

Family counselling

Judge asks council not to cut back

Judge A. James Fuller was the first person to address Halton Regional Council in its new headquarters Wednesday, Nov. 15.

Standing before a solitary microphone in the middle of the unfinished amphitheatre, Fuller asked council not to cut back its family counselling service.

He had appeared after the Health and Social Services Committee decided at its last meeting to reduce the service because of a falling caseload.

The region provides a family counsellor to assist people in court, every Tuesday and Wednesday.

Instead of having the parties, often husband and

other in an adversary confrontation, the counsellor brings both sides together to work out their differences in a peaceful manner.

Fuller said 70 per cent of couples involved in a marriage breakdown are agreeable to conciliation. The balance, however, are determined to have their day in court.

He said the use of the counsellor enables disagreements to be ironed out and to resolve all or most of the differences between spouses.

Also, a man who has to pay alimony or allowance to his spouse is more likely to do so if he has negotiated it with his partner than if he were pre-

sented with a court order.

Fuller said the use of a counsellor in family disputes is new, and therefore the responsibility of who pays the cost hasn't been worked out.

The cost of a counsellor to the region is approximately \$25,000 a year, plus expenses.

The counselling process is still new and often viewed as a pilot project by politicians.

Chairman Ric Morrow said the matter would be referred to presentations by Fuller and other parties.

The committee made the decision in the first place. Therefore, those people who are most affected, will be able to appear before it when it holds its first meeting.



Patti Wilson

New director

A new residential director of Countryside, a home for mentally handicapped persons in Hornby, has been named by North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded.

Although Ontario has outstanding health and social agencies in comparison with an estimated 350 million children in Third World countries who receive less than the minimum to subsist on, other problems are created by the progressive and fast moving, changing society, she said.

In Ontario, Premier

Plan for International Year of Child

Representatives of about 20 agencies in Halton met last week in Stewarstown to lay plans for local projects during International Year of the Child, (IYC), 1979.

IYC was declared by the United Nations General Assembly, Dec. 21, 1978 in the hope that the nations of the world would review programs for the well being of children, guest speaker Jane McKinnon said.

McKinnon, who is the provincial co-ordinator for IYC and works for the Provincial Secretariat for Social Development, explained the role of the provincial government in the project and how community groups could get involved.

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In Ontario, Premier

William Davis has pledged the support of his government to IYC and there has been enthusiastic response from ministries and provincial agencies, she said.

But no extra money has been granted for IYC and the ministries and agencies have to build on current programs and expertise, she stated.

At the federal level a Canadian Commission for IYC has \$1 million in grants, she said. The maximum grant is \$1,500 to an individual and \$5,000 to a group. "But it's for all of Canada."

(For more information about the federal grants, write to Tom Schatzky, Canadian Commission for IYC, 323 Chapel Street, Ottawa, Ont., K1N 7Z2.)

She said the theme selected by the province is "Today is for Tomorrow."

There are 17 ministries participating in the project while others, like the treasury department which collects taxes, are conducting staff awareness campaigns.

The Ministry of the Environment is to produce a booklet to help parents introduce children to nature, the Ministry of Health is starting a preventive dental care program in elementary schools and a screening of newborn infants will be expanded to include tests that may lead to prevention of

mental retardation, she said.

The Solicitor General has requested the support of the OPP who make about 2,000 visits to schools and 5,000 to community organizations each year, she said.

Even the department of Correctional Services has plans for inmates to make toys and build playgrounds and ice rinks.

"It shows that every one of us can do something," McKinnon said. "But to be successful, it has to have grass roots support."

The government can start programs but can't do it all, she added. "It has to start in the family and the community."

IYC should be a year not only of focus on children but a beginning to examine the needs and goals of children and to start programs that will benefit children for years to come," she said.

"It's not a year to do things for kids but to do things with kids."

The group plans to meet again Dec. 19, at 1:30 p.m. at Stewarstown Community Hall

with a planning program for the four municipalities in Halton. Anyone interested in indicating their interest in attending can get in touch with Anne Pickering, recreation co-ordinator in Halton Hills, 877-5185.

