

Soccer club asks Town for better field maintenance

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Staff Writer

The Georgetown Soccer Club contributes a lot to the development of young children and financially to the community at large—and all it asks from the Town in return is for some better-maintained soccer fields.

Club vice-president Alice Strachan spoke to Halton Hills council at a recent meeting where she handed over a 280-name petition.

“Our main request is to ask for more consistent field maintenance and increased flexibility in field access,” said Strachan, noting that the Club’s rep teams’ season began the week of May 14 but did not have access to game-quality fields until May 21. But the Acton Soccer Club and the Georgetown women’s league had fields available to them by May 12.

“So we question, why the difference?” said Strachan.

“While we support an environmentally friendly approach it is embarrassing for our parents to be picking thistles out of the Trafalgar Rd. Sports Park (fields) before the visiting team arrives, if the grass is in poor condition,” she said. “Each year we ask for more money to be placed in the field maintenance budget and often (it is) cut.”

Strachan said the club is willing to work with the Town to achieve this end. She said while the club would like more fields, it would not help much, if overall the fields were in poor condition.

“As an example this year there is a new soccer field at Danby (Park), but there are no goalposts there,” said Strachan, “If the field doesn’t come with goalposts, then no more new fields

please because that’s not very helpful to us.”

Strachan listed a long list of the club’s credentials. She described that on a typical summer night there would be at least 524 of the 2,700 youths registered with the club playing on fields around the town with more than 1,000 parents and grandparents cheering them on the sidelines.

She said the club organizes an annual tournament, which attracts 96 teams, approximately 1,000 players and 2,000 supports. This brings about \$50,000 in revenue to businesses like Tim Hortons and Boston Pizza, she said. She went on to list a myriad of other contributions including providing students with jobs as referees, providing high school students with community service hours and being a supporter of local businesses and charities.

“(We) are the largest provider for physical activity for children in this town,” Strachan said.

In addition, the club pays the Town more than \$50,000 annually in gym and field rental costs and over the last six years had contributed \$100,000 to soccer facilities in the town such as an irrigation system at Cedarvale (\$7,000) and nets and goalposts (\$26,000). The GSC has also painted all of the lines on the Georgetown fields at a cost of \$10,000 a year for the last 10 years, without compensation, she said.

The club presented each councillor with a complimentary Georgetown Soccer Club mug.

Strachan’s presentation was referred to Town staff for a response at a future council meeting.

(Cynthia Gamble can be reached at cgamble@independentfreepress.com)

Police blotter

Man faces assault charge after teen choked, punched

Halton Police charged a 22-year-old Georgetown man with assault causing bodily harm and two counts of breach of probation after a 15-year-old Georgetown male was assaulted while walking on Raylawn Cr. at about 11 p.m. Friday.

Police say the youth was approached by a man he knows and without provocation the man became verbally aggressive, attempted to choke the youth, punched him in the face and threw a beer bottle at him.

The youth suffered a chipped tooth in the incident.

Following investigation, police say the 22-year-old turned himself in on Monday and was held for a bail hearing.

Police would not release the name of the accused to protect the identity of the victim.

Police urge area residents to lock their vehicles and ensure no valuables are left in them after four unlocked vehicles were entered sometime late Saturday or early Sunday in Georgetown.

Identification was taken from a car on Prince Charles Dr., coins and a spare house key from a car on Costigan Court, and vehicles on Mountainview Rd. N. and Shelley Ct. were entered, but nothing was taken.

Also during that same time period, police report a mountain bike was stolen from an unlocked garage at a

Costigan Ct. home and found abandoned near the vehicle entered on that street.

A set of \$2,000 Taylormade golf clubs were taken from an unlocked vehicle in an unlocked garage at a Dawkins Cr. home sometime late Wednesday (Aug. 8) or Thursday (Aug. 9).

A Mississauga man was charged with impaired driving, having over 80 mg of alcohol in 100 ml of blood and possession of a controlled substance (in relation to a small quantity of marijuana) after Halton Police responded to a single vehicle accident at Tenth Line and Steeles Ave. at 9:35 p.m. Sunday.

Charged is Scott Lahey, 30, of Bristol Rd. W.

About \$6,500 worth of items were taken from a Sixth Line Halton Hills home during a break and enter Saturday between 3:10 and 7:45 p.m.

Taken was a Dell computer, Pioneer 43” plasma television, Pioneer speakers and a quantity of cash.

A purse was stolen from a car left parked by a woman on Third Line near 22 Sideroad Sunday afternoon while she went hiking. The purse contained a Samsung cell phone, credit cards and about \$100 in cash. A window was forced to gain entry.

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We also want to cover your next event and/or we can print your pictures of your event in the next edition of **INFOCUS**... please let us know.

You can contact Ron Stiel at 905-873-0301

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AT BP'S SPORTS BAR GEORGETOWN

Classic Potato Skins	\$7.99	\$5.50
Cactus Cut Potatoes	\$9.25	\$5.75
Panzerotti Roll	\$8.49	\$6.00
Chicken Fingers	\$8.99	\$6.50
Spinach and Artichoke Dip	\$8.99	\$6.50
Thai Chicken Bites	\$7.99	\$5.50
Starter Chicken Wings	\$8.99	\$6.50
Chicken Quesadilla	\$8.99	\$6.50
Nachos	\$9.99	\$7.00
With Chicken or Beef		\$8.25
Appy Platter	\$16.99	\$11.75

Monday - Thursday
3pm - 6pm & 9pm to Close

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