



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

### Presenting . . . our Tammy

It was Misty Pritchett's night Saturday as the guest of honour at the annual Easter Seals dance sponsored by Milton Rotary Club. This year's Easter Seals Tammy received a radio-cassette recorder as a gift that evening. Doug Kocfier is chairman of the Easter Seals campaign for the service club.

## Paid parking at hospital on hold

If the provincial government hadn't chipped in some surprise funding, paid parking would have been implemented at Milton District Hospital.

For the first time patients will have to pay rent on telephones, a practice most other hospitals instituted long ago, Mr. Brady said.

### Halton councillors cost \$583,195

The local hospital board was forced to consider parking fees when the Ministry of Health announced last month hospitals would receive a one per cent funding increase over last year. Hospital executive director Brian Brady said \$173,400 in additional funding announced last week has put the brakes on the parking fee plan for now.

Halton taxpayers paid a grand total of \$654,407 to support regional government and its infrastructure in 1991.

Regional councillors by far cost the most, with \$583,195 in salary, benefits and expenses.

The rest of the tax dollars are broken down as follows: police services \$31,860; conservation authorities \$19,009; land division committee \$9,740; ecological environmental advisory committee \$4,218; agricultural advisory committee \$482; and other boards \$5,904.

Paid parking is still down the road for the hospital however. Mr. Brady explained the potential revenue can't be ignored, although there is concern out-patient services could suffer if patients opt to have lab work done elsewhere. Among the proposals which could be introduced with paid parking is a special one-month pass for frequent visitors and no-charge parking for volunteers.

The surprise funding allotment is based on growth in service at the hospital, according to Mr. Brady. The ministry compared the years 1989 and 1990.

"We've received no growth funding in previous years," said the executive director, adding none was expected this year either.

Despite the growth funding, the impact of the Province's one per cent funding increase will still be felt at Milton District Hospital.

The \$15.1 million operating budget approved by the hospital board last week will mean some temporary bed closures and more emphasis on charges for services not covered by Ontario's health insurance.

Regional councillors' expenses totalled \$30,733 — \$16,645 of which paid for conferences and seminars. However, on average, each councillor cost Halton \$672 for seminars, compared to \$1,161 in Hamilton-Wentworth, or \$1,591 in Peel. Individually, regional councillors' salaries and expenses are: chairman Pete Pomeroy — \$86,501; councillors Brad Clements — \$23,975; Bill Johnson — \$18,916; Mayor Gord Krantz — \$20,937.

New councillor Barry Lee, who assumed Johnson's seat, was paid \$972 for his few weeks on council.

## Probation for teenagers in crash

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throwing Carly from the vehicle. Ms Jago argued that alcohol was a major factor in the accident, even though neither of the drivers were found to be impaired.

She also called a witness, one of the passengers of the car, who testified the elder youth had co-driven one month earlier from the console.

But Judge Fuller said the previous driving experience may have given the young offender a false sense of safety to try the feat once again. He argued that the girl who grabbed the wheel made a split-second error in judgement which likely wasn't a result of consuming a small amount of beer.

He said the girls appeared to be responsible, while noting positive reports submitted from various members of the community concerning their background.

Aged 16 and 17 at the time of the single vehicle accident, an 18-year-old woman was convicted of criminal negligence causing death while a 17-year-old youth was convicted of dangerous driving. Both of the girls, whose identities are protected under the Young Offenders Act, pleaded guilty.

In January, a 20-year-old Milton man was sentenced to 14 days in jail for buying liquor for the youths who were involved in the fatal crash.

Appeals must be requested within 30 days of the sentencing, said Ms Jago.



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