

Helping Hands extend service to odd jobs

Halton Helping Hands is looking for volunteers to expand their "friendly visiting" service in Georgetown, Acton and Milton to the performance of odd jobs and small repairs for the elderly or the disabled.

The group is hoping to establish a core of volunteer men, women, students, and adults from which they can draw to do such things as cut grass, fix leaky faucets, repair broken toasters, or build ramps for the homes of wheelchair users.

Some of the jobs require a person having a basic knowledge of repair, but wheelchair ramps, for example, don't require a carpenter.

Some of the ramp sections will be pre-fabricated at Maplehurst Adult Training Centre in Milton and they will be assembled by the volunteers following pre-designed plans.

Similar services have been offered by the Halton Helping Hands branch in south Halton Hills, but there has not been a large demand for it in the north until a few months ago. Last winter Ward 2 Councillor John McDonald received a number of calls from people who needed the snow shovelled from their driveways and other odd jobs done.

Valerie O'Hara, executive director of Halton Helping Hands, attributes the increased demand to the fact that Georgetown, Acton and Milton are "aging communities." The attitude of the communities

hasn't changed, she said. "It's still a 'help your neighbor' attitude, but families are moving away and neighbors are needing help themselves as they get older," O'Hara said.

Clara Greco, a university student hired for the summer by Halton Helping Hands through a provincial grant, has been canvassing various community groups such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and a Katimavik group in the Milton area who have said they will help out in their spare time.

Many of the jobs, such as painting, cutting grass, or spending time visiting someone confined to their house due to illness, helping the elderly or disabled with shopping, can be done by anyone.

"All they need is kindness, friendliness, and a willingness to help," said Greco.

The "friendly visiting" program has provided Mary, a Halton Helping Hands volunteer for two years, with a lot of pleasure.

"I can go in and she (the elderly lady Mary has been paired with) might be very down, and she'll be very happy by the time I leave," said Mary.

The volunteers to do repairs will be called upon as jobs come up, so there will be flexibility in hours and days.

If you would like to volunteer, call Clara Greco at 873-1177 or 827-0252.



All ready for mayor's road race

This Sunday is the Sixth Annual Mayor's Road Race and even Mayor Russ Miller is getting in a little practise for the event. Mayor Miller was at Georgetown High on Sunday morning where he met Ken Halsall, Helmut Krom, Brian Markham and Tim Parker of the Georgetown Track Club. A special Bi-Centennial event this year will see a team of runners adding up to 200 years, competing for prizes. For further details and registration information contact the Recreation Department at 877-5185. The Sunday race begins at 8:30 a.m. from the Gordon Alcott Arena in Georgetown, with a five kilometre run for Halton Hills residents and a ten kilometre all comers meet.

Refused lot for brother

Franco Moro wants to sever an acre from his 51 acres to provide a lot for his brother who helps him on the farm.

But since both Franco Moro and his brother Alfonso have other fulltime jobs, they are not considered bona-fide farmers, so Halton Land Division Committee turned him down.

Moro has owned and farmed the land at Lot 32, Concession 6, for 12 years, as well as leasing additional 100 acres of land and has built a large barn 80 by 84 feet.

Solicitor Bill Manderson explained Moro's brother comes out from Toronto to help him almost every weekend, so he wants to let his brother have the lot so he and his family could move out permanently.

Committee member Stella Parton pointed out a home for farm help is permitted without a severance, and suggested Moro try that route.

Manderson said the brother quite naturally wanted his own home on his own land, and felt that would have to be a condition of moving out.

Regional Planner Ruth Melady said the Regional Plan provides for a farm-related severance only for full-time farm help where the farmer is a bona-fide farmer, and a retirement lot is granted only for use of a bona-fide retirement residence.

