

University students help in crime prevention



Maria Jelinek and Janice Hay are working with the Crime Prevention Officers in north Halton, and are sponsored by the Solicitor General's office.

The best way to lower the crime rate is through crime prevention, and Janice Hay and Maria Jelinek are setting out to make good headway in the prevention area.

Funded by the Solicitor General in conjunction with the Halton Regional Police, the girls are a team of six working throughout Halton. Their area is Halton Hills and Milton, working with Crime Prevention Officers Dave Crawford and Bob Ustryzcki.

The two 19-year-olds began their tasks May 24 and will be working until August 26, working primarily out of the Georgetown office. They have to report to the Oakville headquarters every morning however.

Besides doing smaller crime prevention duties, such as selling bicycle licenses, making calls on homes which the police have noticed are high crime risks, etc., they also work on major programs.

A hit and run program was their first

major project. By going through statistics, they were able to come up with ways to increase the clearance rate for people involved in fail to remain offences. They discovered that just 28 per cent of those leaving the scene are apprehended.

Vandalism (wilful damage) is another major problem they will be working on. This program will be presented to high school students in September. By going through records, Janice and Maria should find out how much damage is done, how many arrested, etc.

Many times an officer on patrol in the middle of the night will see a garage door open, or a window open, inviting a crime to take place. They will make a note of the address and the girls will visit the place the next day and explain the risk they are creating.

They have had displays at Halton Manor for senior citizens, and have spent a few days in court watching the criminal justice system in operation. Tours of Chubb Alarms and the Ontario Police College in Almyer are also on this summer's agenda.

Janice is studying social work at the University of Waterloo and Maria, niece of Halton MP Otto Jelinek, is taking sociology and psychology at the University of Western Ontario. Both are interested in criminology and the court system, and this summer's experience should help them decide exactly what they are going to do when they are finished school.

The police and the public have been very receptive to the girls' program.

Janice and Maria are available to do home and business security checks. Anyone interested can contact them at 878-5511, extension 292.



newsmakers

Georgetown/Acton, Wednesday, July 13, 1983



Sick children gain Make a Wish grows

On June 8, the first announcement regarding the formation of Make a Wish of Halton Hills was made. In review, this organization was formed to fulfill a wish of a seriously ill or a child with a life-threatening disease.

To date no wishes have been filled but the Bank continues to grow with not only money, but such items as tickets to hockey games, offers of drivers to transport people, the use of the Optimist's hall for fund raising ventures, homes in Florida, small plane rides for fun or transportation, offers of typing skills, use of public address systems from Neil's Music Centre, and many non-monetary items.

These items are recorded (banked) and if and when the time comes that a particular need has to be fulfilled, we then go to the "bank" to see just who has volunteered the item or skill required to fulfill a "Wish".

Once the National Hockey League Officials started the ball rolling on June 12 with their benefit ball game against the Halton Hills Service Club Six-pitch League, things have begun to happen. A silver collection was made at the ball game, and along with a \$66.00 donation made by Michelle Ripley and Jean Thomas on behalf of the members of the North Halton Golf and Country Club; a \$100.00 donation from H. and H. Video; \$100.00 also donated from the Service Club League brought that day's total to \$427.24.

On June 21, 1983 Bryan Lewis was interviewed on C.B.C. Radio in the morning giving an outline of just how Make a Wish of Halton Hills got started, why they are doing what we are doing and what the aims and goals should be.

The Optimists Club of Georgetown has extended Bryan Lewis an opportunity to speak to them at their meeting on July 12, to make them aware of just what Make a Wish of Halton Hills stands for.

Russ and Sue Fedun and Anne Berko presented Make a Wish of Halton Hills with a cheque for \$100.

The actual cash banked as of this date is \$552.24 but as stated many offers of tickets and assistance have been "banked" as well. These bankable items play a major roll in fulfilling a dream of a youngster.

Other similar organizations that have assisted children have been called upon to make "wishes" come true such as: A 12 year old boy who had lost both legs to cancer made a trip to Disneyland; two young boys that visited and played in the mountains; Justin received a personal meeting with his favourite singer, Barry Manilow, and a very personal autograph; A boy who wanted to see a car race, one won by his favourite driver, who in turn presented the winning trophy to Kenny; a very ill 6 year old who wanted a visit from a magician or clown on her birthday—a magician and 3 clowns fulfilled her "wish".

