

**Rates must go up**

# Resist uniform water rates

Two points emerged from an hour-long discussion Milton Councillors held with Halton Region Treasurer Don Farmer Monday night — the town's water rates are away too low, and must be increased immediately; and there is no way the town council will agree to the region introducing uniform water rate charges throughout Halton.

The majority of councillors admitted the town's water rates are too low, and must be increased. Town Treasurer Don Lougheed suggests a 43 per cent increase in residential rates is necessary, to build up some reserve funds for capital expansions.

But the possibility of uniform rates across Halton will never win support in Milton, councillors told the regional treasurer. Councillors were adamant that Milton should pay its own way, but feared with uniform rates, Milton would end up paying a share of other municipalities' debts.

The cost of producing water is different in each town in Halton, they told Farmer, so why should the rates charged be the same?

"We are just going to bail out the people who haven't used their resources properly," claimed Councillor Anne MacArthur. Milton's water revenues would be used to "pay the debts of municipalities where growth has not been curbed or controlled," added Councillor Brian Penman.

Councillor Jim Watson

charged Acton, Georgetown and Burlington have been "irresponsible" with their water supplies and it was not up to Milton to pay more because people in Acton have enjoyed low taxes and cheap water.

"Milton's usage is the lowest (per capita) in the Region, and we have the lowest rate," said Councillor Brad Clements. "Keep that in mind."

Treasurer Lougheed said Milton will incur a deficit in 1979 if Milton's water rates aren't increased. He noted the province is "dangling a golden carrot" in front of Halton by offering grants of \$900,000 to help smoothe the introduction of uniform rates. But Farmer warned the grants won't be available after the end of this year, so action is needed soon.

Lougheed told council the uniform rates would lower revenue from commercial and industrial users but increase the residential share of water revenues. But councillors looked over some proposed rates and saw big increases coming for medium-size industrial users.

Farmer said Milton's minimum bill right now is high compared to the rest of

Halton, but the rate for 1,000 gallons is low after the minimum is passed. He mentioned the possibility of having to expand the town's reservoir capacity, or add new lines to the well source at Kelso.

Rates in recent years have not covered the inflationary rise in the cost of producing the water, he added. "We must come to grips with the fact that we have higher costs."

He also noted a water surplus the region held in 1974 is being depleted.

Councillor Russ Powadiuk objected to uniform rates, claiming education is not equal across Halton, yet the taxpayers pay for it on an equal basis. Gasoline, fruit and vegetables, homes and land costs vary in the various towns, so why should all water rates be equal? he wondered.

Councillor Watson said Milton would not object to a

100 per cent increase in water rates, if the town was paying just for its own costs. But any increase will be shot down, if Milton ends up helping other towns pay their costs, he warned.

Watson joked he would support uniform water rates, if Mr. Farmer would change the regional government Bill 151 so Milton also has equal representation on the regional council, instead of three of 24 votes.

The regional treasurer asked council to submit a position paper on the subject, this week if possible. Staff was asked to put one together, echoing the comments of councillors. Meanwhile, an

—Halton Safety Council has issued a warning about children and water. Backyard pools can be dangerous, watch your children, the Council urges.

increase in local rates should be introduced, they suggested.



**SHERIDAN GRAD**  
Nancy Lee Bickers graduated from Sheridan College's two year general arts and science course. She is the daughter of Fred and Olga Bickers of 31 Robert St., Milton, and a graduate of Milton District High School.



**MATH WHIZ**, Milton District High School student Patti Gies was the winner in a mathematics competition held in the spring. The grade 12 math student is a year ahead of her

other studies, being in grade 11. She topped the school in her math this year, recording 99 per cent on the year.

## Patti Gies scores 99% in MDHS math course

Milton District High School's mathematics department recently paid special recognition to the following students who earned the highest marks in their respective courses:

Math 140, Helen Ling, 91 per cent; Math 150, Lisa Grazian, 98 per cent; Math 240, Tracy Cross, 89 per cent; Math 250, Jonathan Wolaston, 97 per cent; Math 340, Maria Fargiorgio, 90 per cent; Math 350, Kim Smith, 96 per cent; Math 440, Shamin Ali, 87 per cent; Math 450, Patti Gies, 99 per cent; Math 551, John Thomson, 91 per cent; Math 552, Ian Roberts, 98 per cent; Math 553, Chris Hadfield, 90 per cent.

Students who earned a Certificate of Merit (over 85 per cent) in their respective Mathematics courses are as follows:

**GRADE NINE**—Tony Arnone, Danny Bailey, Rolf Erne, Kathy Galbraith, Lisa Grazian, Stephen Hughes, Stanley Inglis, Andrew King, Scott Roberts, Linda White, Elizabeth Bounsall, Gus Fargiorgio, Lorrie Rae, Don Tonelli, Patty Turnbull, Gillian Willoughby.

**GRADE TEN**—Janice Crowe, Doug Brophy, Dan Dales, Kelly Grant, Lori Hlushko, Peter Schmidt, Larry Small, Jonathan Wol-

laston, Steve Davies, Matthew Elliott, Julia Innes, Carol Stansfield, Tracy Cross.

**GRADE ELEVEN**—Maria Fargiorgio, Connie Lewin, Paul Maltby, Kim Smith, Andrew Socha, David Brewer, Chris Hunter, Roseanne Landry, Shelley Eakins.

**GRADE TWELVE**—Mark Yorke, Chris Carter, Paul VanOorschot, Mariette Schouten, Shamin Ali, Madeline Austen, Patti Gies, Cathy Glasgow, Jerry Grant, Peggy Olshoorn.

