

COAT OF ARMS: Mani Mitera of Barrager's Cleaners gathered with Mayor Marilyn Serjeanston to kick off the annual coat drive through Barrager's. Barrager's will accept coats and sleeping bags for cleaning and distribution to the needy in Georgetown. From left: Vimla Mitera, Marilyn Serjeantson, Vijay Mitera, Mani Mitera and Margaret Smith. (Jamie Harrison photo)

## Glen school fights for survival

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will be," Anthony said.

The parents stressed that their schools are much more than just classrooms – they are central and unique parts of the communities that they chose to live in.

In a polished presentation at the Glen Williams meeting, School Council Chair Sally Martynuik led the argument against closure with some hard figures.

"At \$67,266, the Glen's operating costs were the second lowest of any Halton Hills elementary school and its \$272 cost-per-student is 30 per cent below the average cost per student in Halton Hills," Martynuik said.

Glen School Council member Mimi Burdett said that a school running at close to 100 per cent capacity, that is operating more efficiently than most, and that is highly valued by the community, should not even be considered for closure.

Next, Anthony headed to Limehouse P.S. to hear the Parent Council make its case against closure.

School Council Chair James Racinsky said the school closures should end with the sale of Wrigglesworth and Speyside and suggested that it would be very hard to sell Limehouse because the site would be difficult to develop.

"Closure without sale will not change the capacity percentage that the Board is looking for, and if it was sold, we don't think the Board will get the financial gains it is looking for," Racinsky said, noting that a recent appraisal valued the school site at \$150,000 but it would take \$100,000 to demolish the building.

Noting that school closures can be "nasty" and that this is a tough time for both communities, Anthony promised to take their concerns to the Council of Superintendents which will recommend closures to trustees.



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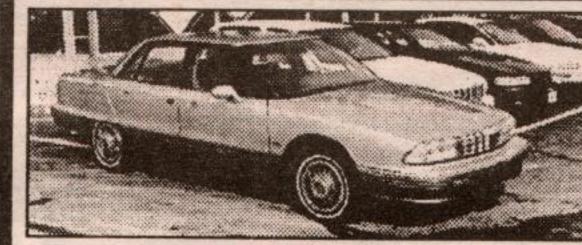
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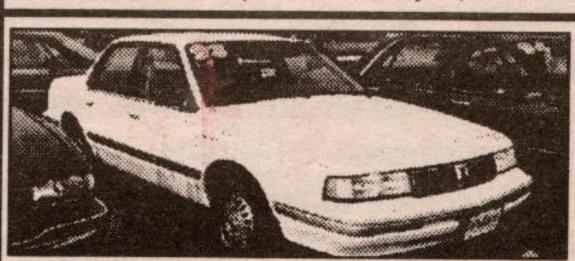
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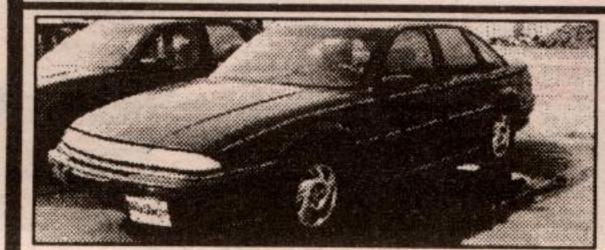
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