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**FENDERT BENDER:** A southbound car crashed into a small trailer that had unhitched itself from a pick-up truck at the corner of Kingham Rd. and Main Street S. No one was injured in the Saturday crash. - Ellen Piehl photo

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**TOWN DIGEST**

**NO DELAY**

With no explanation, the Minister of Finance has refused a request by municipalities - including Halton Hills - to delay remitting tax payments to the school board.

The Town asked for a one month delay, until the end of this month, in order to make up for \$85,000 in lost revenue when new tax legislation from Queens Park was late. The Town sent its tax notices out one month late, resulting in lost revenues of \$85,000.

Town treasurer Ed DeSousa said the \$85,000 would be absorbed by the Town, probably from investment revenues.

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they've left behind empty beer and liquor bottles - and he's worried about the potential of an accident in stagnant water in the backyard swimming pool.

Municipal bylaw enforcement officer, Ron Stein, said he'd recommend this week that the Town board up the property to ensure safety. If the ordered repairs or demolition isn't done, the Town can do it and add the cost to the property tax bill.

**SECOND UNIT CONCERN**

The cost of making upgrades to legalize second units in houses, not the \$660 registration fee, appears to be a major deterrent to registering them in Halton Hills.

Noting that just one resident had registered their second unit so far this year, Councillor Ron Chatten suggested the Town decrease the fee to under \$200 until the end of the year to encourage people to come forward. It's estimated there could be as many as 1,000 illegal second units - many of them basement apartments - in Halton Hills.

Town staff said the cost of doing necessary fire and building code upgrades to legalize second units, not the \$660 fee, is the reason people aren't coming forward.

Councillor Moya Johnson doesn't want the fee decreased, arguing the extra income the homeowners with second units make would quickly recoup the fee, and that the fee covers the Town's cost to do the registration.

She suggested the Town should appeal to the community to report the second units "so they are safe for the tenants that live in them," but doesn't want people to be "rattling on their neighbours."

**DANGEROUS EYESORE**

After almost a year of living near the burned out shell of a house at 16 Storey Drive, some area residents want the Town to take action against the owners of the home that was gutted by fire last August.

In late May, the Town issued an order to comply with a cleanup order, giving the owners 15 days to fence the entire property, 30 days to apply for a permit to repair or demolish the house, and 60 days to do the work. The first two deadlines have passed without any work being done and the third expires later this month.

Neighbour Ron Wood said kids are getting into the property through holes in the fencing for drinking parties -

**Halton leads in biosolid management**

Halton's leadership in the area of responsible biosolids management was reinforced last week with the release of an internal audit of the W.A. Bill Johnson Biosolids Waste Management Centre (BMC).

Biosolids are nutrient-rich organic materials resulting from the treatment of sewage. When sewage sludge is processed and treated, it produces biosolids, which can be safely recycled and applied as fertilizer to improve soil quality.

The audit confirmed the facility's compliance with Certificates of Approval and Provincial Guidelines after a number of key features were inspected, including the biosolids storage tanks, monitoring systems, berms, the storage lagoon, monitoring test wells,

storm ponds, fencing and operating.

The assessment, conducted by a qualified ISO Quality Management Systems auditor, revealed that the facility was built with environmental protection in mind.


The Committee also endorsed a recommendation to negotiate an agreement with Azurix North American/Terratec, the company that currently manages the BMC facility, with respect to the ongoing management of the facility and the Halton Biosolids Recycling Program. The proposed service agreement includes stringent monitoring requirements which will help to boost public and regulatory confidence in Halton's Biosolids Recycling Program and ensure its healthy future.

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**Making your home your castle**

Summer is the time of year when most people take a vacation, or just relax around town. Thieves do not take a summer vacation; indeed it can be their busiest time of year.

A review of Break, Enter and Theft reports shows that the majority of these events happen during the daytime. Thieves know that in today's economy, it's not unusual for both husband and wife to be away at work all day. Or they figure that a family may be away on vacation. Thieves look for opportunities, when no one is around they are less likely to be caught. The methods of entry usually involves forcing open a window or door, especially those doors and windows obscured by trees and bushes. Sometimes they simply walk-up, open an unlocked door and enter into a house. Once inside it only takes a couple of minutes to steal your valuables. Thieves often steal easily pawned or "fenced" goods like jewellery, cameras or other electronics. They will target quieter side streets and look for easy pickings. I can't tell you what a thief looks like, they come in all shapes, sizes and ages.

What can you do? To help yourself, take the time to ensure you lock all doors and windows (including the car). Be aware of what's happening in your neighbourhood. Get to know your neighbours and

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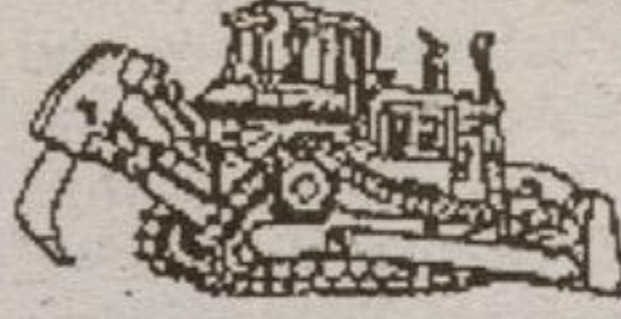
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