

## Teamwork gets 'thumbs up' at GDMH

BY JAMIE HARRISON  
The Georgetown Gemini

The concept of teamwork got a big "thumbs up" from staff at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital at the monthly Board of Directors meeting.

GDMH participated in an accreditation survey in which a doctor and nurse observed the hospital workings in order to determine how resources might be better utilized.

"Accreditation is a voluntary process, come on site to observe what we do and compare it with nation-wide standards," Board member Susan Bowen said.

"This is just an excellent process as far as someone from the outside being able to come and see (what we do)," said Board Chair Don Lawson.

The new standards are now mandatory.

Also discussed at the open

portion of the meeting were selective menus for patients and patient solicitation to defray costs.

Giving patients a menu choice is expected to save the hospital money in terms of food not being wasted. There was also some talk of providing ethnic meals when necessary.

Discussion of solicitation centred around the fact that those who are asked, should be contacted within six to eight weeks of any hospital stay, so the memory is still fresh.

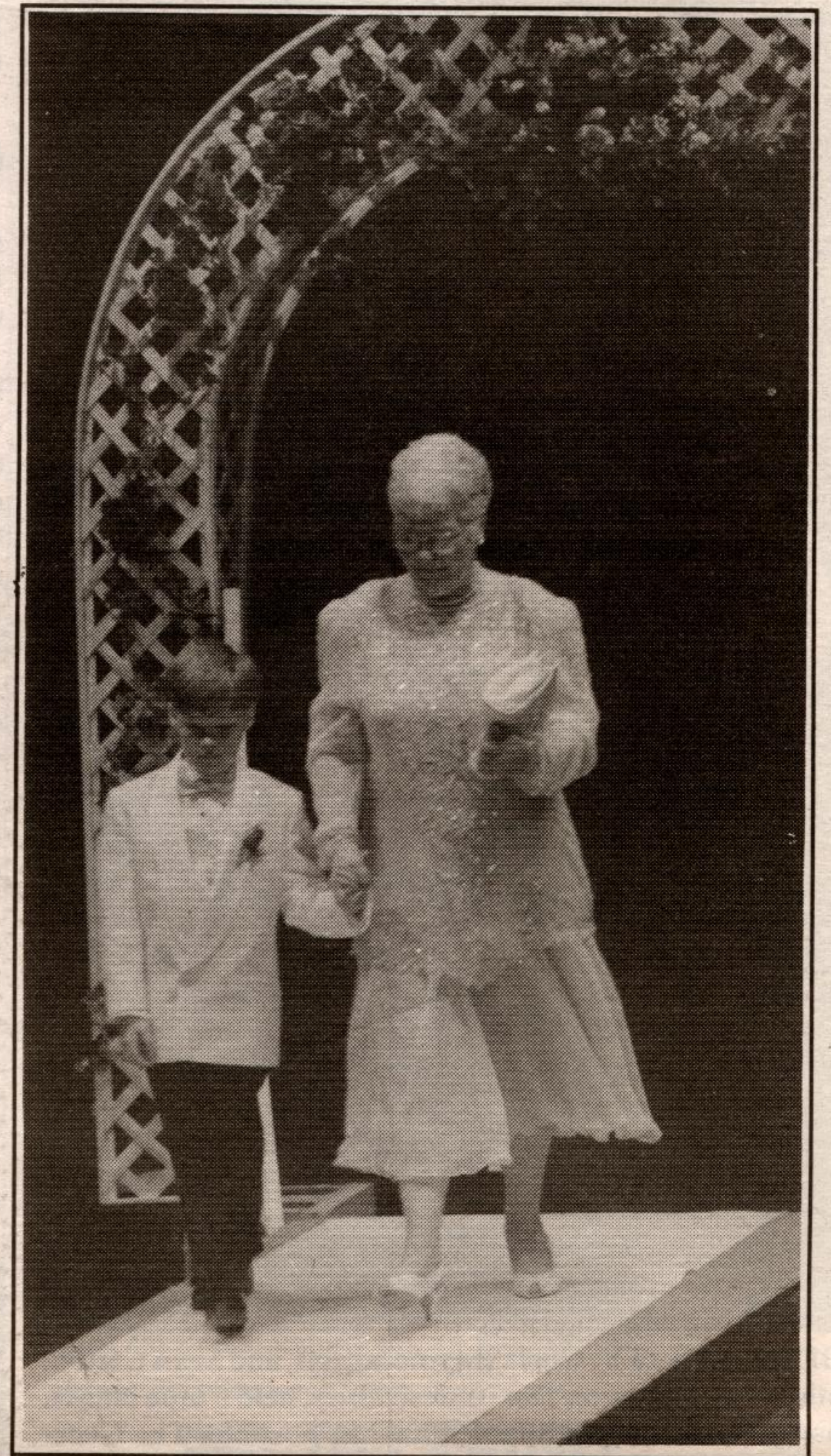
"People will have to real-

ize that there will be risk involved," said Dr. Don Trant. "Some people will be offended. I don't know how many, but people will be offended."

"The concern amongst committee members was that you didn't want people to be constantly hounded," Bowen said in response to Trant's concerns.

"I think the debate has been very thorough," Lawson said.

"We have such a terrific staff here. Morale is as high as it could be considering the changes," board member Janet Duval said.



LITTLE GENTLEMAN: Showcasing what all ring bear-

ers will be wearing this season, a young model escorts another at the Welcome Wagon Bridal Show, Sunday at John Elliott Theatre. (Eve Martin photo)

### Make Annual Eye Exams Part of Your Program

Dr. Bruce Foley holds that frequent eye exams are indispensable to your eye health. Since the eye is a sensitive organ, it undergoes many changes over a lifetime - changes that may be imperceptible to you, but which can lead to difficulties if left undetected. Only your eyecare professional has the specialized knowledge and precision instrumentation available to evaluate the health of your eyes, as well as the effectiveness of your glasses or contact lenses. Seeing 20/20 isn't the only reason to have an eye exam. During the course of an annual exam, optometrists may detect many general health problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, multiple sclerosis, etc. They will monitor the effects of these diseases on the eye and visual system and often co-manage with physicians.

