

New teacher likes school

Every year the opening of school brings some new faces to the teaching staff in Acton. Each week the Acton Free Press will have a story about a new teacher.

This week's featured teacher is Murray Swanston, a teacher at Acton High School. Mr. Swanston is originally from Guelph, and now lives outside of Rockwood with his wife and two daughters.

He graduated from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in 1963 and worked for three years assisting architects. Mr. Swanston taught for 11 years in Kitchener before coming here. He is very impressed with the facilities in the new high school where he instructs woodworking, drafting, and mathematics. Mr. Swanston is an active member of the Lions Club and enjoys athletics.



MURRAY SWANSTON is the new Industrial Arts teacher at Acton high school. He will also be teaching drafting and math.

Guide and Brownies

The First Acton Girl Guides started the new year with a meeting in the park. A few games were played and the Guides made some Mores. After a short campfire they returned to the Scout Hall to finish the meeting. Mrs. Bea Ginger was a guest for the evening.

The Guides were sad to hear of the retirement of Mrs. Helen Rowe as Captain of the Company. They would like to thank her for all the work and time she has given them over the past years and hope that she will return for an occasional visit. They have three Guiders this year Mrs. Allison Ginn, Mrs. Pauline Barlow and Mrs. Roberta Trotter.

Thanks to all those who attended the mothers' meeting last Wednesday. Congratulations go to Sharon Bendicks who earned her Camp Leader Badge and Camping Emblem in June. Other badges earned this summer were: Backyard Camper, Backyard Cook, and Outdoor Cook by Meredith Caissie, Denise Coleman, Rose Disano, Gillian Fuller, Sarah Homer, and Debbie Payne; Meredith Caissie also earned her Child Care Badge.

Second Acton Brownie Pack by Heather Homer
Our pack has a new home - M. Z. Bennett public school. Mrs. Barb Murchison, president of the Scout and Guide Mothers Association, was at our first meeting and presented us with our own brand-new Toadstool and Owl. These two elements are

of the greatest importance to our Brownie program. The Brownies were very enthusiastic in their thanks to this organization for their gift. Our first meeting opened with 17 Brownies and 15 new Tweenies.

Although our new year has just begun, 20 Brownies from the Second and Third packs continued through the summer, attending camp at Nor-Halton Park. Through gale winds on July 1 weekend, the Brownies proved to be true campers and worked very hard to earn their pack holiday, outdoor adventure, swimmers and jester badges. With the theme of Disney World, Diana Dunn, Tammy Corham, Gillian Brain, Kim Arnold, Sonja Amtstaetter, Trevlyn Mason, Kelly Lawrence, Jennifer Kelly, Debbie Obbrigavitch, Denise Elsley, Carolyne Hoare, Elizabeth Hoerig, Tina Kauter, Shelly Mason, Jenny McDonald, Tammy McDonald, Jackie Roden, Crystal Smith, Karen Wagner, and Melanie Johnston chose the names for the leaders: Mickey for Mrs. Shirley Scott, Happy for Mrs. Heather Homer, Smiley for Mrs. June Payne, Snow white for Mrs. Bonnie Dunn and Daisy for Miss Mary Elliott. A highlight of the program was that some came out to camp at 7 a.m. Sunday to prepare and cook our breakfast of scrambled eggs and sausages. The Brownies said thank you to Elmer Dunn, Alec Johnston, Peter Homer and John Kauter by graciously eating it.

McKenzie-Smith news

by Chris Baginski and Carol Lovell

Our first dance is coming up on Thursday, September 29. The theme is "Welcome Back," and admission into the dance will be 35 cents. Pop and chips will be sold for 25 cents each. We hope to see many dancers there.

Also on the same day there will be a girls' field hockey game against Centennial Public School at 4:10. We wish the girls the best of luck. We hope to have a cross-country school meet on Tuesday, October 4, if weather permits. If not, the meet will be Wednesday, October 5.

The cross-country team has been training lightly due to the rainy weather. The 20 team members are training for the North Halton meet on October 12. The inter-house games have also had to be

changed due to the wet weather. The school choir will be singing at our open house on Oct. 5.

School pictures will be taken on September 28. We hope to see students looking their best.

At this time, we are planning an official ceremony to dedicate "McKenzie-Smith Middle School" and expect to have many celebrated guests with us. We extend an open invitation to those who wish to be with us to come and tour our school and enjoy the refreshments and fellowship. Our students have been voting on a school team name. The ballots are as follows: Phantoms 104, Mustangs 95, Eagles 76, Tiger Cats 75, and Kings 23. The new school team name will be "The McKenzie-Smith Phantoms".

Mrs. Lawson's and Mrs. Knapp's grade 3 classes started their swimming program this week. The classes are broken into four groups for lessons.

Mrs. Hynds' Junior special class went on a field trip to Chudleigh's Apple Farm last Tuesday and had a very good excursion.

Last Tuesday, the safety patrol had a meeting with Safety Officer Raj, who showed a film on the operation of a good safety patrol.



HIGHFLYING GALLOWAYS enjoy the Ferris wheel on the Acton Fair midway Saturday. Brothers Shawn and Kevin Galloway sit on either side of their father, Reg.

Health Council wants input

Halton District Health Council is holding a series of public meetings designed to open a dialogue between the council and the community. The October meetings were announced at a press conference called by Executive Director William Leonard.

