

Hospital reacts to HIV threat

Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital received a notice from the Canadian Red Cross Society Wednesday addressing the current concern with respect to the risk of having been exposed to HIV if a patient were a recipient of a blood transfusion or the transfusion of blood products before November of 1985. John Oliver, Executive Director, reports the following statement has been received by the hospital from the Canadian Red Cross Society:

"There is current intense publicity about the Hospital for Sick Children Study of possible HIV infection in paediatric cardiac surgery patients. This is raising concerns in all individuals who were transfused or think they may have been transfused before blood donations were tested for HIV. Most hospitals do not have the staff resources and blood bank or medical records to check for past

transfusion information on an individual basis.

The advice of the Red Cross to all transfusion recipients and persons who think they may have received blood is that if they are worried about a possible HIV infection, they should discuss this with their own doctor who can arrange for HIV testing. Any person infected before 1985 would have a confirmed positive HIV anti-body test.

Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital joins the Red Cross in recommending that anyone who is concerned about possible HIV infection contact their local family doctor to arrange for HIV testing. The hospital has established a general inquiry number for anyone interested in further information. The number is 873-0111, extension 235. The number will be operational effective this Monday, until next Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



The week of June 2 is Participaction Week and the Town of Halton Hills has challenged the City of Guelph. In addition, the Georgetown Kinsmen Club, last year's Corporate Challenge champion is looking to retain its title. Laurie Burns, of Work That Body is looking for people to join her in a challenge session set for Georgetown District High School. Jumping for joy at the thought of Participaction are, from left; Bruce MacLean of the Kinsmen, Cindy Lawrence, Participaction Week coordinator, Jack Pignatelli of the Kinsmen and Laurie Burns of Work That Body. For further information call Work That Body at 877-0771 or the Town of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department at 873-2600.

photo by Simon Wilson/HHTW

Halton Hills This

WEEKEND

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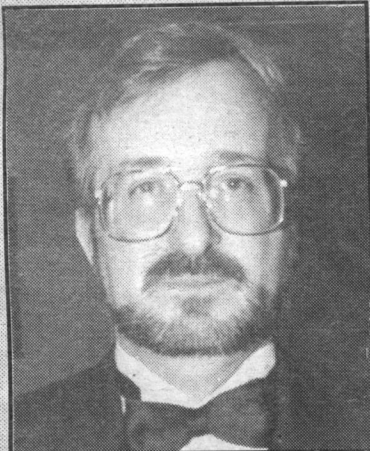
Duignan Bill moving along

"Landfill sites should be banned from the Niagara Escarpment", Halton North MPP Noel Duignan told the Ontario Legislature Thursday.

On Thursday, Duignan's Private Members Bill 62, An Act to amend the Environmental Protection Act in respect of the Niagara Escarpment, received second reading.

"I pledged to the citizens of Halton North that I would endeavor to protect this community's most important natural asset," Mr. Duignan said during his speech in Queens Park. "And I want to extend this pledge, with your support, to all local communities, and all Ontarians to protect this world recognized area of natural beauty and significance." Successful passage of the Bill would prohibit all further waste management systems and waste disposal sites in the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area.

The purpose of the Niagara Escarpment Act, passed in 1985, is



"to provide for the maintenance of the Niagara Escarpment and lands in its vicinity substantially as a continuous natural environment, and to ensure only such development occurs as is compatible with that natural environment."

"I would like to stress the Niagara Escarpment Act was supported by all parties," said Mr. Duignan. "My purpose in bringing forth this important amendment is to strengthen its resolve."

RAIDD tackles region over development

By Oksana Buhel

Ken Thorn, a representative of the Georgetown citizen's organization RAIDD (Residents Active in Development Decisions) made Halton Regional Council take notice of the group's opposition to a development proposal Wednesday afternoon.

Thorn made a similar presentation Monday evening at the Town of Halton Hills general committee meeting, during which Councillor Bill Robson invited Thorn to make his presentation to the region.

Thorn expressed RAIDD's concern about the proposed development of apartments and townhouses on Maple Ave., in Georgetown, east of the Civic Centre.

The location is currently zoned R 1, meaning it is to be used for single family dwellings. The proposed development, which spans across three lots, is for 199 housing units, approximately four times more than the property is currently zoned.

The two developing companies are numbered companies 870215 Ontario Ltd. and 815519 Ontario Ltd.

According to Thorn, the reason for the presentation was to have a

referral made to the Ontario Municipal Board through the region. "The previous report which the region received was not accurate," Thorn said. "It included only one letter of protest but, in fact, there were many more. The report also declared that the proposal had already referred to the OMB but it had not.

At the region presentation, Thorn requested an OMB meeting be held in Georgetown because of the local nature of the problem. The motion

was received.

Halton Hills town council has not as yet debated the issue, but with the OMB now involved, town approval is not necessary. A date for the OMB meeting has not yet been set, but Thorn is cautiously hopeful it might be held in Georgetown because of what he perceived as a favorable reaction from the region.

Thorn stated his presentation "went as well as we could have hoped."

Controversial drug used at GDMH

By Oksana Buhel

Raymond Mallet, a representative of the Citizen's Commission on Human Rights, was in Georgetown Wednesday afternoon, asking residents to sign a petition urging the government to ban the use of the psychiatric drug Prozac.

Mallet had booklets and information about the effects of Prozac on patients. He described a case where a woman believed herself to be in a

dream in which she was standing in front of a mirror examining herself. In her "dream" she heard a yell and "awoke" to find her daughter behind her, screaming because her mother had a butcher knife to her own throat. This was one of many incidents which Mallet maintained he was aware of.

One of the alleged effects of Prozac is that it makes patients

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