Six-year-old Robert Hope gives the 'thumbs up' sign as the Halton Hills Recreation and Parks department visited the Georgetown Fire Hall on Maple Avenue. Robert and his friends toured the facilities and got to see how real firefighters work.
Photo by Jamie Harrison

Police Beat

Cop shop sprayed

The Halton Regional Police building on guelph Street was among almost half-a-dozen buildings vandalized late Wednesday night.

At about 11:50 p.m., someone ran into building to report that a person had just sprayed the southeast corner of the building with spray paint.

While officers were quick to move outside to try and find the suspect, the culprit escaped into the night.

The Georgetown post office on Maple Avenue, Curwood Packaging and The Terminal Warehouse on Armstrong Avenue and the Petro Canada gas station at Guelph Street and Sinclair Road were also painted, police say.

The culprit is described as a male, approximately 6' with a thin build.

Crime watched

Halton Regional Police are continuing their investigation after a Mountainview Road resident watched a pair of men break into a variety store Monday.

According to police, the suspects were first observed at about 1:30 a.m. after the observer heard voices outside her home. The person watched as a man struck the outside window of their store three times until the glass shattered.

She then looked on as a second man reached inside and removed an undetermined amount of cigarettes. The pair then fled in a mid-sized van being driven by a third man.

Review committee to study quarry

Continued from page 1

Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs), and an important source of groundwater for both the Town of Milton and the Town of Halton Hills, I am pleased to announce that I have initiated a special review committee to ensure compliance (of the quarry) with the relevant provincial statutes," Duignan told those attending the media conference.

Grier has approved the committee's formation, in principle, and it's expected to be operational within three weeks. Mayor Miller said representation will include the towns of Halton Hills and Milton, the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, Halton Region Conservation Authority, and three local environmental interest groups, Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources (POWER), Furiously Opposed to Acton Dumping (FOAD) and Ecology Awareness Group Landscape and Environment (EAGLE).

The committee will work closely with the quarry operator and the Ministries of Environment and Natural Resources. Its purpose is to guarantee sound environmental planning and reduced environmental impacts in connection with the quarry operation.

"The Minister of the Environment has a number of concerns with the operation of the quarry and has brought them to the attention of the Minister of Natural Resources (Bud Wildman), and has created an opportunity for a monitoring and compliance function that can be serviced by this committee," Duignan explained.

At present, the Acton Quarry pumps out 1.8 million gallons of water daily, diverting the water supply from one Conservation Authority area to another. The water is removed from the Milton watershed, administered by the Halton Region Conservation Authority, and pumped over the escarpment. Some is used for quarry processing, but only 20 per cent finds its way into Black Creek, regulated by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority. The Black Creek buried valley is a major source of Georgetown's drinking water.

Halton Region relies on the ground and surface flows east of the quarry to service the urban areas of Acton and Georgetown.

"At the moment, development is frozen in both areas, and millions of dollars are at stake if the sewage and water allotments cannot be made to support the commitments that are being made for housing and industry in Halton Hills," Duignan said.

Mayor Miller said he hopes the committee will have effective input into regulations contained in the quarry's site plan. "Maybe some negotiation can take place," he speculated. "The Town has had difficulty in seeing site plans (for the quarry), " he said, indicating his hope that the new committee will open channels of communication and ensure protection of the Town's groundwater source.

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