

JANET BOOTH has prepared her home on Mill St. W. for six to eight senior residents. The new rest home is the culmination of a dream she has had for years.

Mrs. Booth provides

## Home-like atmosphere for senior citizens

years' experience in geriatrics, Mrs. Janet Booth is the proprietor of the new rest home on Mill St. W. One resident lives there now but she nice in Calgary but her family expects to have between six is here. and eight when the home is

completely filled. like atmosphere there, with good home cooked meals. She is keeping the number of residents down to keep that

phere intact.

Mrs. Booth has just recently moved back to town from out west, saying it was

It has been a life long dream to operate a home like There's a complete home- this, Mrs. Booth says. She has wanted to work with old people all her life.

· In addition to her nursing experience she has a degree

in Human Relations from Humber College.

The house has been completely renovated and the basement is being specially set up for games and other

Her daughter Rosemary Schonnop will run the handicraft program. There is 24 hour medical coverage, Mrs. Booth ex-

### Demoted to Constable

# Chief judges officer guilty

An open police hearing maintained Sparling Sr. you could see from inside the found Jason Fields, an 18 misinterpreted the comment. year police veteran guilty of using "unnecessary violence" in slapping Gary Sparling twice in the face after a "Although you did a great job police-car chase last May.

Police sergeant since 1974. Sparling Sr., which he ac-

acted as judge and jury in the evidence of the pair. hearing conducted under the

peal." He consulted the 1.45 a.m. statutes and found an appeal goes to the Police Commis- Firebird

was that a Provincial Court several lights and stop signs. judge will be needed to hear Police found the car abanan appeal because the Halton doned on Ann St. Regional Police Commission

mony of Gary Sparling's strike Sparling. father-Roland Sparling, R.R.2, Acton. Sparling Sr. re- slacks, blue shirt and blue counted a conversation and white sleeveless pullover, between himself and Sgt. said, "Fields was cursing and Fields in the Georgetown swearing. He struck me with police station early in the the back of the hand, and morning of May 27. Police again." had Sparling Jr. in custody at The sergeant was about a through Georgetown.

received a phone call from Currie, of Mountainview Robert Currie, a friend of his Rd., Georgetown, in the back son's. Currie told the father of the cruiser, said he saw he heard "someone say Gary Fields do it, "If Sparling was would be in hospital before against the cruiser I don't

finding Gary there he went to tell what happened. His head the police station." Sgt. would be above the car," Fields said he gave Gary a Greenwood asserted. rap in the head or words to that effect," Sparling Sr.

Was Fields upset? asked Supt. George Moore, who acted as crown attorney, "If I was in his place I'd be upset," replied the father.

Sgt. Fields, who was in uniform, denied hitting Gary Sparling. The officer told the court that he told Sparling Sr. "I know what I'd do—I'd cuff him to the head."

"If you hadn't, Jason, would have," replied Sparling Sr., according to Fields.
Greenwood, Fields' lawyer,

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In giving his reasons for the

guilty verdict chief Skerrett Greenwood, on discrediting their (Gary Fields will be demoted to Sparling and Robert Currie) rank of first class constable credibility I can't believe from that of Sargent. He has they are liars all the time." a Halton Regional He continued, the evidence of Police chief Ken Skerrett cepted, gave credence to the

According to Gary Sparl-Police Act at Oakville Friday. ing, a 20-year-old of husky Evidence was given under build with dark brown hair to the nape, Sgt. Fields struck The result caught Fields' him on Ann St., Georgetown. lawyer, John Greenwood, of Sparling Jr. and Currie were Brampton, by surprise, "It taken on the street by a police did not cross my mind before officer who picked them up as about the need for an ap- they were walking at about

Police chased a white 1967 along several Georgetown streets. The car, Speculation in the court according to police, ran

Sgt. Field was at the scene has prior knowledge of the when Sparling and Currie were driven up. Two other Conviction of Sgt. Fields officers were present but rested mainly on the testi- neither said they saw Fields

Sparling, dressed in blue

the station following a chase foot away from him and he (Sparling) has his back Sparling Sr. confirmed ear- against the cruiser, ac-lier testimony that he cording to Sparling.

the night was over.

The father soon went to the Georgetown hospital. Not lawyer said. "You couldn't

Currie: "I saw it." Greenwood: "Tell me how

Currie: "I don't know. I

Al Ruelens, president of the Halton Police Association, expressed his displeasure at the verdict, "Goats come in many colors including blue. This is just the proverbial sacrificial goat."

At the beginning of the hearing, Greenwood indicated to Skerrett that technically the trial shouldn't be held in the first place.

The original complaint, laid three months after the incident, included reference to "assault". Two weeks ago. the reference was taken out and a new charge drawn up, on which Field was tried Fri-

But Greenwood pointed out, the new charge was drawn up more than six months after the incident and there is a sixmonth statute of limitations.

Skerrett did not make a ruling on Greenwood's submission and proceeded with the

Sparling did not make a complaint about Field until three months later. In his original statement at that time. he said the two blows raised a bump on his head and made his eyes bloodshot for three weeks while he was in jail. He was detained only 12 hours after his arrest May 27 and admitted at the hearing

he had been drinking that Sparling changed his story on another affidavit a month later, saying he had originally been confused about being in jall on three different occasions, in May, June and

Field's lawyer, John Greenwood of Brampton, said immediately after the hearing an appeal would be launched. During the trial he called all but one of the witnesses liars and said the prosecution evidence was "garbage".