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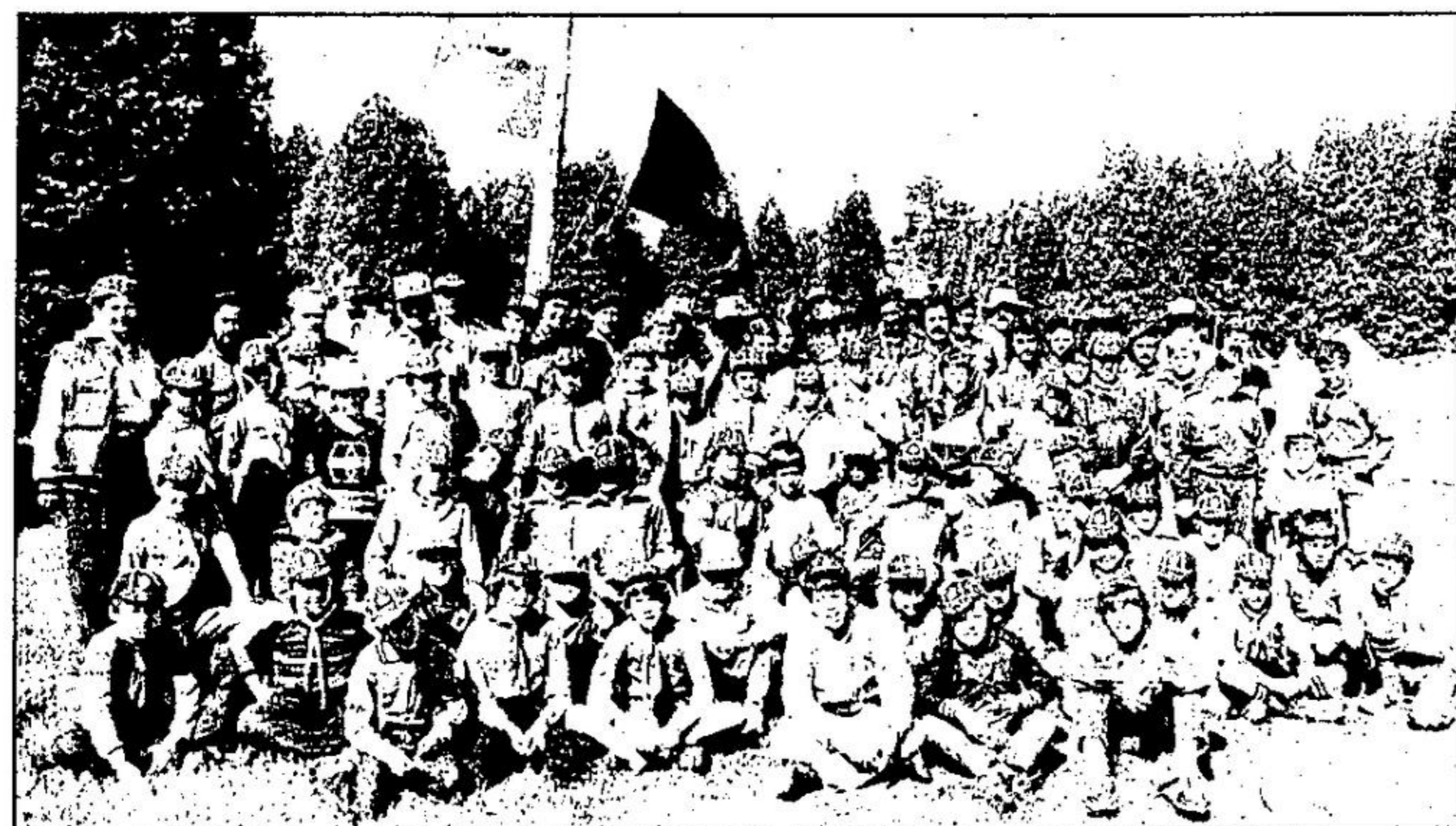
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All 75 of the Cubs attending the third year Camp at Ebor Park, Blue Springs, from the North Halton district posed for Jean Layman's camera on the long Victoria Day weekend.

60 Cubs prepare for Scouts

by Jean Layman

North Halton District Annual Cub Camp was held on the weekend of May 25, 26, 27th at Ebor Park, Blue Springs Scout Reserve, west of Acton.

This specially arranged camp is to prepare Cubs for Scouts. Scouter Doug Wood was Camp Chief assisted by Cliff Break and Dave Hill, who were in Scouts together 22 years ago at 1st Hornby.

Nearly 60 Cubs registered on Friday. This was followed by setting up Camp sites and Camp rules and out-of-bound areas outlined by Doug Wood.