## Focus on the Future

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### Telltale Signs a Child is Struggling with a Vision Impairment

Children with vision problems often do not recognize that they have a problem so parents and teachers need to be on the look-out for signs. These include:

- Blinking frequently
- Rubbing eyes frequently
- Covering one eye with hand while reading
- Losing place frequently while reading
- Holding material close to his or her face
- Tilting head to read, or using awkward posture to avoid using one eye when reading or focusing on something specific
- Becoming abnormally fatigued by schoolwork
- Difficulty concentrating leading to behaviour problems at school

Dr. Foley recommends that parents take their children for a vision examination before the age of three and again before starting school.

For more information, contact Dr. Wm. Bruce Foley at (905) 873-2077.

### Town stops issuing proclamations

Calling it a "sad commentary on today's society," Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette reluctantly agreed with a Town policy change that ends the practice of issuing proclamations and flying the flags for community organizations at the Civic Centre.

Although there was no legal basis for issuing the proclamations - it was a matter of tradition - Town staff recommend stopping the practice and pointed to problems like those faced by the Mayor of Hamilton, who was fined \$5,000 by the Human Rights Commission when he refused to proclaim a Gay and Lesbian Week.

Only the Federal, Provincial and Town flags will now be flown at the Civic Centre but groups or people who want to publicize a community event will be able to appear before General Committee to generate publicity and public awareness.

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### And the winner is...

The Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce has announced the recipients of the Chamber's 1996 Business Achievement Awards.

Heading the list as Business of the Year, the award went to The Georgetown Terminal Warehouse/Elliott Custom Brokers.

The Chamber's Civic Pride award went to North Halton Golf and Country Club

Debbie Smart, Operations Manager of Wastewise, and Cathy Gable, Senior Travel Consultant at Roos Travel Agency, shared Employee of the Year honours.

Entrepreneur of the Year was The Parogy Shack in Acton.

Recipients will be feted at the annual awards ceremony, held at Mold-Masters Ltd., Feb. 27.

Nominations were submitted to the Chamber accompanied by a 'resume' of each business or person, detailing the accomplishments, community involvement and commitment to service.

For further information call the Chamber at 877-7119.