

GRAPE VINE

Course dates, lengths and costs vary. For further information phone the Credit Valley Artisans at 877-4507.

Adult skating lessons

Never learned how to skate when you were a kid? Well, it's not too late. There is still space available in the Town's Recreation and Parks Department adult skating lesson program, which begins tomorrow (Thursday) at Memorial Arena.

Although many of the participants are non-skating parents of young children that have signed up for skating lessons, the class also includes a few seniors looking to learn a new skill.

For information about the adult learn to skate and other programs call the Town's program hot line at 873-2601, extension 275.

Rec. & Parks heats up

It may be getting colder, but things are heating up at the Recreation and Parks Department!

There are still spaces left in some Winter '97 aquatic and community programs. Registrations are processed on a first come, first serve basis and are being accepted at the Civic Centre by fax at (905) 873-2347 (VISA only) or mail.

Anaphylaxis group meeting

The Georgetown Anaphylaxis Support Group's first meeting is scheduled for Jan. 14, from 7 to 9 pm, at the Community Room at the Georgetown Police Station.

Let's meet to discuss your concerns about anaphylaxis.

Bulldogs hold youth dance

The Georgetown Bulldogs Lacrosse Team is hosting a Youth Dance, Friday at Gordon Alcott Arena, from 7 to 10 pm.

Admission to the dance is \$5.

Spaces still available

The Halton Hills Public Library's Georgetown Branch still has spaces available in many of their winter Preschool Storytime programs.

Registration has been extended and spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Registration forms are available at the Information Centre desk in Georgetown.

Please bring proof of your child's birthdate.

Call 873-2681 for more information.

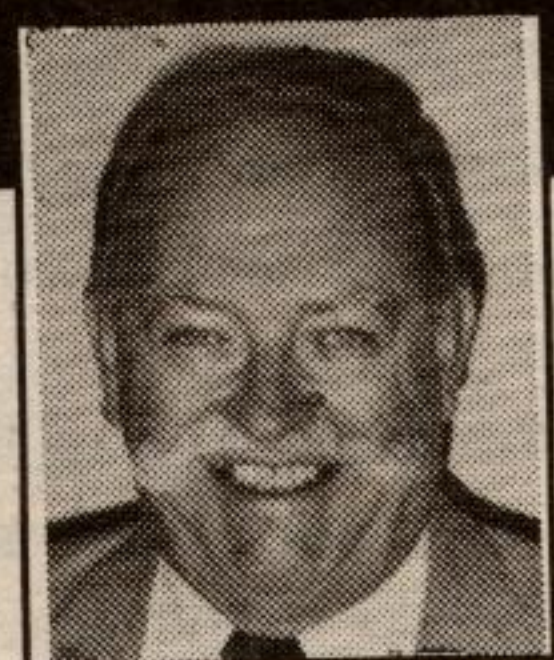
CVA hosting art courses

The Credit Valley Artisans are hosting a wide variety of winter courses at Cedarvale Cottage in Cedarvale Park, at the corner of Maple Avenue and Main Street.

Courses include Pottery for Adults, Drawing Fundamentals for Adults, Creative Clay for Children, and an introduction to watercolours workshop.

Only In Georgetown

With Bill Ellis



The full membership of the "Downtown Brain Trust" was rushed into session very early in the new year, to cover a wide range of topics.

In welcoming the membership, the Trust chair noted that so many silly things were going on, it was possible that The Trust would have to meet weekly just to keep up.

A Trust member drew the meeting's attention to a recent report that up to 5,000 illegal aliens had been smuggled into Canada through Holland. The report stated that the RCMP had assigned a full-time officer to track down these illegal immigrants. The officer reported to *The Globe & Mail* that she had already arrested two aliens. The member wondered how long it would take for this RCMP officer to run down the other 4,998 aliens. Amidst a roar of laughter, the member stressed that this was not humour. His report was fact as quoted by *The Globe* - it only seemed like a joke!

Another member rose and apologized for bringing a Quebec topic before the membership, but he felt that some recent Quebec developments were so absurd that they had to be discussed. First, Mr. Bouchard had agreed to go on a Canadian sponsored trade mission to Asia, along with the P.M. and the other premiers. Mr. Bouchard advised that he would use the trade mission to promote Quebec separatism to the Asians and that, as leader of a soon-to-be separated country, he wanted his own limousine rather than ride in a van with the other premiers. The

Trust membership voted unanimously to charge this turkey with treason and to supply him with a pogo stick - free of charge!

A member noted that it was getting tougher to find a parking spot around the Georgetown Fruit Market on Sunday afternoons. He acknowledged that the local gentry had really caught on to the fact that this was the best "see and be seen" place in town. He called it "politicians amongst the plums, bon vivants amidst the bananas, and people-about-town amongst the parsnips."

