

Conservation Authority surprised

Weather creates flooding

By LINDA KIRBY
Champion Reporter

Conservation authorities are praying fine weather this week, or at least the absence of rain, will keep in check flooding waters that created serious problems last week.

A combination of rain, melting snow and spring thaw led to a significant water flow, prompting local officials to lower the water level in Kelso Dam.

That discharge however, made for a swollen creek, resulting in flooding waters surrounding several homes in the Milton Heights floodplain.

Conservation officials were kept busy sandbagging along the creekbank of Sixteen Mile Creek near the home of one resident where creek waters rose more than two feet.

The water accumulation had reached serious proportions by early Thursday morning, according to John Van Dijk, water control supervisor with the Halton Region Conservation Authority.

He added the water level was one of the worst in many years.

He attributed this to a recent storm that dumped more than two inches of rain in this area, a heavy snow fall over the past few months and the beginning of the spring thaw.

He added that the large amount of snow had also retained a great deal of rain water and the recent melt made for a serious flooding situation.

Kelso Lake has the capacity to hold 1,190 acre-feet of water, or roughly 52 million cubic feet, (the current lake level is 748 acre-feet).

According to a Conservation official, part of the flooding problem was due to inaccurate weather predictions.

The storage and release of water in Kelso Dam is decided by weather forecasts, which provide a reasonable idea of how much water can be expected.

If the Authority releases too much water from the dam, then it could experience a shortage of water for summer recreational activities. If not enough is released, there is a chance of severe flooding problems.

The town of Milton also draws its water supply from the Kelso Lake bed, so a lack of water could pose a serious water shortage problem.

The move to discharge water from Kelso Dam was decided early Thursday, when the water level began rising at an alarming rate.

"Kelso came up so quickly, we had to begin to discharge to alleviate some of the water," said Mr.

Van Dijk.

Stop logs measuring six feet by six feet were also removed to provide additional space for water in the Dam.

Mr. Van Dijk said that although sandbagging was required to protect homeowners' property along the Sixteen Mile Creek, he was not aware of any serious damage, as a result of the water flow.

As a precautionary move, the Authority also requested the town to lower the level of Mill Pond and divert some of the water out of the pond.

The pond was dropped a total of a foot-and-a-half, he said and the valve into Mill Pond shut to prevent more water entering.

Steps were also taken to lower the level at Mountsberg, Scotch Block and Hilton Falls dams.

Although Kelso has dropped down to a safe level, the water level is still considered "high" at both Hilton Falls and Scotch Block said Mr. Van Dijk.

He said he does not feel the problem is over yet, as there remains considerable frost in the ground.

"We are still looking for the frost in the ground to come out," he said, adding sunny and mild temperatures would provide ideal weather conditions.



Tom Burley, Champion Photo

Antonette Poloni was one of the Milton residents whose property was flooded last week. Sandbags were put in place by Halton

Region Conservation Authority in an effort to minimize flooding when the Kelso reservoir's waters were lowered.

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Seven charged in home bust-up

Following a month long investigation, Halton Regional Police have charged seven area youths in connection with a vandalism spree that demolished the interior of the residence of Marlene and John Williams.

Charged with mischief under the Criminal Code of Canada are: David Sims 17, of 372 Highside Dr., Richard Clark 17, of 174 Martin St., Eric Phillips 19, of 550 Childs Dr., Unit 17, Marvin Christensen 18, of 11 Mill St., Oscar Gazzola 24, of 7720 Tremaine Rd., Alfred Kayser 18, of Lot 9, Concession 4, Nassagaweya and Kenneth O'Hearn 18, of Lot 3, Concession 9, Georgetown.

The accused will make their first court appearance Monday, May 10.

An estimated \$50,000 damage was caused to the Williams home and contents during a March 6 party given by Steven Williams Saturday that drew over 100 teenagers.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams were holidaying in Florida at the time of the incident.

Damage to the house included the destruction of furniture, bathroom fixtures, windows and numerous family possessions.

Building contractors estimate it will take at least two weeks to make the \$90,000 house liveable.

Three weeks ago the couple appealed to the public in an effort to locate a temporary home, following the ruin of their own \$90,000 Bell St. home at the hands of an estimated 100 local teenagers Mar. 6.

The response to that story pleasantly surprised the couple, who received more than a dozen offers.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams have since rented a townhouse in Milton.



Tom Burley, Champion Photo

A Ukrainian tradition

Patience and a steady hand mixed with skill and imagination are some of the ingredients needed to create Ukrainian Easter eggs. Lynda Myronick of Milton shows her seven-year-old daughter Andrea the craft passed down through

generations of Ukrainians. The symbols and colors each contain a message along with the symbolic significance of the egg which represents the birth associated spring.

