

# Fire dep't. wants extra man, pumper

An additional full-time firefighter is needed if the Milton Fire Department is to carry out its planned regular home inspection program.

A report to Milton Council from Fire Chief Jim Coulson cited the chief's "major concern." The report says the chief is seeking another

fulltime firefighter so the program can be instituted.

The program would involve annual inspections of Milton homes to see they are safe. The program could complement existing fire prevention work through public education and inspections. Chief Coulson has also

requested a new pumper truck for the department. The department

currently has an 11-year-old first line pumper and a 27-year-old back-up pumper. Chief Coulson plans to retire the older pumper and use the 11-year-old unit as a back-up. Chief Coulson has

made a budget request for the pumper, asking \$75,000 be set aside for the purchase.

The request has survived the first round of budget-slashing, but more rounds are likely before the budget is passed.

Chief Coulson said the trucks are looked after

by volunteer firefighters, who put in 243 man-hours of maintenance last year.

The report also recommended moving the dispatching from the apartment at 275 Main St. to the Central Station. The dispatching is currently done by Alma MacIntyre and two part-time persons, Mrs. L.

McLean and Mrs. S. Lippai. The report recommended hiring full-time dispatchers in 1980.

The report said 1,256 man-hours were spent in training at regular sessions organized by the department.

Fire calls have increased over the past five years, but they may have

levelled off, says the report.

There were 244 fire calls in 1978 with damage estimated at \$252,545. In 1977, there were 246 calls for \$798,793 damage. This compares with 1976, where there were 141 calls for \$440,857 damage.

In 1975 there were 180

calls for \$409,460 damage, and in 1974, there were 187 calls for \$213,986 damage.

The department also went to 46 non-emergency calls to investigate problems such as gas odors, faulty fire alarms, smoke in buildings and overheated wiring.

Other activities in the

realm of fire prevention included 168 inspections and 25 reinspections.

There were 30 plan approvals, 15 lectures or demonstrations and 83 visits to construction sites. As well, 24 groups toured the fire hall.

An open house was held at both fire stations in Milton and a fire pre-

vention display was set up at the fall fair. Fire drills were held regularly at all town schools and at Milton District Hospital.

Eight firefighters were injured in 1978 and two of them were off from their normal job on Workmen's Compensation for approximately three months.

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## Gloomy prospect looms for hospital

A 4.5 per cent provincial budget increase for Milton District Hospital is likely to do little good, unless the government can pick up the hospital's 1978 deficit totalling \$80,000, according to hospital administrator Brian Brady.

The 83-bed facility will receive an extra \$104,567 this year from the Ontario ministry, but Mr. Brady said the financial health of the hospital depends upon the outcome of an appeal for funds to cover the deficit.

Twenty-nine beds were closed for nine weeks last summer in an effort to stay within last year's budget limit of \$2,251,890. Mr. Brady predicted the same steps will be taken again this summer, with the possibility of further drastic action.

"If we are not successful in our appeal, we will be closing our beds for a longer period of time," he said, adding the hospital may be forced to cut health service as well.

Mr. Brady estimates increased hospital costs are also likely to exceed the budget.

He pointed out the hospital must cope with a current inflation rate of nine per cent, as well as increased service

Emergency admittance figures indicate the facility is handling 10 per cent more calls annually.

"Our emergency admittance shows the greatest need for expansion," he said. The hospital board is now working on plans for a proposal to be submitted to the Halton District Health Council.

Statistics for both newborns and adult admissions reflect a slight increase over last year's figures, he said.

Newborns as of December 31, 1978 numbered 203 with adult admissions at 2,009.

Based on the 4.5 per cent figure, Mr. Brady predicts the hospital will

be confronted with another deficit in the coming year.

"If the financial restraints continue, we are just not going to be able to provide the same kind of quality as in the past," he said. Some other Ontario hospitals have filed appeals for additional funds.

The hospital's capital

fund could be used to cover the deficit costs, he said, but the fund is set aside specifically for the purchase of new equipment and expansion projects.

This year's provincial budget also included a three-year program to phase in a bed population guideline of 3.5 beds per 1,000 referral population

in Southern Ontario and four beds per 1,000 in Northern Ontario.

The population figure is based on the number of cases admitted to hospitals in a given area.

"It is part of a provincial de-institutionalization program," explained Mr. Brady, "so that patients can be treated in other ways."

In line with the ministry trend to promote outpatient service and reduce active treatment beds, Milton District Hospital will receive nearly one quarter of its funds to be used for outpatient care.

According to Mr. Brady, the hospital now performs an estimated 34 per cent of its total surgery on day surgery patients.

Health Minister Dennis Timbrell has also announced new rates for ambulance calls.

Those requiring emergency ambulance transportation will pay a flat rate of \$20 regardless of road distances.

The new rates take effect April 1, 1979.

## At OMB hearing

# Town lacks provision for sanitary landfill site

Milton has no provision for a landfill site in its official plan. Making the comment was town planner Bob Zsadyani.

Speaking at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing on Site F at Halton Centennial Manor Monday, he said provision had been allowed to include a site by passing an amendment to the plan.

Mr. Zsadyani said under cross examination the town had not given the subject of sanitary landfill sites much discussion when the plan

was approved in 1977.

