity was just out of reach of the movement detectors.

Tires slashed

Two tires were slashed on a car waiting to be repaired at the Canadian Tire in Acton sometime between Saturday afternoon and Monday morning. The value of the damaged tires is \$460, police said.

Man arrested

A man of no fixed address was arrested in North Bay for a crime police believe he committed in Georgetown. An investigation led police to issue a warrant for his arrest. On December 10, 1991 at 10:05 p.m. someone smashed a window at the Leather Showroom in Georgetown. Thirty-five jackets valued at \$7,400 were removed from the store, police said. A 25 year old man was arrested in North Bay.

Proposed bylaws are questioned by council

By STUART JOHNSTON
Staff writer

What constitutes an offence under proposed town bylaws "seem to be questionable at best," according to some councillors, who refused to make them into law until they have studied the matter further.

"There needs to be a reappraisal of some of these things," councillor Gerald Rennie said Monday. "A lot of these (offences) seem to be questionable at best."

Councillor Anne Currie agreed, noting that "seven or eight of them could be thrown out and save everyone the hassle."

Councillors were reviewing a list of offences and their related fines under new bylaws that govern parks and licensing in the town. While most appear straightforward, councillors questioned a handful of offences that seemed to go against common sense.

Because of their confusion, councillor Rick Bonnette asked that the matter be deferred for two weeks, suggesting that his colleagues take their questions about the bylaws to town staff in the meantime.

Rennie believed that a few of the proposed offences are highly subjective, such as being fined \$154 for "being insufficiently clad" in a park, or displaying "boisterous behavior."

Stressing that he doesn't agree with it, Rennie added that commu-

nity standards are changing, therefore restricting the use of profane language in a park might be outdated.

However, councillor Gail Rutherford strongly objected to the suggestion.

"There are changes in community standards, but I hope council does not contribute to its decline by striking some of these (bylaws) down," she said.

But, streamlining or changing any of the proposed offences would only weaken the bylaw, according to Mayor Russ Miller, who urged councillors to approve it outright.

"If they are not there, it only ties the hands of our bylaw enforcement office and the police," he said. "Staff don't draft these laws after saying 'how many stupid things can we bring to council?' They are all in there for a purpose, even though some things may seem foolish...If you want to change any of them, then let's strike a committee and review all of the laws. Damages to the parks are in the thousands every year, so we're trying to protect the town, and the interests of law abiding citizens."

Parks director Tom Shepard reminded councillors that staff only react to complaints, not by regular patrols of the parks. He added that many of the offences are listed in order to control what activities go on in the area, noting the province, not the town, set many of the fines.

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