

Compulsory shots for school children in Sept.

by Lisa Jakobsen

Provincial legislation making immunization of school children compulsory is expected to come into effect this September.

Halton children will receive a vaccination against German measles (rubella), red measles, diphtheria, tetanus, polio and mumps, unless excused on medical or religious grounds.

The new bill permits medical officers of health to order the suspension of students not protected from the six illnesses and who cannot produce documentation of vaccination.

Dr. Peter Cole, Halton medical officer of health, joined provincial colleagues in a meeting with health minister Larry Grossman to discuss implementation of the legislation.

Pending instruction from the ministry, it is not known whether the

vaccine will be administered through schools, through temporary clinics or if physicians will make it part of their office routine with school children.

"I don't know exactly how it's going to be implemented yet," says Dr. Cole. "There will probably be a four-month period of grace for new school children, that is those entering school for the first time," he predicts adding after the grace period, students without documentation will not be permitted to attend public schools.

Noting the possibility of medical contraindications for the vaccine, Dr. Cole says some children may be excused from inoculation on medical grounds, but adds the decision would rest with the attending family doctor.

Dr. Cole is not certain how the question of religion will be resolved. However, he stresses the importance of

achieving a high rate of vaccination to insure adequate protection for the public.

"Immunizing 90 per cent of the public is not good enough," he says. "We need close to 99 per cent of the population immunized or it is not 100 per cent effective."

The effectiveness of immunization is particularly important in the case of measles, both red measles and rubella, he maintains.

Some of the impetus for the passing of the new bill lies in a 1980 ministry of health study indicating the incidence of measles (red and rubella) had reached a 10-year high, a rate 15 per cent higher than American statistics.

"A recent outbreak of measles in Burlington allowed us to capitalize on the unfortunate occurrence (the outbreak)," he says describing how the de-

mand for vaccination escalated in response to the mini epidemic.

In the case of measles, the consequences of an ineffective immunization program are severe and sometimes tragic.

If a pregnant woman comes into contact with rubella, for example, the risk of her child being born with a number of diseases including cataracts, heart defects of all types, deafness, mental retardation and many others are high.

There is no excuse for any one, including adults, not to take responsibility for their own health and those of others by being immunized against rubella and other preventable diseases, Dr. Cole says. Vaccine is free and available through family physicians and the Halton health department.

Adult responsibility for the health of the community does not end with childhood inoculation he insists.

A regular schedule of vaccination should be followed by children and adults the health unit insists. The following is a reminder:

- before 6 months - diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, and polio (DPTP);
 - 1 year - measles, mumps and rubella;
 - 18 months - DPTP booster;
 - 5 years - DPTP booster;
 - 10 years - DPTP booster;
 - 12 years - girls only - rubella booster;
 - 15 years - tetanus and polio booster;
 - 20 years - tetanus and polio booster.
- Adults should receive a tetanus and polio booster every 10 years.

newsmakers

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This is Buffalo bull



A buffalo cow and her calf gaze suspiciously at writer as he trods the quiet nature trails at Mountsberg

Where the buffalo roam

Natural, pioneer history alive at, and on way to Mountsberg

by Hartley Coles

Tourists who visit Halton Region are often surprised by the variety and scope of the attractions available for day trippers right within the Region. The natural beauty of the Escarpment, fertile farms and modern urban centres offer just about every attraction civilization can offer, all within a few miles of large cities such as Metropolitan Toronto or Hamilton.

One of the popular places to visit is the Mountsberg Wildlife Centre and Conservation Area, situated near Campbellville. It has some outstanding attractions including a herd of buffalo, for visitors to view. The centre was designed by the Halton Region Conservation Authority to promote understanding and appreciation of our natural resources. And it does.

The 1100 acres which make up the wildlife centre and conservation area are an invitation to explore the outdoors and observe wildlife in its natural habitat. There is also plenty of room for family fun, recreation and exploration along quiet woodland nature trails and an opportunity to further your education with the choice of several nature interpretation programs.

Programs include self-guiding trails, interpretive signs, demonstrations and exhibits and recreational facilities for hiking, skating, cross-country skiing, canoeing, fishing and picnicking to say nothing of the opportunities for camera buffs to take Pictures.

It's easy to get there along some of Halton's most Picturesque and historic scenery. Halton Hills residents can take 25 Highway as far as 5 Sideroad. Follow 5 Sideroad along the valley between two ridges of the Niagara Escarpment bordered by lush farmland, 401 Highway and attractions such as the Kelo Conservation Area, Hilltop Falls Conservation Area and the Ontario Agricultural Museum.

The route along the sideroad takes you into Campbellville once renowned as a quiet village with a championship baseball team. Opponents said Campbellville clubs had an advantage over other teams in the old Halton County Intermediate League because they practiced all winter by throwing turnips in the barn. No one knew where they developed their batting and home run skills unless it was from falling trees on the farm's bush lot. The stuff of legends.

A few years ago the image of the quiet village changed when Mohawk Raceway moved to the then Township of Nassagaweya and an exchange from 401 Highway was constructed just outside the village. The presence of the Raceway changed the complexion of the village and its surroundings. Horsemen moved to the area and renovated farm houses and barns and the village became a fashionable centre for antiques and home for an old-fashioned country store.

A small pond in the centre of Campbellville has become an attractive stopping spot for picnickers. The route to Mountsberg takes you past the pond and through the village and then as far as Guelph Junction where a spur line of the



One beady-eyed predator stares the writer down.

Canadian Pacific Railway from Guelph joins the main line of the CPR.

Just past the railway junction is the Town Line where visitors turn right (north-west) and travel until they reach the gates of the Mountsberg Conservation Area.

