

Fitness funds

Mandy Beland, fitness co-ordinator for Park Fitness, recently presented a cheque for \$3,013 to Mark Whetham, co-ordinator of the Fit for Heart program of the North Peel Heart and Stroke Foundation, which serves the Halton Hills area. The funds were raised from pledge sheets from Park Fitness members who took part in the recent aerobathon in which three different aerobic classes took part.

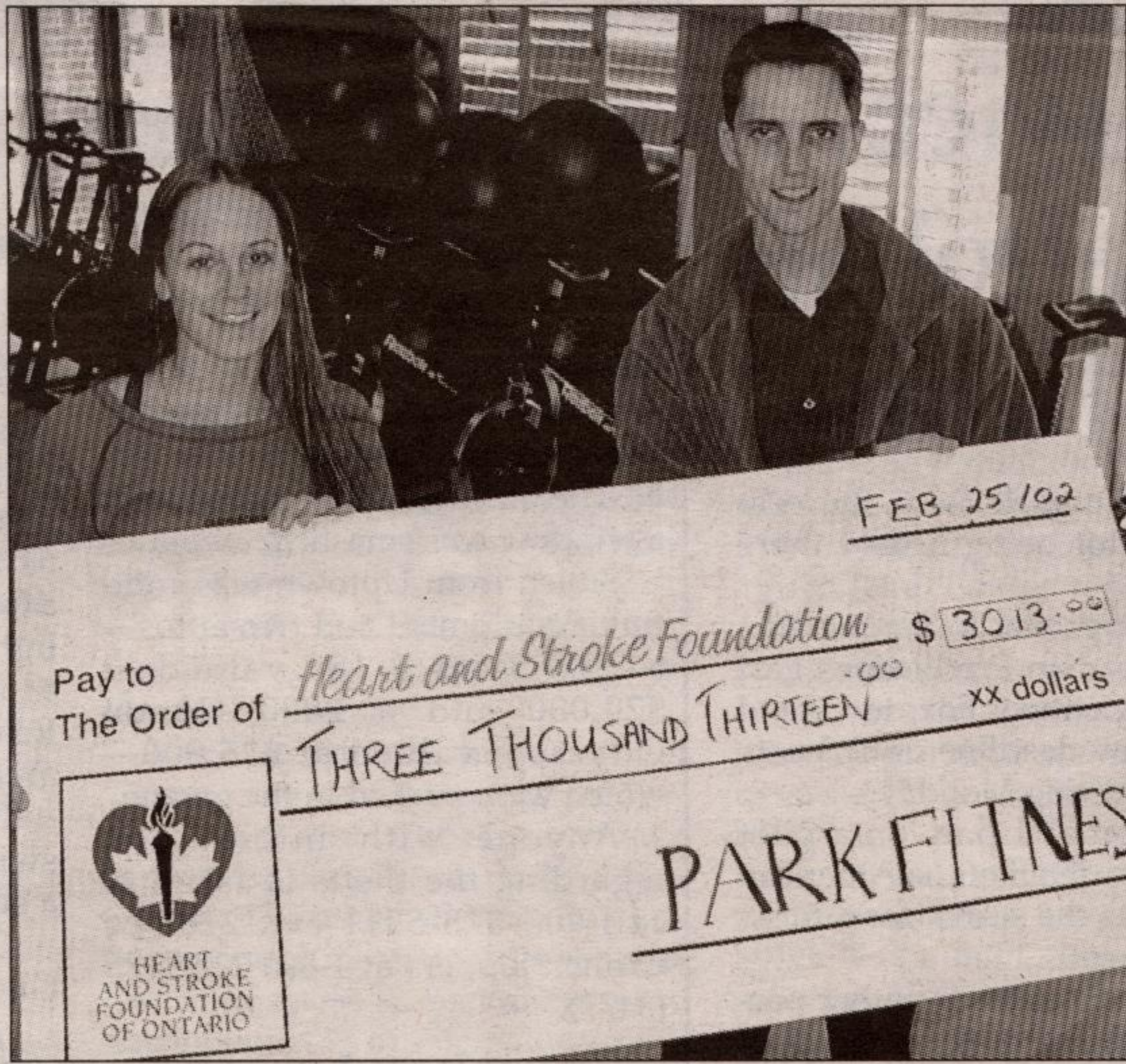


Photo by Ted Brown

After police chase near Acton Six teens facing charges

Six Hamilton teens are facing charges following a pursuit by Halton Police of a stolen vehicle south of Acton Monday night.

Police report about 8:05 p.m. six youths were at a Sixth Line Halton Hills home speaking to a youth who lived there. Police received information that the van full of youths was headed to Acton where they planned to do harm to another youth living there.

Const. Vince Couce saw the van just outside of Acton, and determined it had been reported stolen from Hamilton.

He attempted to stop the van, but the driver failed to stop so police initiated a pursuit.

The van struck a curb, which deflated one tire, continued traveling north on Hwy. 25, then the driver came to a stop after about 3.5 kms. Police arrested the six occupants.

