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Rub-a-dub-dub, four tykes in a tub? (Left to right) Rebecca Appleyard, 5, Rachel Crane, 4, David Thacker, 5, and Stirling Bogie,5, test the waters of Dick Licata Pool — behind Georgetown's Memorial Photo by Jamie Harrison Arena — in their 'floating saucer', Monday.

By Dianne Cornish

A plan to keep Halton Hills' fire services up to date has recommended that some projects — including the hiring of full-time staff — be "staged" over several years.

The master fire protection plan, which recommends the replacement of the Bower Avenue firehall in Acton and the relocation of the Maple Avenue firehall in Georgetown, was approved Monday night by Halton Hills

The plan will be reviewed by council each year and is based on recommendations from a committee of council which recently completed an extensive study of proposals made by the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office. The FMO conducted a fire protection survey of Halton Hills in 1989 at the request of Halton Hills Fire Chief Bill Cunningham.

According to a report presented to council by Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson, chairperson of the committee which reviewed the Fire Marshal's survey, the recommendations form the basis of a longrange plan which will provide costeffective and progressive fire protection services in Halton Hills in the years ahead.

"Because of the financial constraints facing the Corporation (town), some of the recommendations have been staged over a longer period of time" than proposed in the survey, Serjeantson's report stated.

Among the programs to be "staged" is a planned program for the hiring of full-time help for the fire department. The report has recommended hiring take place "over a number of years, as the need arises," resulting in less of a financial impact on the town.

The Fire Marshal's survey contained 41 recommendations, which included an examination of the community's geography, water supply for fire suppression purposes, availability of human resources for emergency response, types of apparatus and equipment required by the fire department, location of fire stations, communications, fire prevention practices and appropriate bylaws to establish and regulate the fire department.

Some of the recommendations contained in the survey have already been implemented, either by the fire department's administration or by actions of council. Council has already approved construction of a replacement station

for the Acton firehall at Churchill Road and Highway 7.

The fire protection survey study committee has recommended the department continue to look for a suitable site for the relocation of Georgetown's Maple Ave. station. It was also suggested that the Fire Chief pursue the possibility of the replacement station being located in the future development plan proposed for the Dominion Seed House properties.

Council readily endorsed the plan Monday, asking the fire chief only a few questions about the propos-

Councillor Gail Rutherford was assured by the chief that, although the Occupational Health and Safety Act gives workers the right to refuse a medical examination after they have been hired, the physical will remain a condition of employment in the hiring of firefighters. In addition, it will become a standard operating policy of the department that firefighters be encouraged to voluntarily have a physical at regular intervals throughout their employment.

"I think firefighters will co-operate, simply for their best protection," Cunningham stated.

Continued on page 5

Safety measures proposed for

What is described as "a bad strip of road" by Councillor Rick Bonnette will be the subject of study by Town Engineer Bob Austin, Halton Hills council decided Monday. Council quickly approved a notice of motion by Councillor Rob Heaton to proceed with a study of a section of the Sixth Line, north of Highway 7, in response to concerns about recent accidents which have occurred in the area.

Mayor Russ Miller and Bonnette said that accidents on the roadway warrant the engineer's study.

"I've received phone calls and letters" from concerned residents in the area, the mayor told council. He later recommended that the town's engineering staff look at measures that would prompt drivers in the area to "exercise caution."

Bonnette said there have been six traffic accidents in five years on the section of roadway, which has several curves and hills, as well as considerable pedestrian traffic.

"There are a lot of small children in the area," he warned.

Bonnette also reminded council that residents of the Sixth Line petitioned council a year ago to look at traffic safety in their neighborhood.

town's Manager of

Operations, Ted Drewlo, said the roadway is already being studied by the engineering department.

While "it is recognized as a winding road with deficient sight distances," its accident history is lower than that accepted as normal for straight, hard-surfaced roads, even though it is a gravel road, the engineering department representative said.

Drewlo speculated that further investigation would not reveal much more data than has already been collected by the department, but he allowed that council might want to consider pedestrian traffic signs in the area. Signs warning drivers of a winding road ahead are another possibility, he added.

"Council could put chevrons on the road," he suggested, but he warned that residents along other rural roads might want the same, causing a rash of requests to the

Mayor Miller downplayed that possibility, telling Drewlo that the need for chevrons will be determined on an individual basis.

"If it's going to save somebody's life, it should be looked at," he said, indicating that all measures of caution should be explored in the engineer's study.

Man charged in connection with four-day rampage

A Georgetown man faces a series of charges following a four day rampage in which a 17-year-old Milton girl was assaulted on three separate

According to a Halton Regional Police media release, Between July 5 and July 9, a 20-year-old man broke into broke into the girl's home on three occasions. Once inside he physically assaulted the teenager and another Milton man.

Police report the suspect also forced the girl into a vehicle and drove dangerously "at one point driving the vehicle at her...braking hard almost striking her. The suspect also threatened to kill the victim and her family if she reported the incidents to police.

The man — who was not identified because of the age of his victim has been charged with three counts of assault, three counts of break and enter, two counts of forcible confinement, and one count each of threatening death and dangerous driving.

The couple had been dating, the police report stated.









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