These are just some of the "wishes" that have been fulfilled by other organizations similar to Make a Wish of Halton Hills.

Summing up... yes money is needed, but so are offers of assistance such as clowns, sporting event tickets, drivers, typists, and in general people with skills and a desire to help seriously ill youngsters of Halton Hills.

Donations and offers of assistance may be sent to Make a Wish of Halton Hills, c/o Bryan Lewis, R.R. no. 3, (sixth line), Georgetown, Ontario, L7G 4S6, Independent Georgetown, 30 Main Street South, Georgetown, Ontario, L7G 3G4, c/o Make a Wish of Halton Hills, Roos Travel Agency Limited, 296 Guelph Street, Georgetown Market Place, Georgetown, Ontario, L7G 4B1, c/o Make a Wish of Halton Hills, Acton Free Press Office, 59 Willow North, Acton, Ontario, L7J 1Z8, c/o Make a Wish of Halton Hills.



One of the main attractions in the North Halton Tourism area is the olde Hide House. The General Store in the Artisans' Village is a favorite for visitors.

Out of town licence plates multiplying on weekends Tourists enticed to this area

by Jane Muller

The more reasons someone has to do something, the more likely they are to do it. This is one of the philosophies behind the North Halton Tourism Association, a non-profit group attempting to put this area in the limelight.

A relatively new organization, it has attracted about 50 members in its first year of existence. It has also been responsible for two publications, one last fall and one this spring, which helped fulfill its major aim.

Steve Dawkins, president of the association, explains large scale, co-operative promotion is the primary purpose of the group, along with co-ordinating activities and acting as a liaison with governments. He admits marketing "tourism" isn't a new idea. However, the association is operating on a larger scale based on a larger physical area.

Operated by volunteers, the association bases membership fees on the number of employees in a business. Members range from restaurants to museums to pick-your-own fruit farms. The association takes in Acton, Georgetown, Milton, Rockwood and Eden Mills, making a diverse package as bait for tourists.

Marketing that package in an effort to lure people to north Halton is being approached in two ways. The association's own publications coupled with media coverage which is actively solicited are helping to that end.

The North Halton Heritage Area guide, published this spring, was circulated as far away as Kitchener and Guelph with 119,000 copies staying in the outlying areas of Toronto and Halton Region.

"We have sent press releases to journalists all across Ontario and to key daily newspapers in New York," the association president said.

"The association has been more successful than we could have expected," Mr. Dawkins contends.

A microcosm

He explains north Halton is a microcosm of the heritage of central Ontario with features like the Ontario Agricultural Museum, the Electric Railway Museum, various antique and general stores and apple farms open to the public.

The association's "grass roots membership," according to Dawkins is able, as a united group, to bring its concerns to government. He said the association is attempting to make tourism recognized as an industry through liaison with government.

"Tourism is a definite industry," he said adding as such, it requires an independent body to make a concerted effort to promote this.

Dawkins said the association is working

toward being included in the provincial government's publication which promotes various tourist areas. In the meantime the third magazine format guide is in the making, this time to promote Heritage Days. The event will run from August 26 to September 25 and will encompass the Georgetown, Acton and Milton fall fairs as well as many other events in that time slot.

Fall guide

The 300,000 copies of the fall guide will be circulated in the province's "prime market area," according to Dawkins. Metroland newspapers will be distributing the guide August 17.

"The timing is ideal. There are so many interesting things going on. It will be a provincially marketed festival with no conflicts," he said.

He feels the added promotion for local events in this month-long festival will increase attendance dramatically, something that will be monitored by individual organizers.

The guide is not only intended to attract visitors from outside the region, it informs

local residents of the wealth of activities, events and special attractions in their area, the president says.

Of particular benefit to association members, advertising is offered at rates which are extremely competitive, allowing small business an opportunity for promotion in a publication with a large circulation.

The back pages list each member in a well-organized format complete with locations, hours and a brief explanation of what each has to offer. This listing as well as the coming events is free to members.

