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News

Digest

Armed man robs store

Halton Hills has been hit a second time by an armed robber who produced a small black handgun, demanded cash and then fled on foot.

On Wednesday at 11:30 p.m. someone entered a Beckers convenience store on Delrex Ave. in Georgetown. The male clerk was in the process of closing the store, when the customer pulled out a gun and demanded cash, police said. The clerk handed over a small amount of cash and the suspect fled on foot.

The man was a white male, about 30 years old, 5 ft. 10 inches, and 175 lbs. He had a ruddy complexion, blue eyes and was wearing a dark blue balaclava, brown bomber-style jacket and white running shoes.

On Thursday a similar incident happened at 7:49 p.m. at the CIBC bank on Mill St. in Acton. That suspect had a medium build, was 5 ft. 10 inches, was also wearing a balaclava, Yukon-style hat and a green ski jacket. No shots were fired and no one was injured in either incident.

"The descriptions are close," said Det. Sgt. Ron Welsh. "But so far, we have no suspects that we can point a finger at."

Anyone with information can call Crimestoppers at (905) 825-8477 or 1-800-668-5151.

Tiger with a Red Nose

Hamilton Tiger Cats mascot, T.C. will be coming to Acton Monday morning to help this town keep the world record of the longest line of red noses. T.C. plans to join the line with his red nose, when it forms in the olde Hide House parking lot starting at 11 a.m. Acton is being challenged by a Kitchener school of approximately 1,500 students and staff. All Acton schools are participating but they will need help so everyone stick on a nose and join the line!

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Hail to the chief!

Newly appointed Halton Regional Police chief Peter Campbell (centre) was officially sworn in Wednesday at the Halton Regional council chambers in Oakville, as he was joined by Halton regional chairman Peter Pomeroy (left) and retiring Halton regional police chief James Harding. Members of regional council, Halton mayors, the Halton Regional Police Services Board and numerous police representatives from all over Ontario were on hand to see Campbell take his oath.

TED BROWN Independent/Free Press

Lou Darcie is Georgetown's Citizen of the Year

By LISA TALLYN
Staff writer

Lou Darcie, who has touched the lives of many over the years through his work as a tireless volunteer in the community, was named Georgetown's 1993 Citizen of the Year on Wednesday.

Darcie, who was surprised and pleased when he heard the news, received the honor for his dedication as a volunteer.

"Lou's credentials, which were presented by a number of people in the community, were very impressive," says Dennis Borotsik, chairman of the Georgetown Lions Citizen of the Year Committee. "He has done a lot of varied work in the community."

Darcie will receive the award on Tuesday, March 1 at the Lions Hall in Georgetown. He's glad the award will be handed out on a Tuesday, because that's his free night each week.

Darcie does not have a lot of free time. Most weeks the retired IBM test engineer keeps a pretty hectic schedule as a volunteer.

For the past 10 years Darcie has been very active with the Halton Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) Hospice Volunteer program. His work with that organization was recognized when he received the Canada Volunteer Award medal and a Certificate of Honor from the Minister of Health and Welfare at a special ceremony in Ottawa last year.

As a hospice volunteer Darcie provides support for terminally ill people and their families. He considers his role with hospice a ministry, not a job.