**GRADE THIRTEEN**—Richard Leslie, John Loeprich, Mark Racinsky, Ian Roberts, Theresa Gies, Diane Griffiths, Kirk Maltby, Judy Willoughby, Alan Arnott, Chris Hadfield, Hugh McCauley, John Thomson, John Duignan.

### Thief thinks

A burglar alarm system is credited with scaring away a would-be-thief at Canadian Tire store on Martin St. late Friday night.

According to Halton Regional Police, the bay door at the east side of the store showed signs of tampering. Nothing appeared to be missing though, said police.

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Councillor Jim Watson

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### Lock bikes police urge

Despite repeated warnings from Halton Regional Police, Milton and area residents continue to lose their bicycles to thieves.

According to police, residents do not take sufficient care to lock their bikes when they leave them unattended and fail to record the serial number of the bike for identification purposes, if the bike is stolen.

Bicycles taken this week include one stolen from the backyard of Mrs. Joan King of 30 Robert St. on Monday, July 3; a bike owned by Kevin McGrath, of 224 Martin St., Milton on Wednesday, July 5.

from his residence: Kim Patcheson of MacDonald Cres., Milton reports her bicycle stolen while she was at Kelso Park, on Monday, July 3.

A bike belonging to Cameron Cropper of Wilson Dr., Milton was stolen from a closed garage at his residence, also on Monday, July 3.

—Mountsberg and Kelso areas are hosting the summer resource program, now in its fourth year. One-week and two-week sessions are offered.

ARTHUR A. JOHNSON O.D.  
OPTOMETRIST

214 Main St.  
Milton  
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## How to be a cool customer this summer.

Be as cool as a cucumber




Fruits and salads are cool and refreshing. And when you stay away from the oven to prepare meals, you also stay cooler and save electricity.




Drink up. Ah, there's nothing like a tall, cool, refreshing drink to make things cooler. But remember when the refrigerator door is left open, valuable energy escapes.

Keep it light and breezy. It's cool to wear lighter clothes with lighter colours. It's also cool

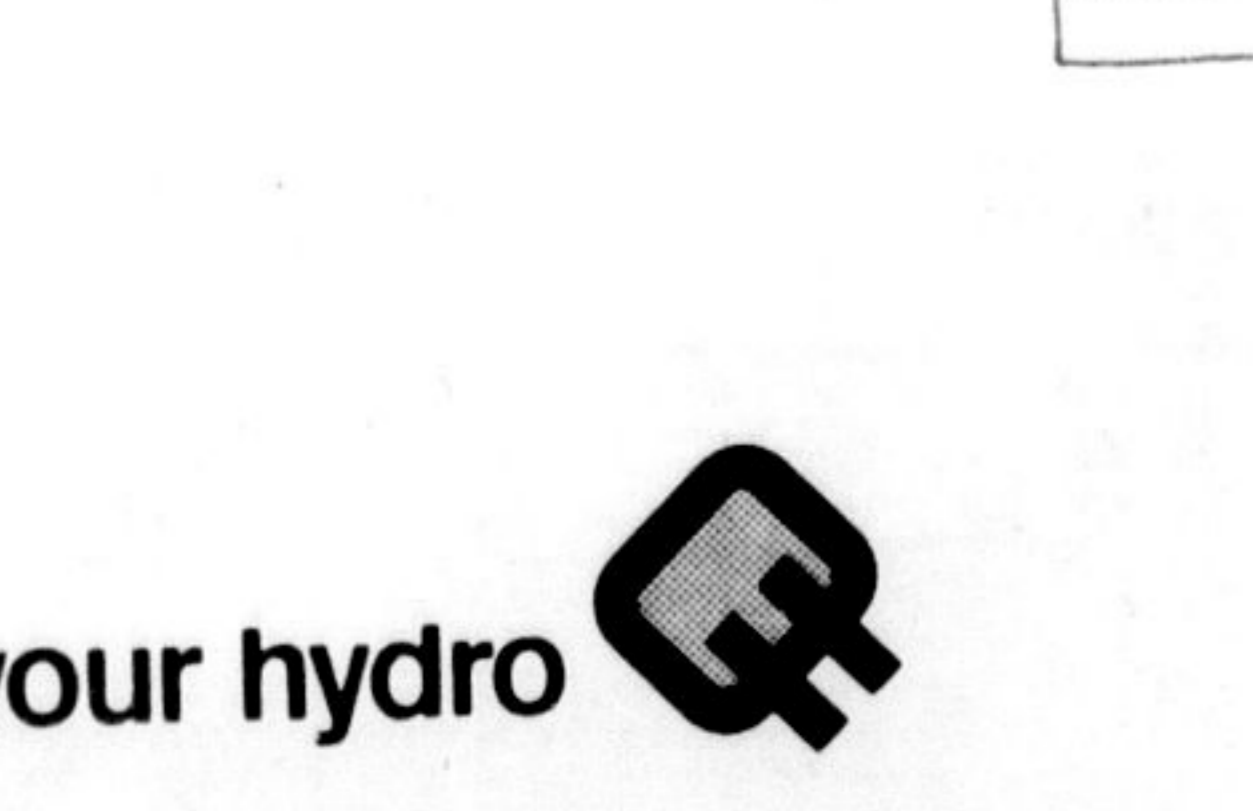


if your clothes dryer is vented outdoors. Heat and moisture won't be released in your home. Better still, hang your clothes outside to dry.

Keep your blinds down. Keeping your blinds down or drapes drawn on the sunny side has some cold logic to it. The heat of the sun is shut out while the coolness is kept in. At night, keep lights to a minimum. It's cooler and saves electricity.



Use your air conditioner wisely. Make sure it fits tightly in the window. Keep your doors and windows closed. Clean the filters regularly. If you leave your house for part of the day, cut back the air conditioning. Going on vacation? Turn it off completely.



your hydro 