



McKenzie-Smith enrichment students recently completed a 10 week unit on computers which they took at Acton High School. Left to right, Susan Craig, Adrienne Kovacs, Susan Wilson (a high school student who was helping instruct the younger students), and Paul Campbell (seated).

### Gifted students expand in enrichment program

Eight academically gifted McKenzie-Smith middle school students are taking part in a special enrichment program put on by the Halton Board of Education. The students' latest unit of the program has been computers. In conjunction with the Acton High School, the six girls and two boys spent four periods every six days using the computers in the classroom of high school teacher Boris Shean. During this time they learned the basic uses of the machines and how to program them. The expedition to the high school afforded the students from grade six, seven and eight the chance to have high school exposure as well as exposure to computers. It also gave high school students a chance to act in a teaching capacity, as they were instrumental in showing the younger pupils the computer. Kay Kavanaugh, McKenzie-Smith Librarian, and instrumental in getting the program going says, she is indebted to Shean for the use of his equipment and encouragement in the past few months, and to St. Joseph's Separate School principal Fred Springer for the materials he has made available to her. The computer unit of the program was completed recently having started in October. The eight students will now learn about animation, through a workshop put on by a board member. Their first unit dealt with biographies and autobiographies. Mrs. Kavanaugh explained that until this year students had to attend enrichment classes out of town. This is the first year they have been able to stay in town. Students participating in the program are chosen based on the results of their IQs and the Canadian Test of Basic Skills. Because there are all levels of students in the classrooms, suitable activity must be found for them all. For this reason, Mrs. Kavanaugh said staff are encouraged to bring together skills through peer interaction. It also enables them to work together at more sophisticated activities such as computers. Students spend time outside their regular classroom, but are still obligated to keep up with the work while they are away. Staff and parents are very supportive to the program, Mrs. Kavanaugh says. Students taking part are Susan Craig, Adrienne Kovacs, Paul Campbell, Shawn Connolly, Susan Lindsay, Dawn Welch, Lisa McIsaac, and Megan Elliot.

### Golden Agers

The afternoon meeting of the Golden Age Club took place on February 2 in the Luxton Hall. In spite of the terrible weather 32 members braved the elements and enjoyed a pleasant afternoon. The euche winners were Jean Jackson, Isabel Mino, Tom Berry and Edna Besley. The next meeting will be on Wednesday evening, February 17, in the Luxton Hall when we will be entertained by the Ballinafad Musical Group. We have enjoyed this group on previous occasions and we hope that 'old man winter' will take a rest, so that the streets will be cleaned and many members will be able to come and enjoy this evening.

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### Can't make welfare recipients shovel snow

A bid by two Halton Hills councillors and an Oakville representative to have Halton welfare recipients out shovelling snow failed Tuesday because of provincial regulations. Councillor Dave Whiting reported on Tuesday he and Roy Booth supported Oakville's Fred Oliver in calling for welfare recipients to earn the money they are receiving. He noted the welfare rolls are up substantially in recent months. Whiting said the region is using front end loaders to dig out fire hydrants and there has been some damage to grass which must be paid for. The trio of councillors told Health and Social Services Committee it doesn't make sense to pay works employees to dig out the hydrants by hand to prevent damage, it would be too costly and there isn't the manpower. However, they thought welfare recipients could dig out the hydrants. "It would give them something to do and they would be earning their welfare." Unfortunately the province says welfare recipients must be hired through Canada Manpower and must be paid.

### Zoning changes stop rural recreation centres

Halton Hills is going to pass a zoning amendment to prevent more cultural and recreational centres being set up in the rural area without the town having some kind of control over them. Monday planning board approved a zoning amendment being drafted which would delete recreational uses from the rural zone. In the future recreational facilities planned for the rural area would have to come to council for a rezoning. The move was urged months ago by Councillor Pam Sheldon after the town received many complaints about noise at the Yugoslav Centre south of Acton on Highway 25. The municipality tried once and lost to convict the president of the association for violations of the noise bylaw and three charges against two association officials will go to court in April. Monday Sheldon observed the new amendment won't solve existing problems but will help prevent problems in the future. Because recreational uses are allowed under current zoning in the rural area the town was powerless to prevent the Yugoslav Centre from opening. Deputy planner Bruce MacLean also noted expansion of the Yugoslav Centre or any other cultural or recreational facility in Esquewong would also be subject to a zoning amendment in the future. Existing recreational and cultural facilities in a rural zone are legal. Mayor Peter Pomeroy called the zoning amendment a "legal stop-gap" to take care of future problems until the new Official Plan is completed and adopted.

### Ladies' Fair Board

Learn cake decorating

by Nancy Cook

The ladies' fair board held their February meeting at the home of Grace McEnery. Our new president, Janet Marshall, had her initiation and passed with flying colors. Some very important upcoming events were the centre of our discussion. The Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies annual convention will be held at the Royal York Hotel February 16, 17 and 18. The fair board dance at the band hall is February 13. We are also having a Fun Night March 20 at the curling club. Following the business of the evening, Mrs. McEnery introduced her neighbors and friend, Eileen Livermore, who came to share with us her skills in the field of cake decorating. Mrs. Livermore is currently taking courses at the McCall's school in Toronto. (One of the McCall girls baked the official Canadian wedding cake for Prince Charles' wedding). Mrs. Livermore touched on various aspects such as flower making, types of icing, and how cake decorating varies from country to country.

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