

Salmonella outbreak hits MDH staff

Four Milton District Hospital staff members tested positive for the salmonella disease last week, but they showed none of the symptoms of the disease.

That brings the total to 14 people with the disease. Ten chronic-care patients were isolated last week. Of those ten, only four showed mild symptoms of the disease, which include diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and fever, which can last two to five days.

More than 150 staff members and patients have undergone salmonella testing since the initial outbreak on Dec. 24.

Hospital administrator Brian Brady said the source of the disease was likely pureed food prepared at the hospital, but he couldn't verify that. He said staff members probably picked up the disease through a non-pureed version of the source food.

Those four affected staff members have not returned to work since their tests came back positive.

Mr. Brady said they won't be permitted to come back to work until they receive negative results in three consecutive tests. He says that could take up to three weeks. In the meantime, each staff member is being paid.



The new emergency department was a busy place Monday. Igor Dorick came in for treatment late Monday afternoon. He accidentally cut his finger while at work. At

right, Dr. Vello Tooming, sutures the injured finger. R.N. Lesley Feddery also attended to the patient.

Patients move into new wing

By LISA TALLYN
Champion Reporter

Hospital staff piled the patients' belongings onto their beds and wheeled them one by one into the brand new wing of Milton District Hospital Monday. The 50 in-patients should have all been in place by yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon.

The first official day of the move into the hospital's addition went as smoothly as could be expected, said hospital executive director Brian Brady.

Last month the purchasing and stores, and central services departments moved into the basement of the new wing.

Out-patient services, emergency, the laboratory, diagnostic imaging (X-ray), and intensive care were all open in the new wing at noon on Monday. In-patients are being temporarily housed on the second floor of the new wing, along with obstetrical, medical and surgical departments.

Mr. Brady said extra staff were on hand on Monday to ensure the move proceeded without a hitch.

Many staff members said they were pleased to finally be out of cramped corners. Renovation of the

original hospital will begin shortly and the \$17-million make-over should be completed by May.

"Once we get through this initial confusion, things will be better," said emergency head nurse Doreen Nickle.

"Once we get things organized and get through the business end of running the department it will be a big improvement to what we had been working with."

She said last week was hectic for staff members.

"There was a lot of co-operation between the departments which made the move easier. Doctors co-operated with us today by seeing emergency patients in their offices."

But shortly after noon the emergency department had three patients waiting for treatment.

Along with coping with new physical locations, each department has new equipment to operate. A new telephone system runs throughout the expansion and emergency is equipped with a new patient monitoring system.

All patients coming to the hospital should enter the new wing from First Line (Bronte St.)

The Canadian Champion

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Community Notebook

Lottery winner gets \$1.6 million

It's Karen Hebert's style to be calm - even when she wins \$1.6 million.

That's how the 24-year-old Milton resident reacted when she discovered she had the winning Lotto 6/49 number in the Jan. 3 draw. Ms. Hebert, a supervisor at a computer centre, said she'll keep her job long enough for the company to find a replacement. She's been a regular ticket buyer since the lottery began and purchased the winning ticket at Trafalgar Village in Oakville. She plans to share the huge cash prize with her parents, who have lived here for six years, and her two brothers. Karen moved to Milton in September.

An experienced traveller, Karen returned from a vacation in Florida on New Year's Eve, telling friends she told her southern friends she'd be back. At the time she was only joking but the day after her win she was on her way back to the Florida sunshine. More travel is in her plans for the future.

Have a Heart - Volunteer

February is Heart and Stroke Month and the time when volunteer canvassers seek donations through a door-to-door campaign.

Volunteers are urgently needed to help canvass the town during the month of February on behalf of the Halton Branch of the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation. Only a few hours of time are needed. Local campaign co-ordinator Connie Reynolds would like to hear from anyone willing to help. She can be reached by calling 876-4480 or 878-8101.

Torchlight Ski Parade

The highlight of National Ski Week at Glen Eden will be the annual Torchlight Parade, Friday Jan. 23.

The annual event will take place at 6 p.m. on the Boomerang hill. Skiers carrying torches will include members of the Ski School and Ski Patrol. National Ski Week (January 17-25) will conclude at the local slopes with the Salomon Family Fun Race. Registration is at 9 a.m. with races at 1 p.m. and awards presentations at 4 p.m.

Manor residents need you

The volunteer co-ordinator at Halton Centennial Manor is hoping that with the Christmas rush behind us, those with some spare time will volunteer at the home for the aged.

Orientation is provided for volunteers, who have a wide range of positions available to them. Some of the activities volunteers can participate in include: crafts, plant care, sing songs, birthday parties, friendly visiting.

Quote of the Day

The hand which rocks the cradle is the hand which rules the world.

WILLIAM ROSS WALLACE

Inside Today's Champion

Drunk driving decreases	2
Snowmobile safety	2
Flu vaccine	3
Council briefs	4
Mock council meeting	5
Omagh	6
Dateline	6
Winter fun	7
Sports	8-13
Classified	11-12
Who Does It	14
Editorial Page	B1
Milton Mail	B2-B3
Year in Review	B4

Threatens court action . . .

Man says Town misled him

By MIKE BOYLE
Champion Reporter

A Milton man said Milton's zoning director misled him into thinking he could get a building permit for a house. And he said he will sue the Town to make sure he gets his permit.

He was later refused the permit and must obtain a zoning amendment to build on the land.

