

# Water quality studies may identify pollution sources

By BRAD REAUME

Water quality is a major issue in Halton, not only around Lake Ontario but also at Milton's Kelso conservation area and Acton's Fairy Lake.

Kelso, a major recreation area for Halton residents, was closed to swimmers for three weeks in 1989, one week less than 1988. Things were far worse at Fairy Lake. The old beach was closed for five weeks in 1989, up from two weeks last year. The new beach and the Smallwood Acres section were both closed for nine weeks, only slightly less than last year.

The summary was presented to Halton region's health and social ser-

vices committee Monday by Dr. Graham Pollett, the regional health director.

Beach contamination is measured by a fecal coliform count of the water. Counts of 200 parts per litre of water are considered unacceptable by the Ministry of Health. Such beaches are posted as dangerous for swimmers because counts in that range lead to increased chances for ear infections, sore throats, and the like.

Counts at Kelso were measured as high as 1174 parts pp 100 ml of water. At Fairy Lake the count reached as high as 2400 pp 100 ml of water. Dr. Pollett said 1989 was similar to 1988, regarding beach warnings.

A study was conducted at Fairy Lake in an effort to identify the source of the pollution. That report will be issued in a few weeks after regional staff have had a chance to review and summarize it for council, Dr. Pollett said.

According to his report, the study was so successful that consideration is being given to studies at Kelso and along Lake Ontario. Fecal coliform is a micro-organism commonly found in the intestinal tracts of warm-blooded animals, including man. The fecal coliform presence indicates contamination through other pathogenic (disease causing) micro organisms, the report explains.

# Guelph Line twists to change

By BRAD REAUME

Plans are afoot at Halton region to engineer a kinder, gentler slope on Mountainview Road south of Georgetown. The same is true with the twists and turns of Guelph Line through Lowville.

The present roadbed of Mountainview Road, also known as the Ninth Line, follows the contours of the Silver Creek Valley, which has extremely steep sides. With development of a large subdivision on land south of the valley, the route is expected carry a heavier traffic load.

A new design has been proposed which should promote safety, improve traffic service and provide pedestrian access through the valley.

A number of alternatives have been considered but Halton region's engineering department favors the \$7.6 million plan to plow the southern approach to a gentler grade and use the fill produced on the bottom of the valley to ease the grade on the northern slope.

Residents have been concerned that access under the road be maintained for drainage and for people and animals. Those concerns have been factored into the plan. Estimates for various possible plans for the road run up to \$27.6 million. The construction of the new roadbed should begin in about 1994, says a report presented to the regional planning and public works committee Wednesday.

The Environmental Assessment will take some time to

complete as will the detailed engineering plans. The delay is caused by a backlog of projects already before the region. The proposed street will be widened to four lanes from its present two and sidewalks and bike paths will be constructed. Public meetings will be held to give residents input prior to finalizing plans.

At the same time, the region wants to improve some nasty curves on Guelph Line, both in Lowville and as it winds north of Derry Road. The same time frame exists for the Guelph Line improvements as for the Mountainview Road construction.

"Our first priority is to maintain the area esthetics," said Bob Moore, the regional commissioner of public works. The main areas of work will be the turn in Lowville immediately west of the general store, where Guelph Line makes a sharp uphill right, and the right turn west of the Anglican church north of Derry Road.

Local residents have complained about the high incidence of accidents in both locations. The potential for accidents is high because of the blind turns, hidden driveways, farm equipment on the roads and the unpredictable dangers in adverse weather.

In addition to the improvements, a plan for new speed limits will be put into place. The speed limit will vary from between 50 km/h for the winding sections to 80 km/h for the straight areas with good visibility.

## Campbellville Travel



Photo by JON BLACKER

### Have office, will travel

Blair Harrison (left) and Irene Jensen have teamed up to open a travel agency in Campbellville. Appropriately named Campbellville Travel, the new office at 24 Campbell Ave. officially opened for business Saturday. The pair are ready to welcome the travelling public.

### Pet of the Week

Bagel is a six-month-old beagle waiting at the Oakville Humane Society to be adopted. He would prefer a home where there are no young children.

Also up for adoption are: a five-month-old female labrador retriever, a two-year-old collie, three de-clawed cats, guinea pigs and hamsters.

To adopt, drop by the Oakville Humane Society, 445 Maple Ave., or call 845-1551.



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