Charged with theft over \$5,000, possession over \$5,000, and conspiracy to commit an indictable offence of assault with a weapon were Andrew Blair Stewart, 18, of Mary St., Hamilton, Clayton Michael Campbell, 18, of Cannon St. W., Hamilton, two 16-year-old Hamilton males, and two 16-year-old Hamilton females. One of the females is also charged with dangerous driving and cause a pursuit.

Council's 2001 expense tab for travel, conventions totalled nearly \$19,000

Halton Hills council members collectively claimed more than \$18,900 in conventions, meetings and travel reimbursements during 2001.

A report on the mayor's and councillors' expenses was stamped for approval at a recent meeting. Provincial law requires the annual publishing of all council, boards and committee members' expenses and remuneration.

The mayor's base salary was \$42,670 and for the 10 councillors, \$14,436. However, besides benefit contributions, many of the members also filed for expense reimbursements totaling about \$18,900. In 2000, council expenses for travel, conventions/seminars and public relations totalled \$5,175.

Mayor Kathy Gastle received a total \$51,562 (her base salary plus \$2,737 for benefits, \$1,260 for travel expenses, \$2,651 for conventions and seminars and \$2,242 for meetings and functions).

A \$6,000 mayor's expense account is "not a lot of money" compared to mayors' accounts in other communities, said Gastle. In 2000, former mayor Marilyn Serjeantson claimed \$3,900.

Gastle attributes her "proactive" approach in nominating and honouring community members with awards such as the provincial senior volunteer and Ontario Heritage Foundation recipients for her \$2,200 meetings/functions account. She also hosted a number of town functions such as the Duke of Kent's visit and the International Year of the Volunteer celebration.

"I think it's important to recognize the achievements of individuals in our community," she said, "and I will continue to

do that."

The mayor's convention expense account, along with several other councillors, was high in 2001 because they attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) conference in Banff, Alberta last May. This year, Gastle will attend the FCM conference in Hamilton, but it will go on her Halton Region expense account, she said. "My convention expenses (this year) will be nominal."

As a representative on Halton Region council, Gastle received \$21,553 (\$20,883 base salary plus \$690 in benefits). She did not claim for expenses from Halton Region.

Also incurring higher convention/meeting/travel reimbursements were Ward 3 Councillors Moya Johnson and Jane Fogal, Ward 2 Councillor Joan Robson and Ward 1 Councillor Dobbie Frizzell. The former three also attended the FCM conference in Banff. (Two will attend this year: Councillors Clark Somerville and Rick Bonnette).

Johnson earned \$17,059 (\$14,436 base salary, \$615 in benefits, \$29 in travel expenses, \$1,977 for conventions and seminars).

Fogal earned \$17,095 (the base salary, plus \$615 in benefits, \$66 for travel, \$1,977 for conventions/seminars).

Robson earned \$18,383 (the base salary plus \$973 in benefits, \$679 for travel, \$2,049 for conventions and seminar and \$75 for meetings/functions). Robson also earned \$1,382 as the town's rep on the Credit Valley Conservation board—\$951 for remuneration and \$431 for travel and meeting allowance.

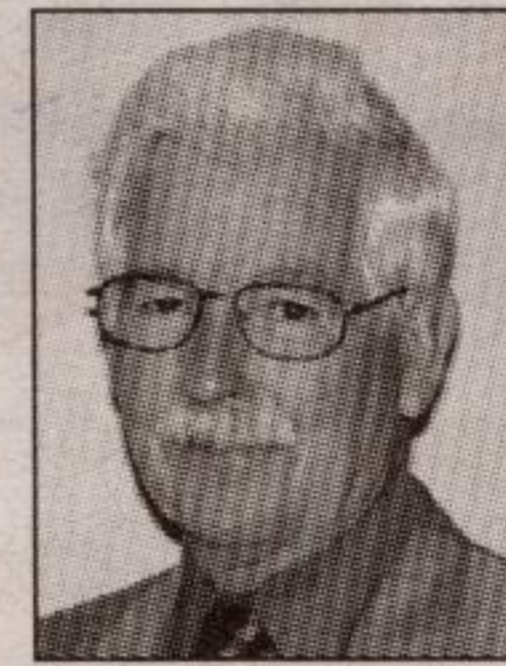
Frizzell earned \$15,916 (the base salary plus \$400 in benefits, \$1,030 for travel and \$50 for meetings and functions). The Acton councillor attributed his high travel



RICK BONNETTE



JOHN DAY



DOBBIE FRIZZELL



JOAN ROBSON



JANE FOGAL

expenses to the numerous committee meetings he attends.

Wards 1/2 Regional Councillor Rick Bonnette earned \$16,398 (base salary plus \$615 in benefits, \$1,185 for travel and \$160 for meetings and functions). At the regional level he earned \$24,549 (that includes a \$20,883 base salary, \$690 benefits, \$1,391 for car mileage and meeting allowance and \$1,605 conference expense (the Banff conference). He also earned \$107 (travel and meeting allowance) for his work on the Halton Non-Profit Housing board.

Wards 3/4 Regional Councillor John Day earned \$15,052 (the base salary, plus \$615 in benefits) at the town level. He did not claim for any expenses at the town level—"I didn't think of it," Day said.