The Halton Region watershed consists of all the valley lands surrounding the Sixteen and Twelve Mile Creeks, so named by the first

Governor of Upper Canada, Lord Simcoe's wife, because of their distance from Burlington Bay. The 404-mile watershed often crosses man-made regional boundaries and as a result Mountsberg is totally in the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth.

The Mountsberg centre fans out from the interpretive centre, a building which houses the headquarters and where all programs start. Information is available on all attractions and facilities in the interpretive centre.

Of course, one of the most interesting is the one mile long wildlife walkway trail which takes about 30 minutes to cover. One can see deer, and buffalo grazing in natural habitat. Large pens hold many species of owls, hawks and other birds of prey.

The whole picture of Mountsberg is framed by the waters of the Mountsberg Reservoir, a large man-made lake, which has an abundance of wildfowl floating in its waters.

The Mountsberg Centre is unique, too, with its facilities to rehabilitate hawks and owls, which have been injured by vehicles or hunters. Once treated and provided care the birds are released back into the wild. Those which have permanent wing, eye and leg injuries are placed in the large enclosures on the wildlife walkway and used for educational demonstrations on the importance of predatory birds.

Mountsberg is one of nine conservation areas operated by the Halton Region Conservation Authority, each with its own unique characteristics.

For those who enjoyed the land almost as it was when Indians trod moccasined feet along silent forest glades, Mountsberg is well worth a visit to soothe nerves jaded by noise and traffic. It provides a quiet haven disturbed only by the creatures who make the wildlife centre their living room.

Archery is an individual's sport says Speyside archer

by Dan McGilloway

Robin Hood he's not, but Jerry Vander Eyken, of Speyside Archery, compares archery to golfing. Jerry says it's an individual's sport, one where you learn to judge your distance with practice.

In his store which he runs from the basement of his home on Highway 25, just above the hamlet, he has a wide range of bows and equipment for sale. Bows range in price from \$85 to \$500 and arrows and other hunting aids are also sold.

Jerry belongs to the Royal City Bowmen Club where they practise every Monday and Thursday. Vander Eyken has been shooting for 20 years, competitively for five years, placing first in the Barrie, Kincardine and Guelph competitions and over the weekend he finished third in the Hanover

shoot.

Hunting with a bow is the ultimate challenge to Jerry. He says it took him six years of hunting before he shot his first deer. They hunt deer, moose and bear, he practices 10 hours a week and in his store Jerry has kept the skins from his hunting adventures.

Jerry's wife Pat and son JJ are also avid competitors and usually when dad's competing the rest of the family is too. Vander Eyken's two brothers, George and Andy and their sons Tommy, David and Peter also compete making it a real "family affair."

Looking through Jerry's photo albums of his hunting trips and competitions it's clear it's a real family sport which they all love.

French students

Board fears it will get stuck with costs

By ALEX MATHESON

The Halton Board of Education is afraid it may get stuck with paying room and lodging costs for some of its high school students attending French language secondary schools.

A Ministry of Education report has indicated the board will be liable for busing costs, which it is already bearing, or, alternatively, room and board, which would be more expensive, said

trustee Betty Fisher a member of the Halton French language advisory committee.

Currently, the local board is bussing 20 students to North York and about 85 to J.P. Vanier School in Hamilton.

However, starting in September all new entrants to the program will go to Hamilton, said Michel Serre, chairman of FLAC.

Mr. Serre believes few, if any, parents would opt for requesting

that their child be boarded. Most would wish to have them bussed.

Although a potential for additional costs to the board exists, he doesn't think it would materialize.

With J.P. Vanier relocated more conveniently for people from Georgetown, the bus trip is now one hour, not vastly different from the times involved in other high school bus routes. This move of the

school from the Scott Park location, 15 minutes farther away, has prompted the Halton board to direct all its students to Vanier, he said.

The board will be seeking an interpretation from the ministry on whether it can be ordered to provide finances for lodging.

The ministry's report seems to indicate that parents could demand it if the bus ride is more than 24 kilometres.

RDOP says:

Rural people need voice

Rural residents in Halton need an active voice for their concerns and fears, according to a final report by the University of Guelph's Rural Development Outreach Project.

After four years the RDOP is being allowed to pass away, members of the Region's planning and public works committee were told because the Kellogg Foundation grant that supported them has expired.

The RDOP, and Halton Community Pulse Group, were started by the University as a means of getting involved in the concerns of rural residents in Halton and other test areas in Ontario.

Valerie Gilmor, assistant director of the project, told committee members "there should be a mechanism for rural people to continue expressing their concerns. A broad based group to advise regional council is needed."

Mrs. Gilmor said there are still concerns about rural life in Halton that could be addressed through forums and workshop groups.

"Groups like these are important to increase communication between the rural community and government and within the community itself," she said, adding "the need for communication is essential."

"There is still a great deal of interest out there that can be applied to specific projects," she added.

One specific response by the university to these rural concerns, she said, is the recent establishment of a School of Rural Planning and Development.

That unit, she said, would have a "mandate for outreach as well as research and teaching" and would be one step toward fulfilling a recommendation that Halton make more and better use of the resources of institutions such as the university.

Committee members passed a motion thanking the group for its efforts over the last four years and invited them to make a presentation to Regional council.

Permits drop, down \$3 million

The value of building permits issued in the first six months of this year in Halton Hills is less than half the amount of the previous year.

Until the end of June this year permits totalled \$3,228,457, while last year the total was \$6,663,941.

Housing starts dropped from 74 last year to 11 this year and the value from \$3,805,195 to \$670,000.

A \$27,000 permit for a radio tower and equipment building near Speyside for Union Gas was the sole commercial permit issued last month.

Swimming pools continue to be popular with nine started last month and 27 built since the beginning of the year.



Jerry Vander Eyken is a competitive archer.