Another member pointed out that the all-powerful CBC had finally provoked someone that even it could not out-power. They blind-sided the tough little guy from Shawinigan in that now famous town hall meeting. He noted that the P.M. had a reputation for fair play and a memory like an elephant, so your first shot at him had better be your best one. The CBC came up short - and he wagered that they would not get a second chance. Privatize is the rumour.

The Trust chair, as reported to me, promised the membership that at the next meeting, they would get a full report on the demise of Hwy. 7 between Georgetown and Acton. Why are repairs not being carried out? Why has the Queen's highway been allowed to become the worst in the system?

Bill Ellis is an Associate Broker with Johnson Associates, Halton Ltd., Realtor in Georgetown

Caveat Emptor, ticket buyers



The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary

Sports fans are still in shock over the elimination of the Dallas Cowboys by the upstart Panthers. Football has ruled the TV in many homes this past week, an mine was no exception - much to the disgust, I might add, of The Bride and my two middle daughters. In addition to the daily battle over the tube schedule, some other interesting issues were debated.

Last week it was reported that Cowboy stars Michael Irvin and Eric Williams have been accused of assaulting a woman at gun point. Further investigations have cast some doubt on the validity of this woman's story, but some of the muck will inevitably stick to these two men no matter what the outcome. In Irvin's case, a conviction would mean real trouble. He's on parole from a drug charge with a warning from the judge that he'll get 20 years if he shows up in court again.

This led to an overall discussion of what responsibilities sports and entertainment "stars" have to be an example to youth or society as a whole. I think they do have a big obligation but my daughters have a far different opinion.

I think there should be a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to significant criminal activities by sports stars. I would have applauded the Cowboys had they suspended Irvin as soon as he was convicted on the cocaine charge. What kind of message are we sending by continually allowing felons to occupy centre stage? Should there be different rules for someone who can run, pass or kick? We wouldn't allow our politicians to get away with this stuff.

I read that one time, while Irvin was buying drugs, a little kid came

up to his car, stared at him in awe and said, "When I grow up I want to be just like you!" You don't think that kid knew what Irvin was up to?

From sports we ventured into the entertainment scene. The big hype is on for *Evita*. My kids are probably going to see it. I wouldn't go if they paid me.

There is no doubt that the Andrew Lloyd Webber inspired movie will probably be entertaining. I just can't bring myself to pay to see it knowing that part of my money will be going to Madonna. She stands for almost everything I oppose.

The press is reporting every word about her views on motherhood. There are very few women in this world whose views on parenting I could care less about. Her fame (or whatever) is due in no small part to her penchant to obscenity and outrageousness. Now she's supposed to be a motherhood symbol? Not to me, although I did chuckle when she said that her kid will not be allowed to watch TV.

If I was her, I wouldn't want my kid to see any of my movies either.

For me it's simple. If all I have to do to stand up for my principles is skip a movie, no problemo. I'm not a big movie-goer anyway.

I used to be a sports fanatic but I'm growing out of it. Incidents like the Alomar one last summer are turning me off sports stars, and subsequently the sports themselves.

Whining millionaires bore me.

I long ago tuned out entertainers. Those of you old enough will remember a group called "The Monkees." They had a very popular TV show. After a while though, they started to get "preachy" and I remember thinking "who do these clowns think they are?" They could sing and play some, but deep thinkers they weren't.

Last Saturday night, Don Cherry ripped into our judicial system for only giving 3½ years to a hockey coach who molested two of the boys playing for his team. When Ron MacLean tried to suggest that the sentence reflected an early guilty plea and that the boys (now men) were spared a painful trial, Cherry snapped "That's bull—!"

I was amazed to hear on Sunday morning that callers to a radio show were critical of Cherry. They thought his language was inappropriate for "publicly funded radio." Don't these people ever watch CBC news or some of the CBC's locally produced sitcoms? I thought Cherry was right on the mark. It's about time somebody expressed, in no uncertain terms, the way most of us feel about the creeps and S.O.B.s (as Don would say) who are abusing our children.

Probably my kids will go to see *Evita*. They won't push it with me because they'll think I might get angry. I won't. I think it will be, however, the wrong buying decision. I just hope they remember the old adage "you get what you pay for."

Mike O'Leary is a columnist for The Georgetown Gemini.

HEY!

With less than three years to go, what do you want to accomplish by the end of the century?



"I want to get my (driver's) licence. I want to beat every guy I know at pool."

Amy Richards,
Corey Circle



"I want to own my own business. I will own my own business by the time I'm 23."

Luke St. Aubin,
Queen Street



"I don't have anything planned."

Lisa Laing,
R.R. 1



"I want to be successful and I want to be respected. I want my family to be together."

Mandi McMahan,
Barber Drive