At the regional level, Day, a member of numerous committees, earned \$24,751 (\$20,883 base salary, \$690 benefits, \$3,198 car mileage and meeting allowance). Day, noting that he doesn't put in for his Hwy. 407 and Bell charges, said travel and meetings are a necessary part of his work in representing the interests of Halton Hills.

Day also received \$1,482 as a member of the Halton Police Services Board (\$1,028 in mileage and meeting allowance

and \$454 in conference expenses).

Ward 2 Councillor Bryan Lewis earned \$16,331 (the base salary, plus \$615 in benefits and \$1,279 for travel).

Ward 4 Councillor Ron Chatten earned \$15,414 (the base salary plus \$352 for benefits, \$414 for travel and \$211 for meetings and functions). Chatten also earned \$849 as the town rep on the Conservation Halton board—\$475 for remuneration and \$374 for travel and meeting allowance.

Ward 4 Councillor Bob Inglis earned \$15,664 (the base salary plus \$615 for benefits, \$446 for travel, \$152 for conventions/seminars and \$14 for meetings and functions).

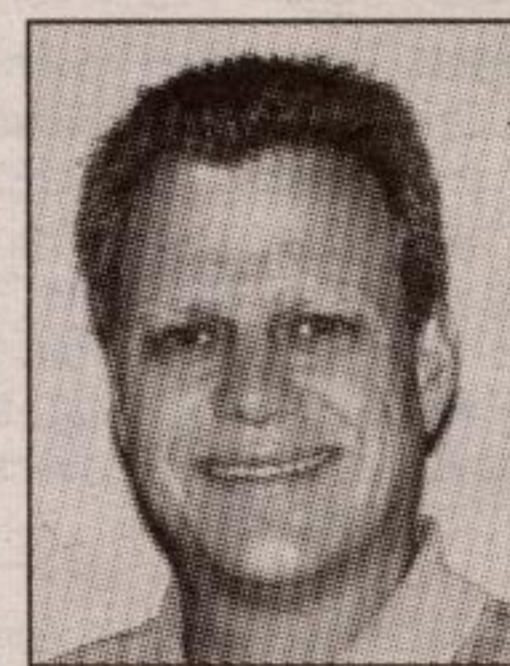
Ward 1 Councillor Clark Somerville earned \$16,013 (the base salary, plus \$615 for benefits, \$961 in travel expenses). Somerville also received \$2,421 for his service on the Conservation Halton board—\$1,548 for remuneration and \$873 for car mileage and meeting allowance.

Last year, the town also paid seven committee of adjustment members a total \$6,222 and a total \$360 to three property standard committee members.

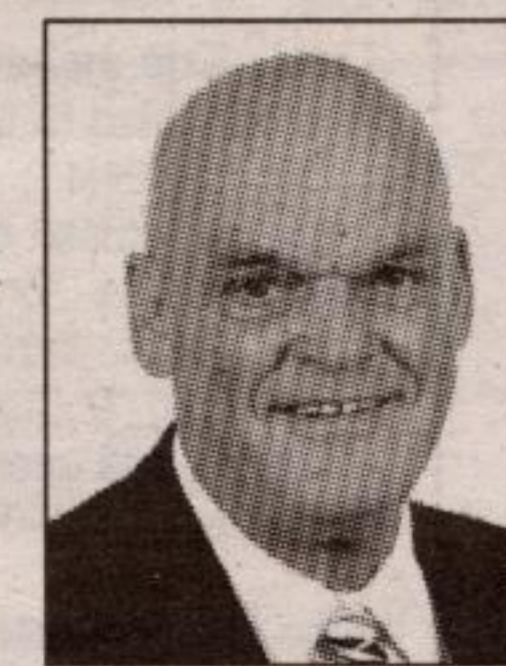
—By Cynthia Gamble, staff writer



BOB INGLIS



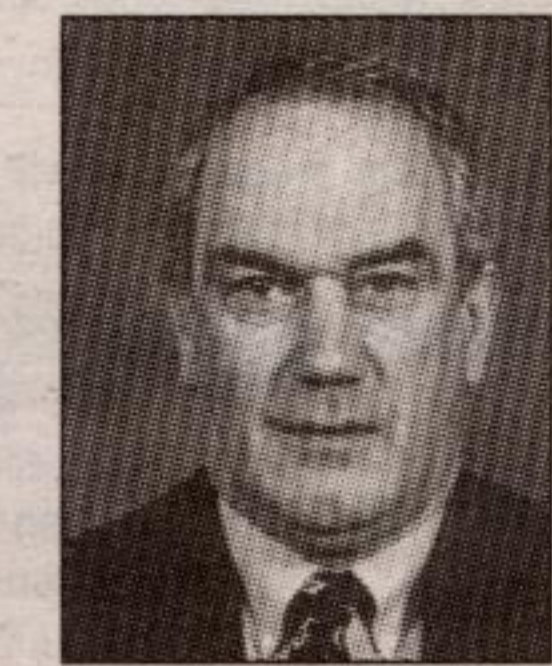
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