

Maplehurst to expand . . .

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think we'll get a lot more hard-core offenders.

If that is so, Mr. Elliot maintained, then they will be hard-core offenders from Halton and the surrounding areas, and it is this region's responsibility to deal with such individuals.

Halton's burden

In the provincial legislature, Mr. Elliot said he asked Correctional Services Minister Richard Patten if he was "dumping Metro's (Toronto) problems on Milton."

The minister replied that "quite the reverse is true," Mr. Elliot said, because Toronto has been shouldering north Halton's burden by keeping the region's remanded prisoners in the Metro Toronto West Detention Centre.

Mr. Elliot said he also asked the minister whether Maplehurst's "good neighbour" image will suffer due to the change. "No," Mr. Patten replied, indicating rather that it would be enhanced, presumably because the facility as a whole will grow, with more staff, more money, and perhaps more community interaction programs.

But those programs will not involve prisoners in the new facility, Mr. Elliot stressed, which will be a distinct and more secure structure divorced from what is now known as Maplehurst.

Mr. Elliot said the new prisoners "will not be treated the same way at all," as current inmates, who are among the less dangerous criminals under detention. Currently Maplehurst houses inmates serving sentences of two years or less, people convicted of property offences or relatively minor drug transactions and the like.

The new influx will run the gamut of offenders; from thieves to murderers and serious sex offenders. But violent criminals "will be the exception rather than the rule," Mr. Elliot said, because they will reflect criminal activity in Peel, Halton and Dufferin, where such episodes are not commonplace. "It would be different if we were talking about Detroit."

Hollow Assurances

However, councillor Bruce Attenborough, who previously served on Oakville council for eight years, said the ministry has scant regard for municipal concerns in its planning. He referred to the Syl Apps juvenile detention centre in Oakville, which, he said, had "started out as a temporary holding facility" and has now become a permanent prison for the most dangerous teenaged offenders.

The ministry offered "all the assurances in the world" that would not happen and in the end "their guarantees weren't worth the paper they were written on."

Mr. Elliot said "we have to accept responsibility" for local offenders, and in defending that position, "I'll take whatever flak I have to take."

The addition is scheduled to be ready for the winter of 1991-92. Mr. Elliot estimated it will bring 60 new jobs to the area. He maintained "everybody" in the government would have snapped up such a facility for their constituents if they had a chance.

Region pours \$625,000 into area's water management

Milton will make more efficient use of its water facilities.

A Milton consulting firm, Thornbury Penny, is expected to get the green light from Halton Region today to provide final detailed design and contract administration for a water management system for Milton and Halton Hills.

Bob Moore, regional commissioner of public works, said both Burlington and Oakville already have systems in place, and the \$625,000 project will provide the same system — a control and data compiling system — for Milton and Halton Hills.

Mr. Moore said the computerized system will keep track of facilities — such as water treatment plants, pumping stations and reservoirs — to make sure everything is functioning as efficiently as possible.

"It's a management system," said Mr. Moore, "to make sure everything is working as efficiently as it can right now and to pinpoint any areas that can be improved."

Regional staff recommended the Milton company be hired over three others because "this firm provided the most detailed and comprehensive proposal for the work, displaying a sound understanding of Halton's needs."



Photo by JON BLACKER

Turning a profit

Fund raising became a winning proposition for shoppers who played the Red Cross "Spin and Win" game on Saturday. Mayor Gord Krantz (right) and several town councillors took turns spinning the crown and anchor wheel. The Red Cross also sold "living" Christmas trees which can be planted outdoors when spring arrives. From left, air cadet Rick Newell, Red Cross representative John Roscoe and air cadet Patrick Matthews helped out at the booth. The local branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society was one of several groups involved in a community bazaar at Milton Mall.

Leisure centre takes big budget bite

Town councillors began pondering where the taxpayers' money will go this year as budget deliberations got underway Tuesday night.

Town finance director Jim McQueen has recommended a capital budget valued at \$9,534,750, with an accumulated net cost to the municipality of \$1,114,050 once government grants and money from reserves and capital levies is taken into account.

The big project slated for 1990 is construction of the leisure centre on Main Street east of Thompson Road. The first phase of the project comes in at \$5.4 million now, with \$1.4 million from reserve funds, \$1 million expected in private and corporate donations and \$2 million in long-term municipal debt.

Mr. McQueen anticipates paying off a debenture at the rate of \$200,000 per year over a decade to drum up \$1,210,000 worth of market financing. It is Milton's first foray into debenture financing in years.

Other big-ticket items in the proposed capital budget include \$1,870,000 for widening of Ontario Street to Derry Road and almost \$1 million for reconstruction of Nipissing Road.

The major local tax bite is taken out of the Ontario Street reconstruction at least in that it is 90 per cent funded by the province because it is a connecting link between provincial roads.

Mr. McQueen also advocates spending \$594,000 on new equipment during 1990, mostly for vehicles. A garbage truck comes in at \$93,000, a rescue van for the fire department at \$37,000, two pieces of heavy equipment at \$170,000 com-

bined value, and financing arrangements by the developer will be.

The town hopes to have one of the big subdivision players, such as Shipp Corporation, underwrite a chunk of the centre by offering money up front for the complex as part of the standard dedication developers make to a municipality

when a big project goes through.

While the town is committed to the leisure centre, there are variables concerning just when it will become a reality. One is how quickly the \$1 million can be raised in private and corporate donations, Mr. McQueen noted. The other is how quickly a deal can be ironed out with the complex developer as to what the front-

Residents block road block plan

By ROB KELLY

Elected officials actually got a round of applause from a handful of residents at municipal council Monday night, a rare occurrence and more markedly so because it was certainly not over an issue that affects a large group of people. But to those present living on Third Line in Campbellville, it was important.

The residents succeeded in stopping a proposal from town staff to block off both ends of Third Line through a wooded area between Guelph Line and Second Line. Opposing residents, 10 in total (although two later withdrew) signed a petition calling for the blockage.

On maps the road, if it indeed can be called such, is marked as a throughway between Guelph Line and Second Line. Approximately 500 metres west of Guelph Line, however, the easily negotiable portion of the road ends and it degenerates into an unkempt path which daunts the most sure-footed four-wheel drive vehicles at times.

In the past few years the area has been built up with several large homes, following the general Campbellville trend. Residents are divided about whether leaving access to the "path" area is worth the trouble, in that people on snowmobiles, in four-wheel drive vehicles and some teenaged field party enthusiasts are reputed to use it.

Ron Savard, who lives adjacent to the proposed fence which would cut off free passage, said he uses the road "quite extensively," especially during the summer.

He said there is "very little problem with vandalism." The dumping of garbage had been a complaint by the petitioners. A horse owner, Mr.

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