

Experience '76

Students help Contact Centre

Two students, backed by Ontario Experience '76, are helping the Georgetown information and distress centre, known as the North Halton Contact Centre, to update their filing system and publicize the service.

Susan Hornby, 21, of Georgetown, studying research techniques at Sheridan College, and Marylou Pendleton, 18, of Acton, a student of Business and Commerce at University of Toronto, are conducting the 14 week project for the volunteer group.

Mrs. Peggy Balkind, chairperson of North Halton Contact Centre, explained the number of calls received so far this year indicate the amount will double last year's total. She said no volunteer has the time to do what the two students are doing.

She said the centre is particularly emphasizing community awareness in Acton and Milton areas, where fewer calls originate.

Marylou said the 24 hour a day phone answering service for distress calls ranging from the lonely wanting someone to talk to, to suicidal threats has become fairly well known, but less well-known is the information centre, which can direct people to government agencies, how to apply to manpower, or the welfare office.

Susan said the present filing system simply has the name and phone number of various agencies, they now hope to gather more detailed information.

The two girls plan to launch their publicity campaign with posters in stores, and the arena, and any spot people gather.

They also hope to start a community events calendar so organizations can call before setting dates to make sure there is no other event in conflict.

They hope to draw up a talent bank, where people

with any talent they are willing to share can be listed, not just for the Contact Centre, but for any group.

Experience '76, a provincial government project, is paying the girls' salary for the 14 week job, as they are for 9,142 students in Ontario, at a total cost of \$12.1 million.

Since the inception of North Halton Contact Centre on November 15, 1973, the phones have been manned 24 hours a day by volunteers. No one has been paid until the two students arrived to help.

Susan Hornby, McGilvray Crescent, Georgetown, a graduate of Georgetown High School, and Marylou

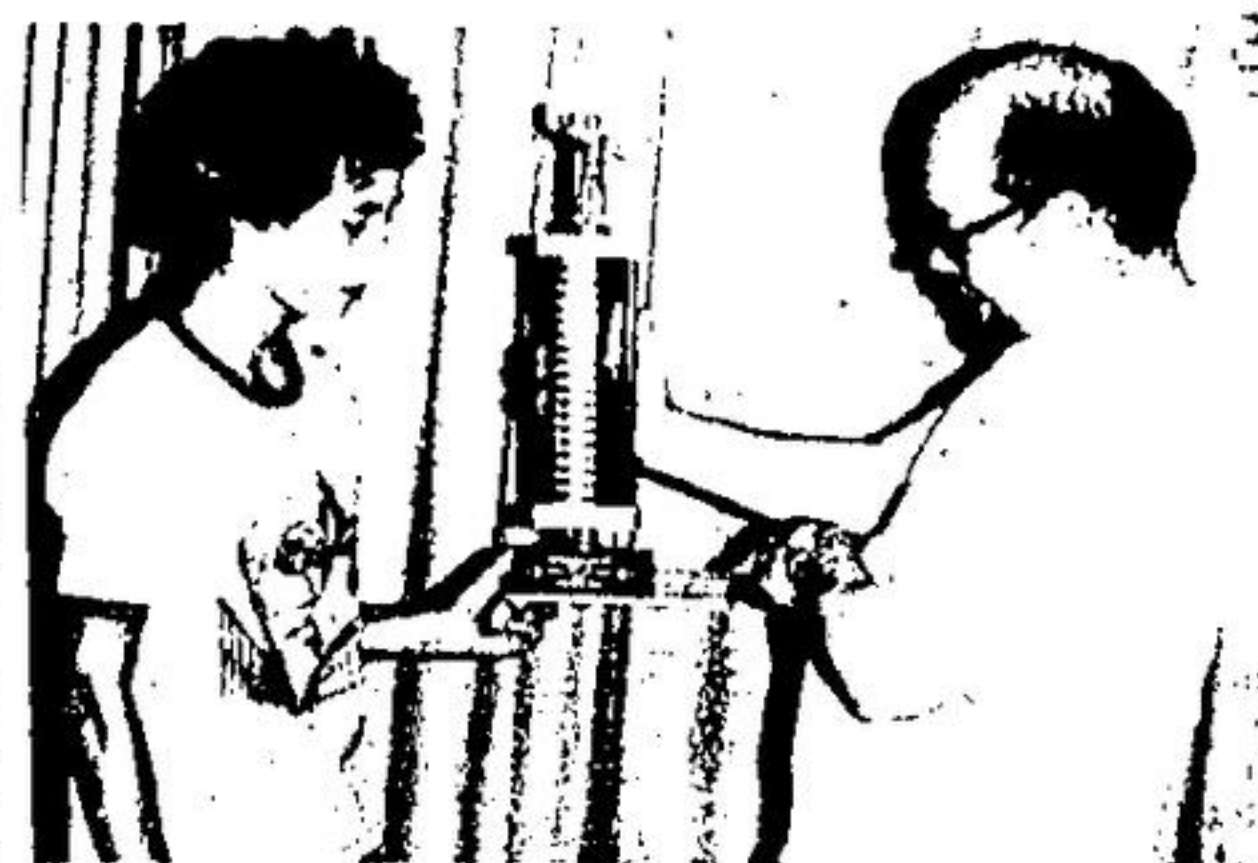
Pendleton, Tidey Avenue, Acton, a graduate of Acton High School, took the training course necessary for all volunteers at the centre, before starting to work.

