

Cops to crack down on bush parties

By Oksana Buhel

In light of the Mother's Day Caledon crash which killed eight youths and seriously injured two others, Halton Region police are cracking down on bush parties.

"They're pretty common around here," said Halton Region police Staff Sergeant Don Croucher. "We have lots of fields around Halton Hills. These parties become especially common in the summer, with the warm weather."

To control the "drinkfests," police will be tracking down leads ahead of time so that cruisers can be dispatched to the location to check the contents of cars entering the area. "We get tips from parents, teachers, even concerned kids," said Croucher. Police officers are instructed to discourage youths from attending.

Individuals under 19 years-of-age caught with alcohol can be fined \$105. If they are intoxicated, they can expect another \$105 fine. Intoxicated individuals of legal age can be fined \$55 and may be kept overnight at the police station. If this is a recurring incident, the indi-

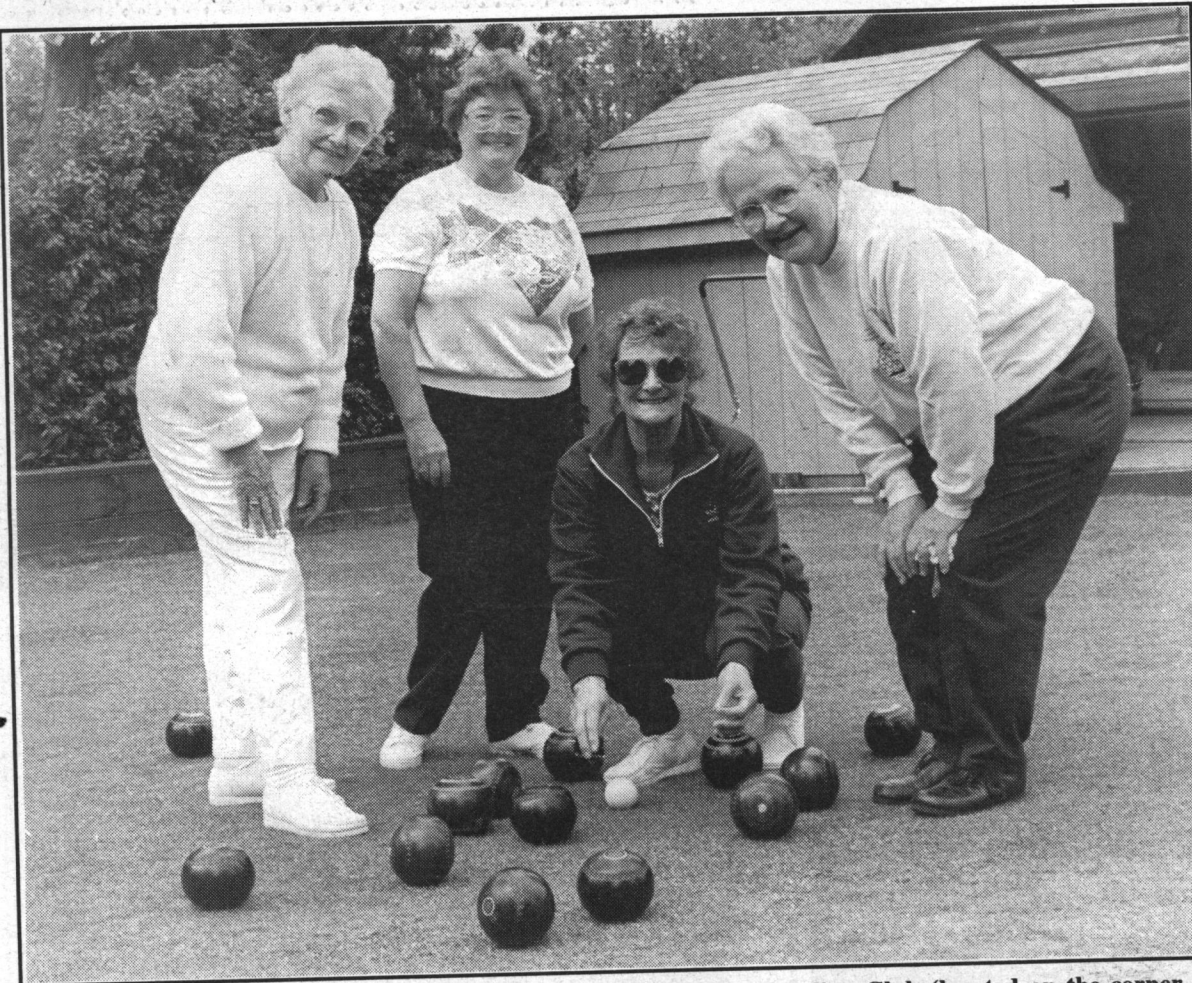
viduals will be issued a "part 3" form, requiring them to appear in court.

