TOWN DIGEST

Fighting false alarms

Property owners with repeat false fire alarm activations may have to pay for the firefighters who race to the call.

That's one option being studied by the fire department to fight false alarms without compromising safety.

In the first six months of this year, almost 24 per cent - 72 of the 303 emergency incidents in Halton Hills were false alarms. Thirtytwo were accidental, 32 resulted from equipment malfunctions and eight were malicious.

In a report asking Council for the go-ahead to develop an

action plan to deal with the problem, Fire Chief Bob

Meads said sending crews to false alarms potentially compromises their safety and that of the community who genuinely need help at the same time.

Other options to reduce the frequency and impact of false alarms includes laying charges under the Ontario Fire Code for failing to maintain an alarm system, charging the response cost to the person who caused the alarm, reducing the level of response to repeat alarms, no response to repeat alarms and criminal charges in the case of malicious alarms.

The way the Fire Departresponds ment emergency calls is changing

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PAST PRESIDENTS: Nine past presidentsattended the 50th anniversary celebration of St.Joseph's CWL Sunday including, left to right, Ronnie Lampkin, Ruth McMahan of Woodstock, Mary Catharine Greyerbiehl of Bramalea, Irma Coles, Helen Fowler, Loretta Sammit, Shirley Braida, Arlene Coultrups, Anna Arnold and current president Jennifer Dawkins

celebrates 50th anniversary

Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki suggested the Catholic Women's League (CWL) of Acton should think seri-

ously of adding a home care ministry to their parish activities when he spoke to members celebrat-

7 nts from

ing the 50th anniversary of the Acton CWL at a special mass Sunday afternoon at St Joseph's Church. A banquet followed in the church hall.

Cutbacks in health care and hospital stays have created a crisis for many people, the bishop said, and there's a need to expand parish activities beyond the traditional ministries by addressing the life situation of parishioners.

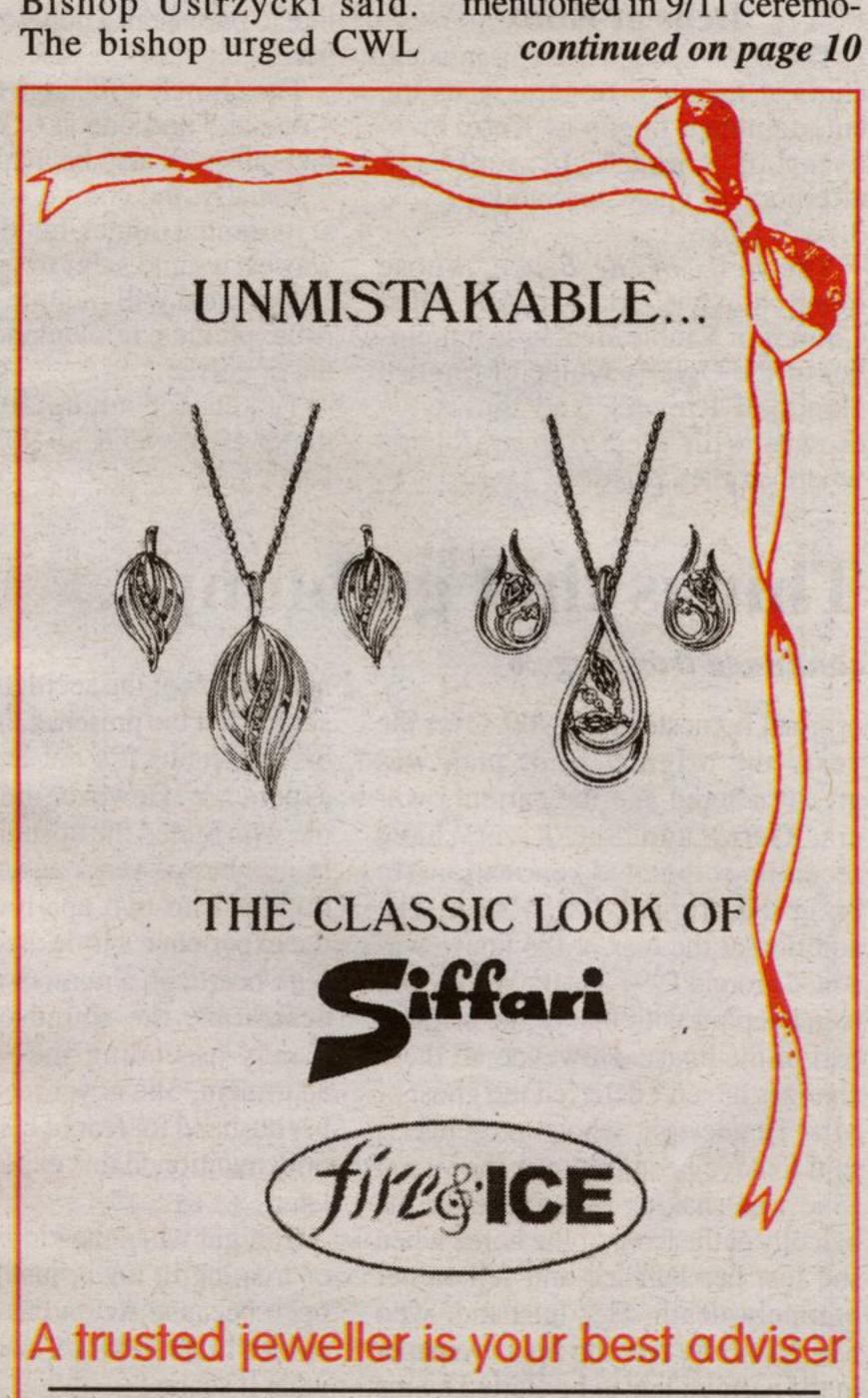
There's so much individualism nowadays we've lost our sense of community, he told CWL members and guests, he urged them to see Christ in everyone, to exemplify the Christian ideal in society and recognize the dignity of people everywhere not only by speaking out on issues but with prayer.

"We need more prayer to change the atmosphere in society today, which won't face up to the needs of those who are in despair," Bishop Ustrzycki said.



TRAVELLER: Edna Leblanc, left, came all the way from Moncton, New Brunswick to attend the 50 th anniversary celebration of St. Joseph's CWL, Sunday. She's greeted by current president Jennifer Dawkins

members to let governments know how they feel on issues like embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia, and the attacks on marriage which are so prevalent today. Ask your representatives questions of why God wasn't even mentioned in 9/11 ceremo-



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