

Acton will take centre stage at OMB hearing

Town of Halton Hills councillors met Tuesday evening to discuss the 16 amendments to the Halton Hills Urban Land Use Study and the Residential Implementation Study for the Acton Urban Area. Of this number, only eight were carried, all of them dealing with Acton. The nearness of the Acton Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing, June 28, influenced councillors to address Acton issues first. The remaining amendments were deferred, but no date was set to deal with the deferrals.

The amendments which were carried were in the categories of general residential policies for Acton/Georgetown - excluding the Georgetown section, general commercial policies for Acton/Georgetown - excluding the Georgetown section, Acton devel-



opment phasing - with modifications, Acton East development - with modifications, Goose/South West Acton/Stone School, Acton Mon II - with modifications, Coscan Commercial Acton, and Freure Commercial Acton.

Copies of the amendments can be obtained at the planning department of the civic centre.



Food bank vandalized

Laura Ellison, President of the Love in Christ Foodbank located in the basement of Mountainview Baptist Church in Georgetown, displays one of the cans of food that was punctured with a screwdriver by vandals during Tuesday night's break and enter. According to a police report, the door to the church basement was unintentionally left unlocked. Aside from the punctured cans of food, other containers were opened and their contents spilled on the floor. An estimated \$100 worth of food was lost and damage was done to cabinet doors and handles. The investigation is continuing.

photo by Simon Wilson/HHTW

Halton Hills This

WEEKEND

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Changing of the broom

Jose Pires (middle) hands over the "golden broom" to the new St. Francis of Assisi custodian, Donna Bugala (right) while Pires' wife, Maria looks on. Pires will be honored Friday at the Halton Roman Catholic School Board Staff Recognition Night, for 17-1/2 years of faithful service to the school. "The job was fantastic," the now-retired Pires stated enthusiastically. "The people are fantastic and the kids are fantastic. I love them and they love me." Asked what he will do now, Pires exclaimed firmly, "Relax!"

photo by Simon Wilson/HHTW

Bullies beware!

By Oksana Buhel

Starting this September, the Halton Board of Education will address the growing problem of violence in schools. Eight elementary schools in the region have been selected as 'guinea pigs' for an anti-bullying project, including, Harrison Public School in Georgetown.

Bryce Leggat, chair of the school board's Personal Protection Task Force said that secondary schools already have a grade nine social science course which addresses this problem. "If secondary schools still feel a need to implement a separate anti-bullying campaign, we'll help out as much as we can," Leggat promised. "For now, however, we're dealing with elementary schools."

The program to be introduced at Harrison is made up of three components. The first component, Leggat explained, is essential for the program's success. "We aim at raising the awareness of staff and students, so they can identify bullying and deal with it appropriately." Leggat explained incidents must be

reported immediately, and staff and administration will have to deal strongly with the offender, which will include involving the parents. At the same time, victims will be responded to appropriately.

The second component is not mandatory, but will enhance the effectiveness of the project, Leggat explained. Students will be taught problem-solving techniques, peer relationship, communication skills, and other methods which will enable them to extract themselves from violent situations.

The final element, entitled "Peer Mediation," encourages students to step in when they witness a bullying situation. This program has been used by Winchester Public School in Toronto for three years with a great deal of success, Leggat said. The difficulty with the program is its cost - \$360 US. for the commercial package. This money must be raised by schools interested in the program. Leggat added the price of the program may eventually decrease if Winchester makes a model of the program currently in use.

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