Town fights Mall video arcade

An all out effort is being launched by Milton staff to close a video amusement arcade operating illegally at Milton Mall.

In a press conference Tuesday morning, Mayor Gord Krantz said Town policy is to require operators of such amusement centres to apply for a rezoning before they are allowed to open.

"This hasn't happened in this case so the amusement parlor is operating illegally in the eyes of the Town," Mr. Krantz said.

At an in-camera session following Monday's council meeting, councillors decided to hire the law firm of Gardiner, Roberts to

press charges against Video Amusements of Canada and its president Frank D'Alessandro; Milton Mall owners Canada Life Assurance Company and mall managers Geoffrey L. Moore and Associates Inc.

"There is every indication that this is going to end up before the courts," Mr. Krantz said.

Milton zoning commissioner Ray Weido said an occupancy permit for the store at the mall had been issued on the understanding that the use would be "retail-service."

Under current bylaws, pinball arcades are limited in Milton, but parlors specializing in video games are not, "so we are treating in strictly as a violation of our zoning bylaws," Mr. Krantz said.

He said he has received several calls from parents expressing concern about the parlor operating so close to the E.C. Drury High School, although there has not been any official expression from school administrators.

"This is getting to be quite a controversial topic and we are well aware of the problems it is creating in other areas," he added.

Protest salaries fees

Halton doctors to stage walkout

By STEVE ARNOLD
Champion News Editor

What is the dollar value of the services of a doctor? Physicians across Ontario will engage in a series of rotating one-day strikes to back up their answer to that question as part of an ongoing dispute with the Provincial Ministry of Health.

In Halton Region, doctors will stage five one-day protests, during which they will withhold all but emergency services from their patients.

Although patients are caught in the middle of the debate, the dispute is not between physician and patient, according to Dr. Dennis Chong of Oakville.

Dr. Chong, acting president of the Halton County Medical Association, said he regretted the actions that were being taken but felt there was no other choice.

"This dispute is between doctors and the government, not between doctors and their patients," he said in a telephone interview.

Members of the local affiliate of the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) were to meet Tuesday night with the chairman of their sanctions committee to plan their actions for the five days they will withdraw their services in this area.

Current plans call for the physicians to close their offices on Friday, April 16, Thursday, April 23, Wednesday, April 28, Tuesday May 4 and Monday, May 10.

"We will refuse everything except emergency services on those days," Dr. Chong said. "We are taking the OMA position that the emergency needs of our patients must be attended to."

At the centre of the ongoing dispute, Dr. Chong said, is money.

"Obviously, the government wants to get as much as they can and pay as little for it as possible. In the past doctors have failed to realize that the business of government is very outcome oriented. They are interested in results rather than in right and wrong," he said.

"Our philosophy about these disputes has changed however. We've decided that rather than being nice and gentlemanly, we are going to start playing hardball."

"While our basic concern is about money, at a second level our concern is about what the dollar value of a physician's services really is."

(Continued on page three)



ALLAN BURTON

Allan Burton

Putting the show back on the road

By STEVE ARNOLD
Champion News Editor

Canada's world famous Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is not the same show it was in 1933 when Allan Burton made his first appearance there.

The retired chairman of Simpson's Ltd., a Milton area resident since the 1960s, admits that he faces a heavy responsibility during his term at the helm of the organization.

worker on the board of directors. Now, and for the next two years, Mr. Burton will head the operations of the fair following his election as president of the board of directors.

Over the last 50 years the annual event has experienced many changes and Mr. Burton was a part of several of them during his various terms as a volunteer and committee

(Continued on page three)

Inside today's Champion

Easter holiday

The offices of The Canadian Champion will be closed Friday, April 9, 1982 (Good Friday) to observe that Christian holiday. Deadlines for advertising and news will not change. The staff of The Canadian Champion wish all their readers and advertisers a safe and happy holiday.

First Section

Police Blotter A2
Editor's Note A4
Between the Willows A5
Our Reader's Write A5
Region A8

Second Section

Classified B1, B2
Who Does It B3
Real Estate B4 B8
Realtor's Choice B4
Dateline B5

Third Section

Sports C1-C7
Fish and Game News C2
Curling Cues C6

Fourth Section

Omagh D3
Drumquin D3
You and Your Child D9

Special supplement: K-Mart.

Champion helps

Recognizing Milton District High School's need for proper gym equipment, The Canadian Champion has helped to organize a lucky draw. See page A3 for picture.