The girls have visited 12 information and distress centres for ideas and new methods. Most centres are run separately, with information and distress in two different groups, but here the number of calls are not yet high enough to warrant a separate organization.

Mrs. Balkind emphasized the centre is not only looking for more callers but for more volunteers, particularly from Acton and Milton areas.



MARYLOU PENDLETON, Acton and Susan Hornby, Georgetown, work on information files and publicity for the North Halton Contact Centre under the Experience '76 student program.



SAFETY PATROLLER of the year Frank Noseworthy receives his trophy from vice-principal Gary Bateman in a presentation at the Robert Little school.

Free Press Youth page

Karen Wickson on exchange

This month Karen Wickson, an Ashgrove 4-H Homemaking club member, will be one of nine Ontario 4-H members to participate in the Interprovincial Exchange sponsored by the Canadian Council on 4-H Clubs and the Royal Bank of Canada.

Four Homemaking club members have been chosen, one to visit each of the other provinces. Karen will be visiting two farm families in the province of Alberta from July 6 to 19. We know she will be a friendly ambassador from Halton and Ontario.

On the exchange part of the trip, Darlene Dunn of Montague, Prince Edward Island, will be spending two weeks in the Region of Halton. She will be visiting the homes of 4-H Homemaking Club members

Brenda and Judy Brown of Ashgrove Club and Annette Reid of Hornby North Club. We welcome Darlene to Ontario and hope she will enjoy her visit to Halton July 8 to 19.

The Interprovincial Exchange for 4-H club

members was organized in 1963 as a special golden anniversary project and has been held each year since that time. It is basically a farm-to-farm exchange for members who have progressed through the 4-H program and are active, enthusiastic young people.

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Scout and Guide news

by Mark Rowe

The first Acton Beaver Colony concluded a very successful year, last weekend. Leaders organized and ran an overnight camp for Beavers and their fathers.

The camp started at nine, Saturday morning on the sixth line Esquising. The fathers and sons were divided into Olympic teams representing Great Britain, France, Italy and the Soviet Union. They spent the day at various events around the campsite.

Saturday evening was the great campfire when mothers, brothers, sisters and friends could visit Dad and the eager young Beavers. A

slight dose of rain postponed the campfire for a few minutes but after that everything went fine.

Among guests was retiring district commissioner Gordon Douglas, known as "Bear" to the Beavers. Jason Sharples presented "Bear" with a retirement present. It was a teddy bear wearing first Acton colours and signed by all the Beavers.

The camp concluded Sunday afternoon. Many thanks to everyone who attended and to all the assistants.

Beavers will resume after school has started in the fall. Watch this column for an announcement.



BOARD OF Education presents certificates to students who excel beyond their school level. Board member Tom Watson presents awards to Nancy Wong, provincial champion, Knights of Columbus free throw basketball competition, and Stephen Saxon, who placed second in Ontario in the Optimist public speaking competition.

Recovery House

Directors of Halton Recovery House Inc. have set Sunday, July 18 at 2:30 p.m. for the official opening of Halton's first recovery house for male alcoholics.

Allan M. Masson, Chairman of Halton Region will officiate at the brief opening ceremony.

The house is an old farm house on Five Sideroad west of Highway 25, Milton. It has been furnished and renovated by volunteers and will have a live-in couple, a parttime director and five recovering residents. Funding came from Halton Regional Council, the Ministry of Health and individual and organizational donations which totalled \$9,987.25.

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ANTHONY WALDER clears the high jump at the Beavers and Father Olympic games on the weekend. The camp-out ended the Beaver season until September.



AWARDS OF excellence received at a safety patrol picnic are shown by R. L. students Debbie Thornhill and Mark Cook.

Help!

Don't people need help in their gardens these days? Community services coordinator Judy McLin can't understand why she hasn't had any calls asking for names of young people to help with gardening, grass cutting etc.

She has a list of young people, mostly about ages 14 and 15, who are anxious for work this summer.

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