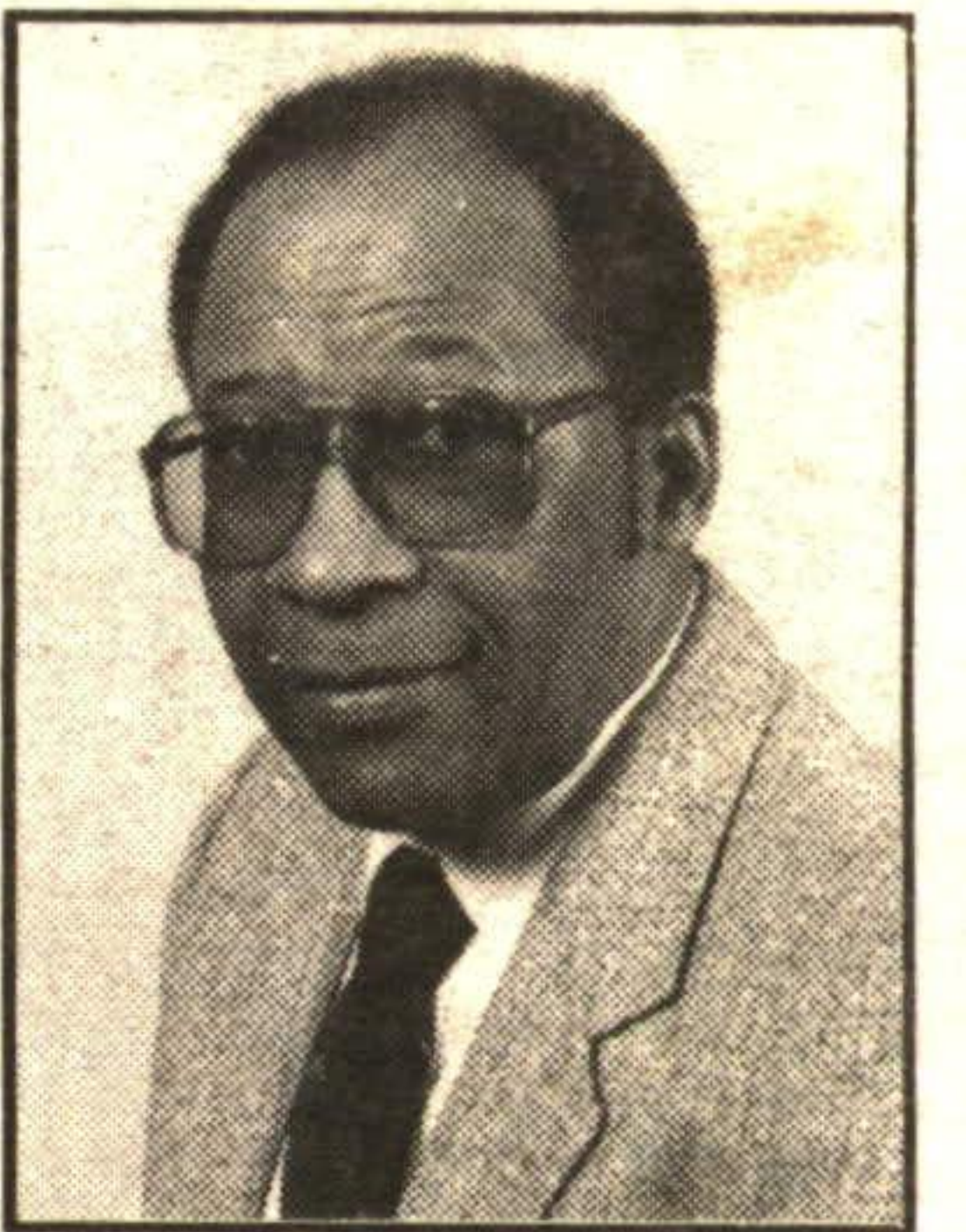
"I have a natural gift of mercy, to communicate, comfort and support people who are dying," says Darcie. "When people are terminal they need to talk and I'm a good listener."

After the ill person dies, Darcie provides support for the family. Often times he helps to plan the funeral, attends the service, and visits family members regularly. Darcie says he has made many friends through his role as a hospice volunteer. "It is very rewarding. It gives you a real nice feeling to know you have helped someone," he says.

Darcie also drives caregivers to hospitals to visit their loved ones, and shuttles people undergoing chemotherapy back and forth to Toronto. About once a week Darcie, a talented musician, visits Allendale in Milton, Heritage House in Guelph or Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto. He'll find a piano, sit down, and stage an impromptu concert. He says the music is very therapeutic, and it is rewarding to see how it affects people. Darcie is a member of the Georgetown Choral Society, the Achille Choral Society (in Hockley Valley) and the St. John's United Church choir.

Every other Saturday, Darcie volunteers with the North Halton Association for the Developmentally Handicapped Saturday Centre Program. There he helps to provide care for 10 to 12 developmentally handicapped youths.

"I call it a parent relief centre. It (the program) is great for me because I'm just a big kid," says Darcie.



LOU DARCIÉ

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