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News

Digest

Charges laid

A 22-year-old Milton resident has been charged with first degree murder April 7 in the death of Fredrick Sheppard, 77. Sheppard had been shot several times and was found outside his Milton home on March 7.

On April 10, a Halton Regional Police detective was charged with assault, an offence allegedly committed during the arrest of suspect.

The officer works in the Criminal Investigation Bureau in Oakville and is a 25-year veteran of the police force. He is currently on annual leave and will be reassigned to other duties when he returns.

Car stolen

A 1984 Buick Skyhawk was taken from Halton Auto Wreckers in Limehouse sometime overnight Sunday.

Someone cut the chain on a gate to get into the area and took about \$500 worth of tools from a shed. They also took the car which didn't have a licence on it. It was recovered Tuesday.

Tire spree

Four cars parked on Kingham Rd. in Acton had their tires punctured sometime overnight Saturday. A 1991 Ford pickup, a 1985 Hyundai, a 1978 Buick and a 1982 Honda Civic were all vandalized, police said.

In Georgetown, the windshield of a 1986 Chevrolet was smashed overnight Sunday and about \$600 damage was done to a 1983 Ford parked in a lot on Ontario St. The radio and heater were damaged, police said.

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On the lamb!



Doris Lindsay of Limehouse feeds a two-week-old spring lamb, one of 50 she is currently raising on her Halton Hills farm. Spring lambs are popular in the ethnic circles for Easter celebrations. This little fellow was one of a set of triplets and was abandoned by his mom. Doris had to become the foster mother, feeding him with a bottle. TED BROWN Independent/Free Press

Council approves budget

It's official! For the fourth consecutive year Halton Hills taxpayers will not face an increase on the town portion of their tax bills.

Monday night town council approved the 1995 \$18.9 million operating budget and \$4.5 million capital budget which reflect no general mill rate increase for general town purposes.

The average taxpayer will pay \$448.99 in taxes for general town purposes on a residence assessed at \$5,700, the same as in 1994. Urban taxpayers will have to pay an additional \$161.99, down 46 cents from last year, for urban services such as garbage pickup, street-lighting and crossing guard services.

On Monday, Councillor Al Cook, chair of the town's budget committee, said achieving the goal has not been easy.

"We continue to face a significant decline in provincial funding and now must also address the present and future impacts of federal funding."

"However we met these constraints without noticeably reducing the range of services which we provide to our residents," said Cook.

Cook noted more difficult budget years are yet to come, as the provincially imposed social contract is set to expire in March 1996, and the impacts of a recently announced transfer payment reductions to the province by the Federal government will make the budget process more challenging.



AL COOK

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