

Is someone setting Halton bears free? Ministry wants to know

There have been more bears spotted in the rural area west of Acton and the provincial ministry of natural resources is beginning to wonder if someone, somewhere, is setting bears free.

Residents in both north Nassagaweya and Eramosa have seen bears this month. A bear was killed after it attacked livestock in this area last summer and later a bear and cubs were seen in the area. Earlier this year two bears were spotted just off Highway 25 north of town. A few years ago a bear and cubs were seen in the Ballinfad area too.

Bruce Buckland of the ministry of natural resources Cambridge office says they'd appreciate hearing from residents when they spot a bear. He said they received a report of a female bear and her cub being seen in the Acton area this month though the Halton Conservation Authority.

Bears and cubs have been seen by children waiting for a bus on the Eramosa-Erin Town Line, at a house construction site on the Fourth Line of Nassagaweya and by a Crewson's Corners resident in the last few weeks. Vince Synott, an RR 2 Rockwood farmer, saw a bear near his herd of calves and cows. He thinks it was probably the same bear seen at Crewson's Corners.

Buckland said the province would like to pin-point where the bears are being seen around here so they can keep track of their movements. While they aren't considering live trapping the bears and moving them to a less populated area they are keeping the possibility "in the back of our minds". If they received complaints about the bears they'd likely then move them.

The Cambridge office doesn't even have any traps on hand. To trap a bear they'd have to bring down culvert traps from Northern Ontario. This time of year he says the best bait would likely be bread dipped in honey, in the spring putrefied meat would be used, and the doors on either side of the culvert trap are set to close once the bear is inside.

The ministry has no idea where the bears are coming from. Buckland noted there are bears in the Bruce area which could be coming down here along the Niagara Escarpment which is pretty well covered. Or they might be coming from a huge, swampy area near Barrie. However, both routes, especially the Bruce, seem a long way for bears to travel, he said.

The province is suspicious the bears may be being turned loose by somebody. However, they'll have to catch a bear to determine if it has been pen-reared. A pen-reared bear would likely be heavier and its claws would be worn down from walking on concrete.

The only place licensed to keep bears in this area is the African Lion Safari and they aren't missing any. There have been no reports of bears escaping anywhere either, and if someone is simply letting them go then they wouldn't inform the ministry. Buckland notes people do keep exotic pets and then find they are too much bother and set them free rather than destroy them. If the province ever finds out someone has bears and is setting them free then they'll either be licensed or the remaining bears seized.

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32 PAGES—25 CENTS

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Monumental study

Milton councillors got their first look at the final document which sets out how the Milton-Highway 401 Industrial Park will be put into action. Story Pg. 3

Guelph Line

Halton Region will be asked to look into a method of taking out a number of dangerous parts along Guelph Line following passage of a resolution by Milton Council Monday evening. Story Pg. 3.

She's been watching

In our Spotlight on Seniors we look at a woman who has literally watched Milton grow from a hamlet to a bustling town of 28,000 people. Story and picture Pg. 5.

Pit is rebuilt

An unused quarry has been brought back to the condition where it can be used as a park. Story and picture Pg. 6.

Exchange students

Halton has been involved with the Quebec-Ontario exchange student program for four years. Two such exchanges are profiled on Pg. 8.

Bill Wheeler 100

Yesterday a family gathering was held to mark the 100th birthday of long-time Milton resident and businessman Bill Wheeler. Story and profile Pg. 7.

Troubled teens

A summer Experience '81 worker has found the task of working with teenagers in the Sheridan Youth Home is both challenging and valuable training for the future. Story and picture Pg. 7.

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Edith Sharpe's Philobit of the Week: People who try to run from themselves, never make it.



—Jane Muller, Milton Champion

Braving wind and waves

They ended up swimming at Kelso last week instead of canoeing, as children involved in Mountsberg Wildlife Centre's Summer Program found winds too high. Eric Christensen (front), 10, of Kilbride and Rupert Gordon, 10 of Waterdown tried to keep this vessel on a straight course but did not find success in their brave venture. The afternoon of canoeing was meant to wrap up an overnight camp at Kelso but the group had to be content to swim instead.

