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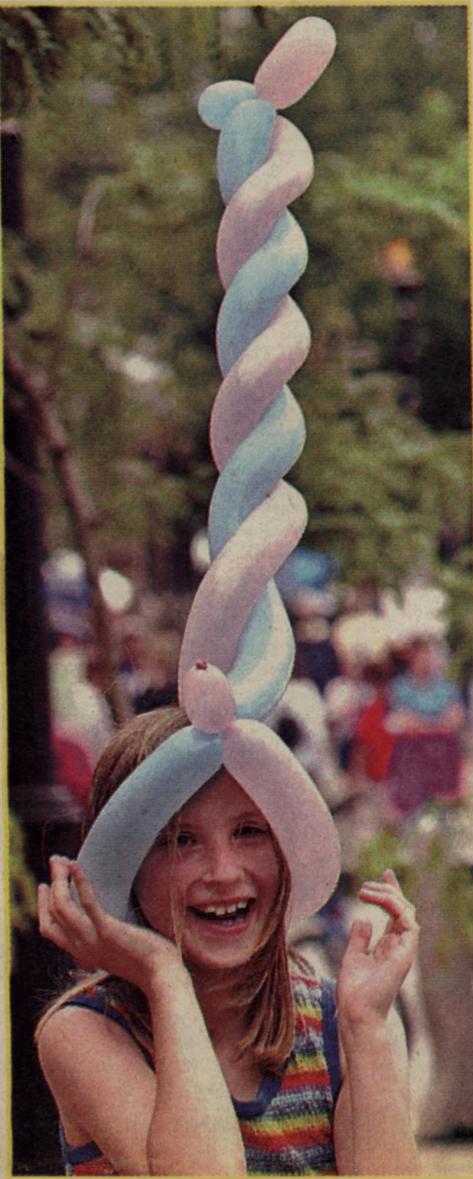


Photo by Peter J. Thompson

Everyone had a good time on the weekend during the Oakville Waterfront Festival, including Leah Drimmie (above) who loved her balloon hat.



Photo by Christine Smyth

Waterfront Festival awash with fun



Photo by Riziero Vertolli



Photo by Riziero Vertolli

Abigail Pozorski and her best friend Kristin Picciano (both 6) waited patiently Saturday evening before the Chantal Kreviazuk concert (top right), while Fresh Water Trade (centre) performed at Lakeside Park. But the happiest person of the weekend was Frank Boone (above) who literally walked away with the grand prize of \$10,000. For more on the Festival, see Focus and Entertainment.

Creek claims 4-year-old

Etobicoke boy swept away by fast-moving rain-swollen current

By Scott MacArthur
SPECIAL TO THE BEAVER

The Burlington Detachment of the OPP continues its investigation into the drowning of an Etobicoke boy, Sunday, at Bronte Creek Provincial Park.

Adam Ennis, 4, drowned in Bronte Creek, near the park's Parking Lot A, after being swept away by a swift current as he played with family near the water. The incident occurred at about 6:30 p.m.

Barry Stacey, 36, also of Etobicoke, pulled Ennis from the water at about 7:30 p.m., approximately 1.5-km from where the boy was playing.

Stacey, followed by OPP Constable Janet Scholes, began administering CPR on Ennis, who was then air-lifted to The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, where he was later pronounced dead.

Stacey received rib injuries during the rescue attempt, and was in fair condition at OTMH.

Both the OPP and Bronte Creek Provincial Park have administered warnings of high water levels, due to the heavy rainfall experienced this spring.

Assistant Park Superintendent Dave Boddington said that the area of the creek near Parking Lot A tends not to be deep, but water levels rise in early spring after the snow melts, and in the case of heavy rains.

"In my 21 years at the park, this is the first creek-related tragedy that I'm aware of," he said.

Octogenarian faces charges

An 86-year old driver is facing charges in connection with Friday's collision with a police cruiser.

According to Halton Regional Police, the accident happened around 7 p.m. when a marked K9 Unit car was traveling eastbound on Cornwall Road and collided with a vehicle that entered Cornwall from Allan Street.

The vehicles sustained extensive damage and both drivers were treated for minor injuries at Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. Police dog Gauge was not injured.

Janis Garanes of Oakville is charged with failing to yield to traffic on a through highway.

Officers combine to save woman from suicide

A pair of Halton Regional Police Officers are being credited with saving the life of a suicidal woman who was poised to jump from a fourth floor window on Saturday.

Constables John Ophoven and Tracey Flanigan were summoned to an apartment building on Dorval Drive north where they found a distraught, 45-year old woman sitting on

the ledge outside the window holding a pair of scissors.

Flanigan initiated a conversation with the woman while Ophoven entered the apartment. While Flanigan kept the woman distracted, Ophoven pulled her back inside. No one was injured and the woman was admitted to Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital for treatment.

Attacks police with knife, woman hospitalized

An Oakville woman was arrested Saturday after she allegedly assaulted her mother then ran at a pair of police officers with a knife.

According to Halton Regional Police, the incident started around 4 p.m. when Constables Susan Stewart and John Pepler responded to a domestic complaint at a Third Line address.

When the officers arrived they spoke to the suspect who produced a knife and ran after them. The officers left the residence and called in the Tactical Rescue Unit. The suspect remained in the house for some time then eventually came out and surrendered herself without further incident.

The woman was taken into custody then brought to hospital for the treatment of minor self-inflicted wounds. She was then admitted for observation.

The investigation continues regarding charges.

Good news: quality of life improving Bad news: health, environment need help

While Halton Region's quality of life continues to improve, health and environmental concerns are undermining progress.

That assertion was among the findings of the latest Quality of Life Index (QLI) published by the Halton Social Planning Council and Volunteer Centre.

Economic and social indicators reveal good news but health indicators lag behind led by the continuation of long waiting lists for long-term care beds.

Meanwhile, environmental indicators which have been a fairly positive component of Halton's QLI during the Nineties have

seen a troubling decline in air quality.

"We have seen strong economic growth in Halton, as well as some recovery in our social deficit," said Ted Hildebrandt, the Council's senior social planner and author of the Halton report. "However, health and environmental issues will continue to be at the forefront of public debate. Our quality of life in Halton will not advance in the 21st century unless we solve these problems."

Progress includes lower rates of bankruptcies, fewer toxic spills, fewer low birth weight babies and reduced unemployment. Setbacks include poor air quality and contin-

uing high - yet declining - social assistance caseloads.

The report is the third in a series of The Quality of Life In Halton, which is published by the Council as part of a province-wide initiative. The Council uses the QLI to monitor changes in social, economic, health and environmental conditions. The latest figures reveal that the 1999 QLI has risen to 94.3, up from 85.2 in 1998. The QLI remains below the benchmark of 100 established in 1990.

The full report is available by contacting the Council at 632-1975 or accessing www.worldchat.com/public/hspc.



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