

## No dough for HWP

Officials of Halton Women's Place have been rejected by Halton Region on an urgent appeal for \$10,000 to keep the home for abused and battered women in operation.

Louise Hebb, representing HWP, said the home had been rejected for funding by United Way and is now in serious difficulty with regard to making up a deficit.

Mrs. Hebb had received a "one shot" \$20,000 grant last year from the region to cover capital costs of renovating the former police district office in Milton with kitchen facilities and bedrooms in order to make it habitable.

With the aid of service clubs, the work on literally rebuilding the inside of the structure on Hugh St. in Milton was completed in October and officially opened.

Although the home has housed at least 50 people, it is sometimes below

capacity. HWP receives a purchase of service per diem from Halton of \$15 but Mrs. Hebb said the cost of daily meeting the needs of those who come to HWP is more than \$20 therefore the deficit.

She said all hopes had been pinned on United Way so that when rejection of the request for funding came, HWP was left with little alternative but to go to Halton Region seeking another \$10,000 to help soften the overrun.

She said that amount would be half of what is needed stating HWP could possibly raise the other half.

But Councillors were not in a spending mood when Mrs. Hebb appeared and HWP and several other agencies seeking relief from Halton for funding were rejected.

The next step for HWP will probably be a review of operating costs and perhaps a strategy to get more funding from some other source.



## Volunteers get ready

This year's Cancer Society campaign hopes to raise over \$24,000 in the Milton area. Carol Puntun and Carol Kerr assemble some of the 325 kits that will go out to volunteers who will be canvassing door to door during the month of April.

## Help flea market help drop-in centre

Drop off household items, toys, games, plants, and other saleable items at The Canadian Champion office, Main St. or North End Datsun, Martin St. to help the Milton Youth Drop-in Centre.

Your donations will be part of a flea market Good Friday, April 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lion's Hall, Thompson

Rd. Arena. All proceeds are in aid of the new Main St. centre for local youth.

Everything from electric kettles to bicycles will be welcomed donations but organizers ask that clothing and large appliances and furniture not be included.

## No social grant changes despite agency pleas

Social service and health agencies unhappy with the amount of funding they received from Halton Region did not get relief when they appeared in a series of delegations last week seeking more money.

Some nine agencies which received less than they had asked for or were totally rejected like Birthright Halton explained their respective cases but to a stoney wall of regional councillors last Wednesday.

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz said he was concerned about giving out more money as "a large portion goes to wages and do not filter down to those who need it."

One of the groups to get a sympathetic hearing was Halton Helping Hands lead by spokesperson Valerie O'Hara. Halton Helping Hands had been given \$41,543 by the Health and Social

Services Committee but Mrs. O'Hara said the group would need about \$6,000 more to handle an unusually large increase in requests for aid.

Halton Helping Hands provides people to aid seniors and disabled persons accomplish such things as work around the home.

The increase came about, Mrs. O'Hara said, because the request was made by her group in December based on the average caseload. But since December, when the budget was drafted, she said there have been 51 requests for aid during a three-month period when the requests number about 16.

Although there was a motion to increase the Halton Helping Hands grant by \$5,935, this was voted down by a majority of councillors.

Birthright Halton, a group which tries to tell

women "pregnant and distressed" there are other options besides abortion sent a solicitor, Chris Breen, to represent them.

Mr. Breen said the \$2,500 request which was rejected by the Health and Social Services Committee was "critical" to the group surviving.

Mr. Breen explained the money was only a small part of the amount needed by the group but it would make the difference between breaking even and operating in the red.

The request, however, was rejected by councillors.

Also being rejected for more funding than the \$12,000 allotted was David Williams representing the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded.

Mr. Williams said he did not agree at all with the regional funding formula and he said he was upset that council could not see the need to fund a service unique to the communities of Milton and Halton Hills.

He warned that "if the erosion continues" the association might cease to provide adequate service to the communities.

The North Halton Social Planning Council

was told it would also have to be content with the \$2,000 grant it will get this year from Halton Region.

Spokesman Bill Tom said that if the group did not get enough money the membership would not have as much "enthusiasm" as in the past but he skirted the question on whether or not the increase in a grant would mean the difference between the social planning council continuing or ceasing to function.

There was a council motion to increase the grant to \$5,000 but this was rejected by a majority of councillors.

Though not sending a delegation, Big Brothers Director Bob Decher sent a letter stating the displeasure of the group with a regional grant less than was asked for by the group. They wanted \$4,000 and got \$2,500.