Mr. Leonard said each meeting will consist of a presentation by representatives of the Ministry of Health, the community, hospital and the Health Council. The three speakers will explain their expectations of the Health Council. The second portion of the

meetings will be devoted to discussion between the speakers and the audience. The success of the public forums will be measured by the participation and interest of people who attend, not by the size of the audience, Mr. Leonard said. If successful, Mr. Leonard said he hopes to hold public meetings on an annual basis.

Georgetown will be the site of a meeting Nov. 2; Milton, Oct. 12; Burlington, Oct. 19; and Oakville, Oct. 26. Location and times for the meetings will be advertised in local papers.

Representing the Ministry of Health at the Georgetown, Burlington and Milton meetings will be David Corder, area planning co-ordinator for the Ministry for Central West Region, which includes Halton. Deputy Minister of Health Alan Backley will represent the Ministry at the Oakville session.

Terence F. Baines, chairman of Halton Health Council, will speak on behalf of the council at the Georgetown and Oakville meetings while Dr. Robert G. Burford, the vice-chairman will speak at Milton and Burlington. Hospital representatives have yet to be named.

In announcing the meetings Mr. Leonard commented: "We're not looking forward to these meetings with any trepidation. You make progress by exchanging views and you can't expect people to have views that coincide with yours."

He disagreed that relations between the health council and regional council were bad, despite some councilors' desire to disband the health body. "I don't think that's unusual," Mr. Leonard said. "I was in the Canadian forces for 38 years and people called for disbanding of the organization every year I was in it." Mr. Leonard's background is the military.

Halton Health Council is one of 20 such bodies in Ontario. It advises the Ministry of Health on regional health problems, health planning and co-ordination. Another 10 health councils, including one for Metro Toronto, are slated for the near future, Mr. Leonard said.

The Halton council operates on an annual budget that this position, in effect, gives the councils control over health funding. "I would not agree that we could veto requests," he said. "The

of less than \$100,000, he said. Budgeted monies are used to pay the salaries of its two paid staff, rent and salaries of people hired to do studies and research.

Although Mr. Leonard said Ministry policy is to deal only with those proposals for new and expanded programs that have been recommended by the health councils he denied government can do anything it wants.

Referring to the council's studies of mental health facilities and long term care facilities, Mr. Leonard said a co-ordinated plan could be expected a year or 18 months from now. "We want to examine and suggest alternatives," he said.

In addition to Chairman Baines, a Georgetown lawyer, and Milton Councillor Jim Kerr, North Halton representatives on the health council are Edgar W. Foster of Milton and Vivian Kruger of Georgetown.

Data to be co-ordinated

Halton District Health Council has hired a University of Waterloo student to assemble data relating to Halton mental health services, facilities and support organizations. William Leonard, executive director of the council, announced the hiring of Sylvia Strohschein for a four month period.

Ms. Strohschein said the major part of her task will be to co-ordinate all the information that has already been collected and the studies that have already been done. "I don't want to duplicate anything," she said.

Mr. Leonard said although a large amount of provincial data is available from the Ministry of Health, the data has to be localized.

The purpose of the project is to describe the mental health situation in Halton, identify problems and gaps and suggest reasons for existence of the problems identified.

Ms. Strohschein said her work should complement the inventory of health and social services to be carried out under the auspices of the Human Services Council Regional Planning Subcommittee.

She is in the fourth year of a program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in health studies.

Can you help?

Volunteers needed

Tinker Bell Nursery for Physically and Mentally Handicapped Children is looking for volunteers.

About 10 men and women are needed to work with the children on a one to one basis. Carol Robertson, supervisor of the program, said. Volunteers of all ages are welcome. No prior training is required, only an understanding of and love for children.

The program offers the

usual nursery school activities. The only difference is that the children move more slowly, she said.

The hours of the nursery, located on Ontario St. in Milton are 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Volunteers contribute one morning a week.

Tinker Bell School takes children from Milton, Acton and Georgetown.

Interested people can contact Mrs. Robertson at 878-7656 or 877-1384.

Switch to kilometres no problem for police

The switch to metric hasn't posed any problems for Halton police. They are ready to catch speeders in kilometres.

In an interview this week Superintendent Floyd Schwantz said police cruisers have calibrated speedometers which can measure another vehicle's speed in miles per hour or kilometres. Only a few unmarked and staff cars weren't changed to metric some time ago.

Radar has also been altered to catch speeders in kilometres. Changes were made to radar a few days before the switch to metric.

Fines have also been established for kilometre speeders in Halton. Schwantz said the fines are "slightly" lower than provincial norms set out in the Highway Traffic Act.

At the lower levels of excess speed fines are fractionally higher than they were under miles per hour and at higher levels of violation fines are fractionally lower than under the old system.

"If people don't speed drivers won't have to worry about fines being fractionally higher or lower," Schwantz said.

"Metric is a great thing. A step forward," Schwantz hopes drivers won't convert miles to

kilometres. He suggests thinking of kilometres as a measure of distance.

The Staff of McKenzie-Smith Middle School cordially invites you to attend the Official Opening and Dedication of the McKenzie-Smith Middle School

69 Acton Boulevard Acton, Ontario
Wednesday, October 5, 1977
7:30 p.m.

Four of the School Refreshments

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