

The Independent Weekend & Free Press

• Ontario's Number One Community Newspaper •

REFINANCING?
PURCHASING?



5.38%*
FIVE YEAR TERM
(905) 877-5211

BOB WOODS
Mortgage Specialist

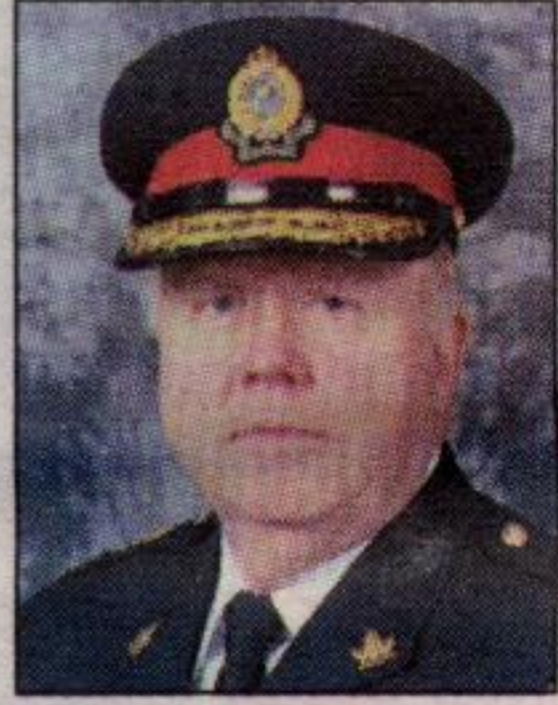
ASSURED TO
MORTGAGE SERVICES
360 Guelph St., Georgetown
*Rate subject to change

50¢ (+ GST) Serving Halton Hills Friday, November 29, 2002 72 Pages 19,400 copies

Calls for staffing analysis Union wants more cops on the street

The Halton Regional Police Association (HRPA) is calling for a long-overdue workload and staffing analysis for front-line officers to finally address chronic shortages on the street.

"There is an urgent need for the chief and the (Halton Regional Police Services) board to increase staffing as soon as possible," said HRPA president Dave Atkinson.



EAN ALGAR

Last week the Halton Regional Police Services Board passed the \$61.7-million 2003 police budget—an 8.95 per cent increase over last year—as presented by Police Chief Ean Algar.

The budget must now go to regional council, but as it stands now, it will cost the average household 5.6 per cent more than last year, or \$322 in total, for policing. This is based on a \$5.1-million cost increase over 2002, \$4.9-million of which is slated for personnel—including 13 uniformed officers and seven civilians.

"We're extremely disappointed that the chief's budget request does not represent any request that deals with the hiring of additional staff to compensate for all of the workload increases that have occurred over the years," said Atkinson.

See POLICE, pg. 3

Cops save dying woman

Quick, decisive action by three Halton Regional Police officers was crucial in saving the life of a Georgetown woman Wednesday.

Halton Police report at approximately 5:10 p.m. they were called to Delrex Blvd. near Gairy Dr. because a 46-year-old Georgetown woman who had been riding a bicycle had collapsed on the sidewalk from what is believed to have been a heart attack.

Within minutes, Const. Naresh Dabas, Const. Paul DaRosa and Acting Sgt. Jason Mathers arrived on the scene and found the woman unresponsive, with no pulse and not breathing.

The officers immediately administered CPR and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation for approximately four minutes until paramedics arrived on the scene and used a defibrillator to restore the woman's pulse.

She was then taken to Georgetown Hospital, stabilized, and transferred to York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill where she remains in critical but stable condition in the Intensive Care Unit.



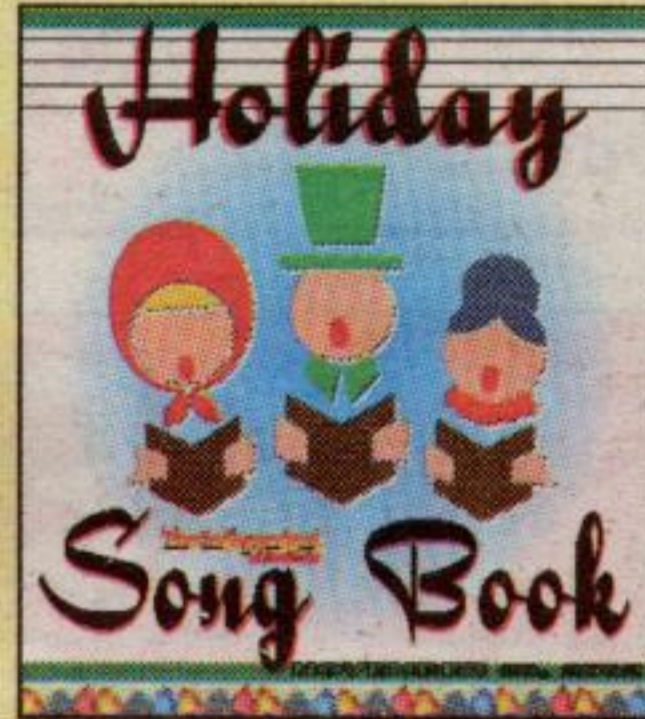
Santa surprises seniors

Joyce Buchanan of Branch 197 (Acton) of the Royal Canadian Legion must have been sharing a very special joke with Santa as he dropped by the annual seniors dinner at the Legion Tuesday night. The dinner, hosted by Acton Rotary Club, not only featured a visit from Santa, but also a full evening of Christmas music by the Acton Citizens' Band, and the Guelph Royal City Ambassadors barbershoppers as more than 300 enjoyed the evening.

Photo by Ted Brown

INSIDE

Editorial.....	6
A Ted Bit.....	7
Community Calendar....	11
Sports.....	15-17
Entertainment.....	18
Health/Beauty/Fitness...21	
Classifieds.....	24-26



24-pg. Christmas songbook



What's Cookin' page 20



4-pg. New Homes inside Real Estate



STOP 'N' CASH

GEORGETOWN LOCATION

CASH AND A SMILE WHEN YOU NEED IT.

NEW CLIENTS RECEIVE A FREE GIFT (See store for details)

INSTANT CASH, NO CREDIT CHECK, APPROVAL BY PHONE!

Call (Local) 310-CASH Now

2274