Le Conseil Scolaire Du Comte De Wellington AVIS

AUX CONTRIBUABLES FRANCOPHONES DE LA MUNICIPALITE DE WELLINGTON.

Une assemblée publique, ouverte aux contribuables francophones de la municipalité de Wellington, aura lieu le 6 décembre, dans le but d'élire six contribuables francophones au Comité Consultatif de Langue Française du Conseil Scolaire du Comte de Wellington. Ce comité comprendra aussi trois membres nommés par le conseil scolaire.

Le Comité Consultatif de Langue Française aura la responsabilité de soumettre au conseil scolaire des recommandations en ce qui concerne les besoins éducatifs et culturels des élèves francophones de la région de Wellington.

L'assemblée aura lieu à l'école St. James Junior High, 57 Victoria Rd. N., Guelph, à 20 00, mercredi, le 6 décembre.



THERE IS PLENTY to do at the ARC Industries workshop in Hornby. During an open house Friday, Garry Elliott dumps a box full of plastic covers on the work table while Louise Wellwood (left) and Tina Vangelan look on. The covers are used for oil tins.

Open house at ARC

ARC Industries of Hornby, a sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded, held an open house Friday.

Visitors toured the workshop, met the employees, had an opportunity to buy finely crafted ceramics or have a cup of coffee.

The sheltered workshop began 12 years ago with six persons who re-webbed lawn chairs. Now there are 32 workers who work five days a week from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"The aim is to try and get them to go out in the community," said Winifred Isham, director of the workshop.

Besides Isham, there are three other supervisors. Two instructors also drive the buses which bring the workers to the workshop.

"It's like running a factory but you have to have some leeway," Isham said.

"We have quite a nice atmosphere where if they were in a factory with strict supervision, some of them couldn't take it. They really need a lot of training before they can take that. They miss it here when they go."

"Some come and go," she said. Some make it well outside. Some, of course, will always be here in a sheltered environment."

Isham praised her staff whom she credited with making the wheels go smoothly.

Since the workshop began with the rewebbing of lawn furniture it has expanded the range of activities.

The workers can package

small items such as bolts, pens and pencils, small auto parts; stuff and address envelopes; reclaim and sort rejects for repackaging; and manufacture light articles.

The workshop also has a ceramics section under the direction of Arlene Rodgers, who insists upon a high standard of work.

The workshop gets orders from firms in Georgetown, Acton, Milton, Brampton, Streetsville and Mississauga as well as emergency jobs from other places.

According to the non-profit North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded, "We want an opportunity to show what we can do—not out of sympathy—but because the potential of the handicapped has never been realized or utilized."

Superintendent of Business and Finance B.T. Lindley said the list was started two years ago and it is now being used.

No tiny pool

Halton Board of Education turned down a last minute bid by a Burlington trustee to have the city change the size of pool planned for Aldershot high school.

Board keeps priority list

Halton Board of Education is keeping its old list of capital expenditures, though it failed to stick to it.

The board at Thursday's meeting in Burlington, defeated Oakville trustee W.D. Herd's call for a new list of priorities based on need.

The second item on the board's priority list was started before the number one project, said Herd. Herd's motion cited delays in additions to buildings, and facilities which are not up to standard.

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Cable 4 this week

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29
 5:30 - Baha's Present
 6:00 - Ontario Outdoors - Bob Olliver
 6:30 - Photography - Paul Barber
 7:00 - Magazine - Vera Macdonald's guest is Eric Bakind
 7:30 - Beyond Belief (repeat)

THURSDAY, NOV. 30
 6:00 - Acton Santa Claus Parade
 6:30 - Bus Man, MP
 7:00 - Rec'd: Motion Music Teachers Association
 7:30 - Valleyfields II

TUESDAY, DEC. 5
 5:30 - Georgetown Santa Claus Parade
 followed by Ontario Outdoors Magazine
 6:00 - Wellington Snow
 6:30 - Credit Valley Affairs

Note: Time and program changes will be posted on Cable 4
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