Members will also have guides available and they will be distributed at the events it promotes. Specific areas of Kitchener and Guelph will be part of the circulation area.

"The aim is to recognize this area as a tourism area," Dawkins says.

Heritage Days will encompass the annual Steam Era, on Labor Day weekend in Milton, Festival of Countries, Heritage Acton (a new weekend event) a major craft exposition at the Artisan Village in Acton as well as special fall events at the Ontario Agricultural Museum and Mountsberg.

Approve retirement lot

Mrs. Bertha Herensberger can sever a 7.9 acre parcel of land from her 35.7 acre farm for a retirement lot, but the severance must be in her name, Halton Land Division Committee ruled this week.

The land on 15 Sideroad west of Speyside is a sheep farm, purchased in 1944.

Halton Region Conservation Authority did not oppose the application since the portion to be severed is in an area outside the Hilton Falls environmentally sensitive area, although part of the farm is within it.

Both the regional and local planning departments objected pointing out it was not infilling, and containing the 7.9 acre parcel is too small for a farm operation.

Land Surveyor Fred Cunningham, acting as spokesman for the applicant, pointed out she had farmed there for 40 years, but now wants to move to a smaller holding and continue to raise a few sheep. He emphasized the Halton Advisory Committee report says a sheep operation can be maintained on a parcel as small as five acres.

While the original application stated Mrs. Herensberger wanted the lot for her son, Cunningham explained it would be in both the mother and son's name. He said she was agreeable to having the lot in her name only, if that was the committee's wish.

The committee passed a motion the severance must be specifically in Mrs. Herensberger's name, and must be retained for five years.

"What if I die before that?" asked the applicant.

"We'll let someone else worry about that," replied Committee member Stella Parton.

School janitors get 5% raise

A five per cent wage increase has been granted to members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 1011, by the Halton Board of Education. Custodial workers fall in this group.

From July 1 to June 30, those making over \$20,000 will receive five per cent, the maximum allowed under the Inflation Restraint Act. Those making less than \$20,000 will receive up to 50 cents an hour, which is also governed under the act.

"Due to the upgrading of coverage in the dental plan, all wage rates were then subject to a five cent reduction to offset the cost of the increased dental benefit to the employee," according to a report from salary policy chairperson Elaine Riehm.

In addition to the raises, the employees will receive an improved dental plan which includes major restorative and orthodontic coverage.



Two North Halton graduates from the Oakville Red Cross homemakers program recently were Evaline Snow, left, and Eleanor Cunningham, right, photographed with supervisor Margaret Bandy. A total of 18 graduated from the course, the first in two years.

Photo by Peter McCusker

Controversial book now off school list

A short story, branded blasphemous by Rev. Ken Campbell, President of Renaissance, has been withdrawn from the school system in Halton.

Campbell protested the use of the short story *The Sin of Jesus*, one of a collection of short stories in *The Story Makers*, which he claims is offensive to many Christian and Jewish parents and religious leaders.

In a public letter to Georgetown Trustee Betty Fisher, he asks for an apology from Halton Board of Education, and seeks clarification of the lines of accountability in the system.

A teacher in the Milton high school where the book was used, defended the book and its use publicly, a fact which Campbell feels call for an explanation. He urged the board to establish a line of accountability "flowing from the parents through the system to the classroom and back to the parents whose fundamental human right it is."

Betty Fisher said the book was withdrawn because it was "deemed inappropriate". She said Campbell is free to address the board if he wishes to seek an apology or make a statement.

She explained the Halton board could not condemn the book throughout Ontario, since that would be up to the Ministry of Education.

She pointed out it is impossible for a trustee to know what every book contains, and stressed *The Sin of Jesus* is one short story in a collection of short stories. She said as far as she knows the book has never been in schools in Georgetown or Acton. "Every once in a while something will slip through which may not be appropriate".

Fisher explained no book is mandatory reading for a student, and said if the parents find it unacceptable an alternative will be provided.

Stephenson at meeting

Dr. Bette Stephenson, Minister of Education, will be at the first meeting of the 1983-84 season of the Nassagaweya Community School Association September 27 at Brookville School, Guelph Line.

Halton Board of Education learned of the meeting from Lorie Jocius, chairperson of the Association after she made a presentation about the school to the trustees.