

Eastern Ave. reconstruction back on schedule

By Frances Niblock

The watermain and service connections to homes and businesses on Eastern Avenue should be completed by tomorrow (Friday) as the joint Region/Town reconstruction project is back on schedule.

Ron Goddard, the Town's manager of engineering design and capital works, said the sanitary sewer work, which was delayed a couple of weeks when a pipe was located where it was not supposed to be, is complete and excavation of the roadway will begin this week.

"We made up about a week and I think by the end of August we'll be back on schedule," Goddard said on Friday

adding it will be close to mid-to-late September by the time the final landscaping is complete.

Goddard said bi-weekly meetings with the work crew boss and regular communication with local businesses has meant there have been no complaints so far from business or residents who have been disrupted by the construction.

At the olde Hide House, vice-president Cathy Coles said they've always had access to their parking lot



Eastern Ave. as it looked Wednesday

during the construction and the dust and mud has been "what we expected."

"I'm very excited about how it is going to look when it is done. It's going to look so fabulous - we're going to have a sidewalk right from Mill Street past the olde Hide House," Coles said last Thursday, adding their traffic is not much slower than the same time last year.

Across the street at My Cottage Dream, co-owner Carm Winstone said the construction has "created a huge mess of dust and dirt for customers, but I don't charge extra for the dust, I tell them."

Winstone said business is slower than expected, but the sweltering weather is probably to blame as much as the construction.

Winstone advised regulars to park across the street, on York Street, or behind the store and she said the construction company was good about posting signs to indicate that businesses on the street were open.

She said she had just one complaint so far during the construction - the crew left a front-end loader parked right in front of her store's front door for one week-end, making it difficult to get in.

Next door at Tanners Restaurant, fewer people are using the patio during the day, but the regulars are coming back for evenings and nights according to waitress Deanna Colgan.

"From Highway 7, we appear closed, so if people haven't been here before, I don't think they are driving down the street to see," Colgan said on Saturday.

"When they do find us open, they have to go through dirt or mud and they don't like it," she said, adding the lunches have been slower than usual, but the evenings have not been affected as much. Tan-

ners has closed three times during the construction, once at the suggestion of the project boss and twice because the manager didn't think there was enough business to warrant stay-

ing open.

The total cost of the reconstruction project, which includes roadwork on York Street, is \$800,000 split evenly between Halton and the Town.

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Thieves hit unlocked car

A Main Street resident lost \$450 worth of belongings from his unlocked car, parked in the driveway of his residence overnight Sunday/Monday.

A stereo was taken from the dash, along with some CDs, sunglasses and two duffel bags filled with clothes.

Bill theft

An Elgin Street man told police someone stole 18 \$100 bills while he was out between 11 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. on August 2.

Police said the door to the apartment had been previously damaged and was not secure.

Storm calls

Last Wednesday's storm kept Acton firefighters busy, beginning at 2:46 p.m. when a property owner reported a lightning strike hit a wheat field and started a fire in the Guelph Line and Eramosa Town Line area.

The heavy downpour had extinguished the fire before Acton firefighters arrived at the scene.

At 3:04 p.m. when the fire alarm activated at Sobeys, a store rep met Acton firefighters and told them it was a false alarm.

Police/Fire Report

The storm had caused the hydro to flicker and set off the alarm. The alarm panel was reset.

Early morning burn

An unattended bonfire on 22 Side Road, west of the Sixth Line caught the attention of a passing motorist

who called 911 at 4:15 a.m. last Wednesday morning.

Acton firefighters found a small contained fire burning in a rock-lined pit and woke up the homeowner who said he'd had a fire a few days before, but had put that fire out.

The rules governing open-air burning - including the need for a free permit - were explained and the fire was extinguished before firefighters returned to the station.

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