Drunk drivers, regardless of age, can be fined anywhere around \$500 for their first conviction, depending on the ruling of the judge, and can face a 100%-200% increase in insurance, as well as the probability of losing their license. This is assuming they have not caused any damage or injury.

Even owners of the property can be fined if alcohol is served to minors, regardless of whether or not the owners are aware of the event. This fine will be decided on by the presiding judge.

To further decrease attendance at bush parties, police will monitor parking in the area and all unlawfully parked vehicles will be towed away.

"The purpose of the crack-down is to heighten awareness," explained Croucher, "because it's dangerous. Sometimes kids are brought in who are so intoxicated, they could easily throw up and asphyxiate. We're concerned about their health - we worry about them."



The lawn bowling season is underway at the Georgetown Lawn Bowling Club (located on the corner of Edith and William streets) and Saturday, from left; Mabel Williamson, Christine Wild, Ruby Rodger and Marion Hogan were found enjoying a game. The club welcomes new members of all ages and more information on its activities can be obtained by contacting Mabel Williamson at 877-3589 or Betty Barkley at 877-3720. photo by Colin Gibson/HHTW

Halton Hills

THIS WEEK

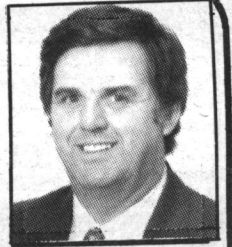
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Armed robbery in Acton

Police continue to investigate an armed robbery at the Esso gas station on Mill St. in Acton, which occurred Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

A man, wearing a black ski mask and carrying an eight-inch hunting knife, drove up to the kiosk, entered and demanded money. The 18-year-old clerk from Rockwood, handed over several hundred dollars, according to police.

The suspect was last seen heading eastbound on Young St. According to the police report, the clerk, visibly shaken after the ordeal, was still able to give an accurate description of the suspect and vehicle.

A zone alert has been issued for a white male, 5'9", 150lb. with brown hair and green/blue eyes. He was wearing black jeans, black jean jacket, white T-shirt and white shoes. The vehicle he was driving was described as an older model light blue Ford Tempo or Taurus with rust spots on the doors.

Anyone with any information on the robbery is asked to contact Halton Region Police at 878-5511.

\$3,500 in goods stolen

Suspects broke into a home on

Steeles Ave, west of Winston Churchill Blvd. in Halton Hills sometime during the weekend and made off with \$3,500 in goods. According to a police report, the suspects entered through the back door after breaking the lock. They entered the family room and took the stereo, a speaker, a CD player, the television and VCR. No other rooms were touched. Police continue to investigate the incident.

Citizen helps police

A good Samaritan chased down three youths who were smashing mailboxes in the Eighth Line/32 Side Road area in Georgetown Sunday night. The man was outside with a rifle, scaring off raccoons, when he heard screams and witnessed the incident. He jumped into his vehicle and chased down the youths, who had fled in their truck seconds earlier. The man stopped the truck and kept the teenagers restrained until police arrived. Police charged a 15-year-old Brampton youth and 19-year-old from Cheltenham with mischief under \$1,000. The third youth was not charged. Nine mailboxes had been smashed.



The Demolition Derby is always a crowd-pleaser and this year's edition was no exception at the 17th annual Georgetown Kinsmen Club Bang-O-Rama staged at the Fairgrounds over the weekend. photo by Colin Gibson/HHTW

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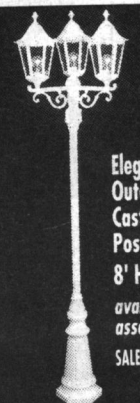
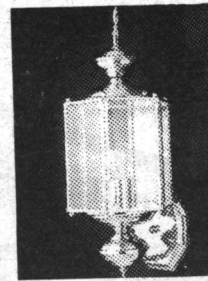
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