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News

Digest

Mayor to mediate

Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson wants to put to rest the issue of direct deposit pay at Monday's council meeting. The mayor intended to bring the issue up Tuesday night but Councillor Rob Heaton, who hasn't been paid by the town for the past two months because he refuses to participate in the direct deposit system, was not at the meeting. Mayor Serjeantson said she did not want to bring up the issue until she has discussed it with Councillor Heaton, which she intends to do by Monday.

Saluting volunteers

It's a time for all of us to salute our volunteers as part of Volunteer Week, which runs from today (April 23) until Saturday.

Lool for a special four-page pull-out inside today's paper in honor of the dedicated volunteers in Halton Hills and the surrounding areas.

Valdi's closed

Valdi Foods on Mountainview Rd. has closed after the chain of 52 stores declared bankruptcy. The closure of the Georgetown store came as a shock to the seven employees there.

An employee of the store said Wednesday, staff had been told the Georgetown store would not be closing and that information had been passed along to customers. She said she regrets the customers were misinformed. The employees were notified Tuesday the store was closed. On Wednesday employees were removing the remaining goods from the store to be sold in a liquidation sale.

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Battling the blaze

Halton Hills Area One firefighters endured thick smoke and windy conditions as they battled a stubborn house fire at 10 Main St. S., in Acton Wednesday morning. Cause of the fire is still unknown, and damage to the structure is estimated at \$100,000. TED BROWN photo

Pomeroy back in court

By KIM ARNOTT

Special to The Independent/Free Press

Former Halton regional chairman Peter Pomeroy has pleaded not guilty to accepting an \$80,000 loan from a Halton Hills developer in exchange for helping along the developer's subdivision project.

Pomeroy appeared in a Milton courtroom Wednesday to face charges of breaching the public trust and accepting a secret commission. Co-accused, Albert Tennant, the developer, is facing one count of offering a secret commission.

An additional charge of offering a secret commission, originally laid against Patricia Crimmins, Pomeroy's wife and the deputy-clerk of Halton Region, was withdrawn by Crown attorney, Brian Gover. He said, after court adjourned Wednesday, the charge was withdrawn because he wished to focus the case on Pomeroy and Tennant. Crimmins had originally been charged because an \$80,000 loan from Tennant passed through her bank account on route to Pomeroy.

In his opening statement, Gover alleged that Pomeroy accepted that \$80,000 loan to purchase a Florida condominium, while applications regarding Tennant's subdivision in Georgetown were in front of regional council. Pomeroy, Gover stated, did not declare a conflict of interest when those applications came before council.

The crown is also alleging Pomeroy attempted to influence regional officials, as well as Credit Valley Conservation Authority officials, into giving special consideration to Tennant's applications.

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