He said he was not in favor of locating a sanitary landfill location at Site F which is an agricultural area.

"I feel a better location could be found rather than starting a new intrusion in an area the town has worked so hard to keep as agriculture."

When asked by regional lawyer Edgar Sexton where he would locate a landfill location in Milton, Mr. Zsadyani said he would attempt to do so in or near an industrial area where the

operation of the site and the constant vehicle traffic to and from it would have minimum impact.

Mr. Zsadyani said locating a landfill location at Site F violates the intent of Halton's official plan which is agriculturally-oriented.

Mr. Zsadyani was the first witness called by the town at the beginning of its case against Site F.

The previous five weeks have seen the region call 11 witnesses to show the region needs a sanitary landfill location at Site F which is the northwest corner of Tremaine and Britannia roads in southwestern Milton.

On Monday, the region succeeded in convincing the OMB to accept two letters from the Ministry of Environment to Halton on landfill.

Both Fred Leitch, the lawyer retained by Milton, and David Estrin of the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group, protested saying that the people who wrote those letters weren't questioned.

Mr. Chapman said the board would accept the letters but give little

weight to them because, in accordance with board policy, the people who wrote them weren't present to back them up.

Mr. Zsadyani, like Halton Public Works Director Robert Moore who was the first witness to be called by the region, gave a history of the events leading up to the OMB hearing.

A graduate of the University of Indiana (1968) and a member of

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## Otto bowls all day for Big Brothers

Otto Jelinek has done a lot of things in his life.

In 1962 he and his sister won the World Figure Skating (pairs) championship in Prague.

On the weekend, his athletic prowess was again tested in Oakville during a 24-hour bowl-a-thon for Oakville and Milton Big Brothers.

He responded to the challenge by bowling 72 games during the 24 hours with a total pinfall of 13,226, an average score of 184.

He threw 1,689 balls, rolling 188 strikes and 167 spares, raising approximately \$4,000. Milton had a similar event Saturday afternoon at Milton Bowlway.



IT'S VALENTINE'S DAY! Pupils at Robert Baldwin School in Mrs. Dale Litton's class got a head start on making their Valentine cards. Mrs. Litton helps pupils Kari-Lyn Foxall and Peter Guba.

## Payment promised

# Plaza is still for sale

White Oak Plaza on Bronte St. in Milton is still up for sale, and tenders on its disposition are still being accepted until next Monday, Feb. 19, according to lawyers representing the mortgage holder, Bank of Montreal.

But the plaza's owners and developers, Spen-Mar Holdings of Toronto, claim arrangements have been made to make an overdue mortgage payment by this Friday, Feb. 16.

Ian R. Blain of the law firm Fraser and Beatty, Toronto, told The Champion the plaza was offered for sale in a

tender ad placed in this newspaper Jan. 31, because Spen-Mar had defaulted on the mortgage.

Spencer Black, one of the principals of Spen-Mar, told The Champion last week the mortgage payment was being made. Another principal Bruno Minicucci confirmed Tuesday of this week that arrangements have been made to discharge the mortgage by Friday.

"As far as we know, it is all looked after, we are having a meeting with the lawyers today," Mr. Minicucci said Tuesday.

He said the 20-store mall has been appraised at over \$2,000,000. The payment due is around \$1,300,000 and the principal said the bank is "not going to get a \$2 million plaza for \$1,300,000."

Mr. Blain said if Spen-Mar makes the mortgage payment, the law firm's power of sale will be void and Spen-Mar will retain ownership. If not, it goes to the highest bidder, he said.

He was concerned that a story in last week's Champion which quoted Mr. Black as saying the payment had been made, would discourage potential buyers from bidding on the plaza. As of Tuesday morning of this week, "not one cent" has been paid, Mr. Blain said, although he admitted he had learned "something is in the works."

"To this date, the

bank's mortgage over the White Oak Plaza remains in default. Spen-Mar Holdings Limited has not paid off its loan with Bank of Montreal contrary to a statement attributed to Spencer Black in the (Feb. 7) article," Mr. Blain stressed.

"As of today's date Bank of Montreal is continuing with its power of sale proceedings and is still accepting tenders from prospective purchasers pursuant to the advertisement of sale."

The plaza was originally planned to house 20 stores, including a grocery store. Some tenants took larger spaces than anticipated, said Mr. Minicucci, and when it is full, will house 13 tenants.

The IGA food store is opening at 10 a.m. today and the official opening of the plaza will follow at 12 noon.

## Timberlea adds 25 new houses

Construction figures for the first month of 1979 showed 24 new houses started as Timberlea continues with its Derry Rd. subdivision project.

The latest houses represent a total building value of \$953,417.

Milton's newest neighborhood is now in the second phase of construction plans with an expected 600 detached and semi-detached homes slated for this year.

Nearly 300 houses in the project bounded by Derry Rd., Thompson Rd., and Ontario St. are finished.



OFF TO A FAST START in the toboggan races, these two youngsters are on their way to outdistancing the rest of the field at the races which were part of the Burlington Winter Games held

Sunday afternoon at Lowville Park. Other events included skating races, snow-sculpting, and do-nut eating contests. By the end of the day, the crowd in the park had swelled to over 2,000.

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