Tremaine-Britannia... ..will go to court

Site F zoned dump Group threatens suit

By Jim Robinson

Ordered by the Supreme Court of Ontario to comply, Milton councillors have rezoned 246 acres of land near Tremaine and Britannia Rds. a garbage dump, but they already face the threat of a legal action against the town by citizens living near the garbage dump.

David Katz, representing the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group, which has worked hand-

glove with the town for years fighting Site F said his group has no option but to oppose the town and the bylaw through the courts.

"We feel the bylaw is illegal and we intend to quash it," he said. Mr. Katz's statements were supported by a letter from the group's lawyer, David Estrin, confirming the group will seek legal action against the bylaw and therefore the town.

Passage of the bylaw became a legal necessity after Mr. Justice John Osler ruled July 3 Milton must put the 246 acres of land, also known as site F, into a landfill designation or the current members of council would all be sentenced for contempt of the Ontario Municipal Board.

At the July 3 hearing Mr. Justice Osler agreed with Halton Region, which brought the contempt action against the Town of Milton, that the town had been reticent in passage of the bylaw amendments and official plan in defiance of the official receipt of the OMB's order on March 5, 1980 that the rezoning take place.

It had been the contention of Milton enactment of the Environmental Assessment Act on June 5, 1980 precluded the town from redesignating land, but Mr. Justice Osler found this not to be the case.

In his ruling he gave Milton until July 31 to complete passage of all necessary bylaws and amendments to the official plan. If this had not been done, he said he would enact sentence.

Some of the options said to be open would be to remove the council from its position and order they not be allowed to stand for public office for seven years. Also, the councillors' land and properties could have been seized and/or a substantial fine could have been levied.

Having little option but to proceed, Milton very carefully worded the introductory part of the bylaw to reflect the orders so far received from other levels of government while still reflecting Milton's feelings about site F.

It states in part that, "the Regional Municipality of Halton is required to provide facilities for the receiving and disposal of waste. In order to fulfill this obligation, the Regional Municipality of Halton is proceeding with long term waste disposal plans which include, amongst other things, the need for resource recovery facilities and hopefully to a lesser and lesser extent as time goes on, sanitary landfill."

Noting in the preamble "the current sanitary landfill sites within the Regional Municipality of Halton are nearing the end of their usefulness," the bylaw states, "a new sanitary landfill site must be secured."

Admitting the next regional landfill site will probably be site F because of "economy of operation and environmental impact," the key portion of the preamble states "the land is presently designated agricultural and the amendment is to redesignate it sanitary landfill for the specific purpose of allowing a municipal operation."

"It is intended to design and operate the sanitary landfill in such a way as to permit agricultural after-use once the sanitary landfill use ceases."

When site F, and if site F is approved as a garbage dump, it will be designed to accept 2 million English tons or 1,814,000 metric tons as the maximum limit.

While Milton has passed the bylaw in hopes it can interject the question of another potential garbage site in Burlington, there is now the distinct possibility the town may not get the chance.

Halton Chief Administrator Dennis Perlin surprised Milton representatives on regional council two weeks ago when he said that if the region's environmental report on Site F is considered "excellent", it could be automatically declared a garbage dump by Environment Minister Hon. Keith Norton without an Environmental Assessment Hearing Board having to meet.

Milton has pinned all on the hearing and the fact it would be run under the rules and regulations of the Environmental Assessment Act. This act takes in a wide scope, and therefore, Milton hopes to bring in the 200-acre Burlington site, also known as Site A.

(Continued on Pg. 2)



—Jane Muller, Milton Champion

Want a bite?

Creating make-believe cookies was one activity which kept Kelly Cameron busy during free play time at Milton Parks and Recreation Department's summer pre-school program which operates weekdays at Robert Baldwin School gymnasium. Children from 3 to 5 years may participate in summer pre-school playshop which can be attended for week-long sessions throughout the summer. Children may attend for mornings or afternoons or both and providing spaces are available, children may be registered just prior to the start of each session.