Church sale imminent, says pastor

Negotiations are continuing between representatives of Epiphany Lutheran Church and Emmanuel Baptist Church for the purchase of the baptist church's property on Commercial Street.

Rev. Ken Campbell, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, said Monday the Lutheran representatives were still negotiating with a determination, either way, expected soon.

However, Rev. Errol Rempel denied his church, Milton Alliance Church, maintained any interest in the property. In Friday's edition of The Champion, Rev. Campbell said the Alliance church was one of two church groups bidding for the property.

"Our interest ended about five months ago," said Rev. Rempel. "We decided we wouldn't pursue it in any way, shape or form."

Although Rev. Rempel refused to elaborate on his reasons for losing interest, he said "it just wasn't suitable for our purposes."

Rev. Campbell said a representative from the Alliance church approached him about a month ago concerning purchasing the church property.

"There have been negotiations recently (with the Alliance church) that may not have been mandated by the congregation. Recently, within the last month, a member for the negotiation team for the Alliance expressed interest."

Rev. Campbell refused to name the person involved and Rev. Rempel said he wasn't aware of the interest, either.

"I was quite startled that there was a ruffling of the feathers at all," said Rev. Campbell. "I don't know why that should have caused any trouble at all."

"I don't consider that a breach (of confidence) because it's common knowledge both church groups were interested. Maybe it was a private initiative on the part of that person."

Back in June, the Alliance had considered working with Rev. Campbell with building a church on some property Emmanuel Baptist was considering near the hospital.

Should Emmanuel sell its Commercial Street property, it will likely purchase a 90-acre property on Appleby Line currently owned by Louis Nadalin.

Ron Isnor purchased the land, he said for \$24,000, which fronts on a right-of-way owned by Pauline Hobbs, who lives at 219 Martin St. The land is south of Mrs. Hobbs' home and fronts onto "First Street" which is not a street and only a right of way.

Mr. Isnor said town zoning director Ray Weido assured him a building permit would be made available to him.

At Monday night's general committee meeting, he took town planner Bob Zsadyani to task. Mr. Weido was absent from the meeting.

"Are you telling me that Ray Weido didn't tell me I could get a building permit?" he asked Mr. Zsadyani. "He told me and my son (who was in attendance) a permit would be made available when I bought the land."

"I don't think it's fair the way we're being treated."

Mr. Zsadyani said to his knowledge a building permit was never authorized by a staff member nor should it have been because the Town doesn't permit building homes on land which doesn't front onto a maintained road.

Later, Mr. Isnor said the permit was granted orally to him by Mr. Weido. However, Mrs. Hobbs complained and the authorization was refused.

Mr. Isnor said another right-of-way, south from his property to Woodward Avenue, is owned by the Halton Board of Education. He said he is considering asking them for permission.

Mrs. Hobbs said she wasn't in agreement with the plan to build a home. She showed a Champion reporter a letter from a lawyer saying the land could be purchased inexpensively because a building permit wasn't likely.

She said a parcel of land east of her house could be made into a building lot should Mr. Isnor be granted a parcel. She said the only access would be her right-of-way, which is fully on her property. Another residence already uses the right-of-way.

Later, Mr. Isnor said he planned to take the Town to court if a building permit wasn't granted. He said he'd sue the Town for \$40,000 (the original cost of the land plus lawyers' fees).

Councillors attempted to divert the issue by asking Mr. Isnor to ask for a technical report for a zoning amendment. Councillors passed that request. No date is set on reports. A public hearing is required before a zoning amendment can be passed giving all concerned a chance to air their concerns.



Slip, sliding away

After more than one snow-less month, the heavens opened Saturday much to the delight of several youngsters (and those wanting to stay young). The hill at the corner of Laurier and Commercial streets leading into 18 Mile Creek was filled with tobogganers who used a variety of sleds and toboggans to traverse the hill. For more photos on winter fun, turn to page 7.

Smokers are asked to butt out this week

Even if you aren't a smoker, being around those who are could be more dangerous to your health than if you inhaled the cigarette yourself. National Non-Smoking Week begins tomorrow (Thursday) and the focus is Second Hand Smoke in the workplace.

Studies done by the Canadian Cancer Society show the risk of lung cancer among non-smokers has increased in the last few years. Since only 5 per cent of lung cancer patients have a chance of

cure, the society considers this a serious problem.

Milton council has declared Jan. 15-21 Non-Smoking Week and posters will be put up in Milton Mall as well as liquor and beers stores.

"Anywhere that there is a large traffic population we will be putting up posters," said committee member Carolyn Keyworth. "Mailings were sent to businesses and hospitals as well to inform the public about second-hand smoke."

Dr. Graham Pollett, Halton Medical Officer of Health, is the campaign chairman of Non-Smoking Week for Halton Region. Second-hand smoke is listed by the society as two kinds of smoke: that which the smoker exhales and the non-smoker inhales and that which burns from the end of the cigarette. Because this second kind is unfiltered, it is even more dangerous and has more poisons than that which the smokers inhale themselves.

Second hand smoke can also per-

manently scar some of the small airways in the non-smoker's lungs resulting in reduced lung capacity to the point that more effort has to be put into getting the oxygen the body needs.

The Canadian Cancer Society supports the measures taken by the government, and such institutions as Milton District Hospital, a smoke-free environment, and offers educational programs and pamphlets to help those who smoke to quit. For more information contact Stop Smoking Information Bureau at 964-8300.