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## Coons knocks Hill off commission

Hill lost his seat on the Halton Regional Police Commission Wednesday when Halton Regional Council made appointments to the commission.

Council continued to support Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett as one of the two members the council appoints to the commission, but replaced Mayor Hill with Burlington Councillors Dave

Five members of council sought appointment to the police commission. Mayor Barrett, Mayor Hill, Milton Mayor Don Gordon, Halton Hills Councillor Mike Armstrong and Burlington Councillor Dave Coons each let their names stand for appointment. The police commission is generally considered one of the prestigious and sought-after appoint-ments that the council makes, even though the job carries no additional pay for regional

councillors. Mayor Hill served one year

on the commission when he seeking appointment to the though 25 new officers were the good things the police defeated Burlington Mayor Board of Police Commis- hired. George Harrington. But this time Hill received only one of 21 votes and was the first to be eliminated from the run-

Milton Mayor Don Gordon was the second to be dropped from the competition. He attracted only two votes. Armstrong had two, four and six votes respectively in the three ballots that he stayed in

vote Coons won the second position on the commission. Judge William Warrender of Burlington, Glen Magnus-sen of Georgetown and Bill Hourigan of Burlington sit on the commission as provincial appointees. Unlike the councillors, the provincial ap-

pointees do receive stipends

for sitting on the commission.

first choice and in a separate

Milton has never had a representative on the police com-

sioners made reference to police brutality as a major issue confronting the com-

Mike Armstrong said he was aware of the police brutality issue in the north and aware of the morale on the police force. Noting that he wasn't particularly overworked by any committees, Armstrong said he felt he could be of benefit to the com-

Barrett was the council's Harry Barrett said he spent eight to 12 hours a week on police commission business and had been a member of the

commission since 1973. He said he had met with the crown attorney and the Ontario Police Commission concerning police brutality charges and told council he knew which officers were involved and what the charges

The Oakville mayor said the 1977 budget increase had been held to 12 per cent, even Most of the five councillors

Both he and Mr. Hill said the region has one of the lowest per capita costs and son asked what position the one of the highest clearance two incumbents took with rerates. Hill noted the capita rate was \$37.70 and he explained the region has one police officer for every 873

Hill said he too had been at a meeting with the OPC and the crown attorney and assured council the matter of police brutality was being taken care of.

**Burlington Councillor Jack** Raftis sald he felt that only one half of one per cent of the people in the region knew who the police commissioners are and he wondered why commissioners didn't make more statements in the press.

Barrett said the press was interested in just printing the bad news and wasn't interested in running stories about

Milton Councillor Jim Watgard to police involved in

"When someone kicks an officer in the ribs or slaps his face, do you expect him to take it or take his billy stick out and lace the guy?"

Mayor Hill explained that "even when an officer is kicked or slapped he still can't lay a finger on him."

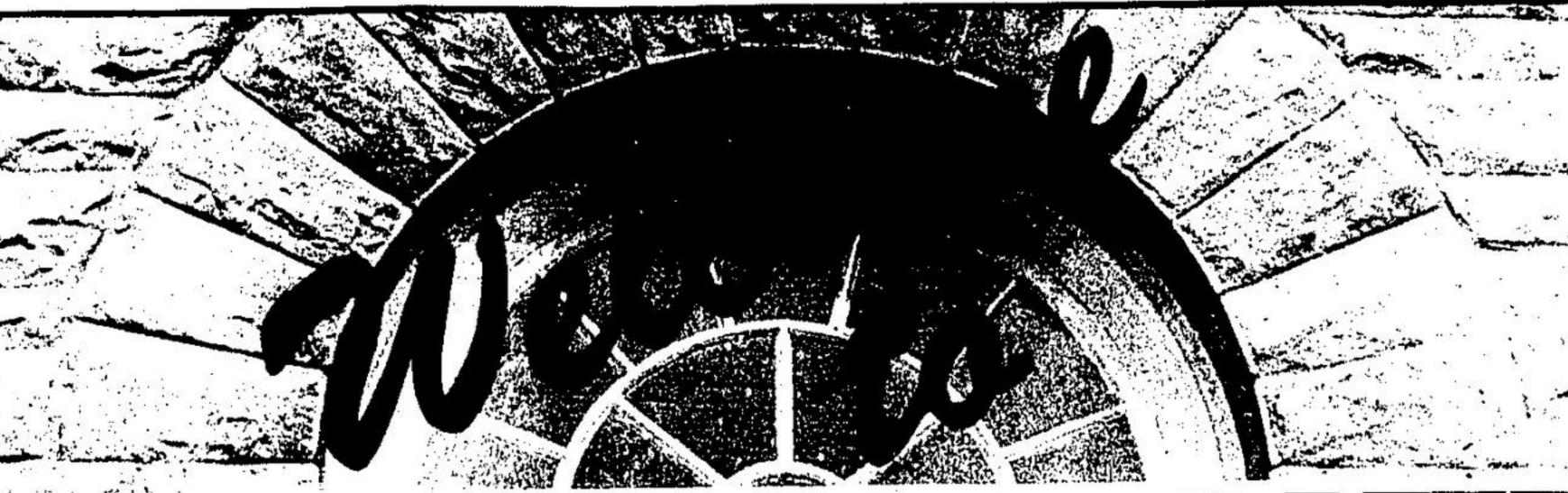
Barrett said police officers are all professionals and have to act like professionals at all times. "We've had cruisers wrecked, an officer knifed, and we've have officers barricaded in cars and had to radio for help. It isn't always the way it appears in the press."

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