Wants park or parkway named after Terry Fox

Council will consider naming one of the planned new town roads or a new park to commemorate Terry Fox.

Councillors had received a letter from Charles R. Wilson requesting the town consider renaming the James Snow Parkway "The Terry Fox Parkway."

When the time came up for discussion, Councillor Colin Best said he would like to see the town urge Halton Board of Education to use the name Terry Fox on the unnamed and yet-to-be-built public school planned for Coxie Blvd.

Unfortunately Mr. Best was told the school will probably be named after long-time Halton Board worker Bruce Lindley. At that point it was suggested, and Mr.

Best agreed, that there are several major roadways planned for Milton in the future.

"We also have two or three parks we could be looking at," said Mayor Gord Krantz.

Mr. Best withdrew his recommendation and promised he would be bringing up the idea of naming a road or park after Terry Fox at the earliest opportunity.

"It took Terry Fox to prove that one person really can make a difference," said Mr. Best.

Some of the major roads could be in the Bronte Meadows subdivision area or in the recently approved 1,100 acre industrial park which will run along the north side of Highway 401.

Keep GO bus — petition

A petition is now being circulated in Milton calling for GO Transit to retain its express bus service to Toronto, even after GO Train service is commenced.

Bill Kowal of 108 Baldwin Ct., is one of 32 who have signed the petition and he told The Champion expected cancellation of the bus is going to cause him and others great problems.

Based on information he and others have gleaned from the Go Commuter Bulletin, Mr. Kowal said it will cost him an extra

\$1.30 per day plus many more minutes in travel time.

Currently he boards the express bus at Woodward Ave. and it takes him directly to Toronto and down University Ave. to his office in the Bell Canada Building.

By taking the train he said he will arrive at Union Station and must either walk to work, or if it is inclement weather, take the subway which will cost the extra \$1.30. Either way, he said, will cost him time or money.

In addition, Mr. Kowal pointed out the remaining bus which will be in service, is "a milk run from Milton over to Meadowvale and then down to York Mills," a method he said which could take twice as long as the 50-minute express bus service.

"No, we've been spoiled by the GO bus. "I'll bet if they keep just the one express bus at 6.30 a.m., it will be jammed and the Go Train will be empty," Mr. Kowal said.

Mr. Kowal said another problem with the cancellation of the bus will be the fate of those who board at Trafalgar Rd. It is not known if there will be a bus for them or whether they will have to travel to Milton to catch the train.

Even then, the petition points out, there will be no special Milton Transit arrangements for people who want to go to the GO station. People wishing to take the train will have to get a ride or they will have to drive their own cars and park.

Mr. Kowal said he has been told the express bus was kept on in Oakville even though there is train service. He said he hopes this will be the case if there is enough Milton pressure.

Copies of the petition are being handed out at GO Bus boarding spots in Milton and there are more signed petitions than the two bearing the 32 names which The Champion has received.

Copies of the petition have been sent to GO Transit and to Hornby resident Jim Snow, who is the Ontario Minister of Transportation and Communications has the running of GO Transit as part of his portfolio.

Federal cheques today

There will be a special one-day door-to-door delivery of federal cheques today, Milton Postmaster Cal Hart has announced.

Milton letter carriers and rural route contractors will be delivering such items as old age security, Canada Pension plan, and War Veteran's Allowance.

There will be no delivery of provincial government cheques with this mail Mr. Hart said.

Those who normally receive their mail at the post office through general delivery or postal box can pick up cheques at St. Paul's United Church, 123 Main St. in Graham Hall between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. today, Thursday, and Friday.

"Anyone who may have changed their mailing address in the past few weeks will

be required to pick up the cheque at St. Paul's Church.

"If you have moved from another community and you wish to pick up your cheque, I would suggest you contact the post office in that area to find out where cheques are being distributed in that centre," Mr. Hart said.

Proper identification will be requested from anyone coming in to pickup a cheque. Mr. Hart said any cheques not picked up by Friday will be returned to the Department of Supply and Services.

"The cheques to be delivered are for the month of July.

"In the event the postal strike is resolved before Wednesday, the cheques will be available by regular means," Mr. Hart said.