"In summary then, our board of directors believes that the reduction in the grant to Big Brothers of Oakville will not allow our agency to

serve the needs of the Region of Halton at the appropriate level and respectfully requests that the grant be restored to the \$4,000 level requested," he said.

This request was denied.

The resolution passed by regional council states that the four social planning councils "be informed that the region will not consider any further staff until such time as the four social plan-

ning councils can either present a firm plan for amalgamation on a unitary or federated basis or a plan for joint sharing of staff and facilities..."

But the council did set aside \$11,000 in a reserve fund "for use by the social planning councils

if there is an indication of activities on a regional basis."

The four groups have also been told to provide the Health and Social Services Committee "with a list of accomplishments and activities over the past year."

## Social planning councils told to join four forces

Halton's four social planning councils have been told to try and amalgamate and come to Halton Region next year for funding as a united group.

This year the social planning council in Burlington got \$11,584; Oakville got \$20,570; Halton Regional got \$800; and North Halton got \$2,000.

But Dave Williams representing the North Halton Social Planning Council said his group could not be expected to continue to operate with only \$2,000 to cover an area as large as Milton and Halton Hills combined.

Burlington Mayor Roly Bird said he thought it was time for the four groups to pool their resources and come for funding in such a way that all of Halton would be served by one cohesive group.

To that end, council has voted that this should be done and that Halton cannot make additional personnel available.

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## Waste Czar sought

Halton may be considering appointing someone to be in charge of obtaining alternatives to landfill in the region.

Chief Administrative Officer Dennis Perlin has been told to bring back a new budget to the Solid Waste Management Committee incorporating

the new position of Director of Solid Waste Management.

Such a person, the committee states, would "have a specific responsibility of the co-ordination of all activities to obtain alternatives to landfill as soon as possible."

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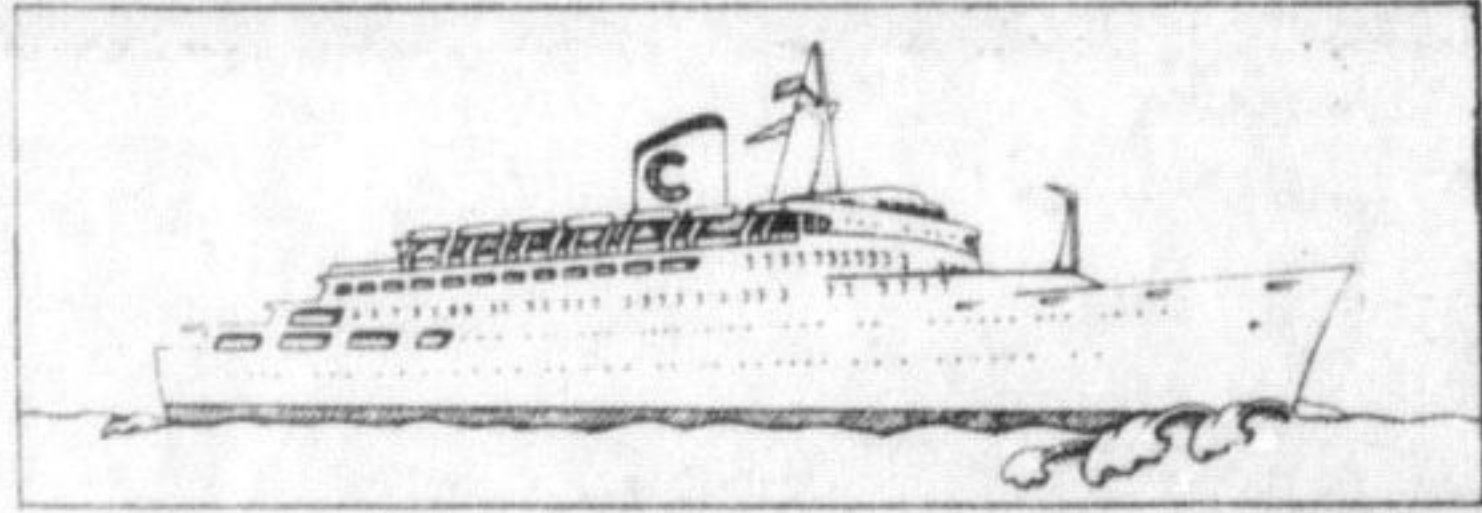
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