Aerial rides on a cable more than a 100 metres long on Saturday afternoon were a real highlight. The cable was set up by Sergeant Cobb and his troopers from C.F.B. Fort York Toronto Armories. A special ride was made possible for Todd

Ellis and his dad Harry Ellis to go down together. The aerial ride was at the end of the obstacle course which also included a monkey bridge.

Tug of War, Fire Flies at Night, Soccer were included in the program.

Instructions on axe and knife were given by Scouters Jim Auger and Eddie Ebbinge of 2nd Acton Trinity. Knots by Bryan Alder. "What is Scouting" by Doug Wood, nature trail and plant identification by Elaine Hannah and compass and trail signs by Peter Frommel.

The Troopers from C.F.B.—Toronto Armories played a game of soccer against the third year Cubs which created a lot of excitement.

Brian Collier and Stephen Frommel built the Campfire for Saturday night, which included skits, songs, yells. Scouter

Wood opened and closed the campfire and Evelyn Owen gave the Scouters' Five.

On Sunday following flag break an impressive Scouts Own was held at the chapel.

Each patrol was given points on neatness, skills, camp sites the entire weekend. Points were given for the cheer that went along with the patrol name.

1st Georgetown boys won by a squeaker over 1st Glen Williams and 2nd Georgetown. The trophy was presented at the closing on Sunday afternoon. Each group was presented with a Camp Crest and wished a fond farewell. Camp Chief Doug Wood thanked everyone for their help.

A special thanks went to Scouts Todd Deforest, Jamie Coyle and Chris Blencowe for assisting all weekend with flag break and the Scouts Own.

Children's service shortfalls weighed

The push is on for improvements in children's health and social services in north Halton, with the needs of "high risk" and single-parent families singled out for special attention.

Awaiting regional council's endorsement this month, the findings of a 16-member North Halton Planning Committee will be circulated among more than 40 area social service agencies and various provincial ministries.

The committee was launched 15 months ago under the auspices of the Halton Children's Services Coordinating and Advisory Group to assess regional services, pinpoint any shortfalls and list areas needing improvement in order of priority.

It is hoped that circulation of the committee's findings will alert funding agencies to specific needs.

The committee ranked services for high-risk and single-parent families as its top priority after determining that a substantial

number of citizens feel the range of parenting group programs in the area is inadequate. More such groups are needed, the committee concluded, and the public should be made more aware about their availability.

"It was felt that the problems of single-parent families are complex and are compounded in north Halton due to the lack of affordable housing, public transportation, etc.," the committee's report states.

In descending order of priority, other needs listed in the report are assessment services for children, residential services for adolescents (those in need are referred to south Halton agencies in both cases), socializing programs for teens with multiple problems, educational services for children with special needs, speech and language assessment and treatment services, mental health services, counselling for families, married couples and individuals, programs to improve motor abilities and finally volunteers.

Region unblocks snag

Halton Region and the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital have completed a complicated series of negotiations to gain approval for waterworks plans for the new nursing home.

With plans for new water and sanitary services at the hospital site contravening municipal bylaw, officials have devised a three-party agreement indemnifying the Region.

Regional council approved plans for the servicing a year ago that were to have seen all new waterworks and sanitary sewers located on land owned by the hospital. Bylaw requires the servicing to come under a single owner.

Since that time, however, the Land Division Committee has approved separations that will ultimately see the new nursing home come under the ownership of a corporation yet to be formed, which like the hospital itself, will be directed by the hospital board.

The separation places the new services on property owned by two parties, in con-

travention of the bylaw.

Hospital administrator Fred Morris advised the Region that the separation was sought so that the nursing home can be mortgaged, thus providing necessary funding in the absence of provincial grants.

The resulting agreement ensures that the nursing home will not change ownership and that the Region can at any time request that the nursing home services be relocated on the home's property.

"Such a situation could occur in the event that the hospital board defaults on their mortgage payments and the nursing home is sold to a private interest," public works director Bob Moore told councillors in a report.

Also planned is a three-party agreement involving the Region, hospital board and administrators of the nursing home. According to the agreement, if the home is sold, the hospital would have to provide it with a separate water supply and the water-main connecting the two facilities would be terminated.

Separate schools find place for trainable retarded

Trainable mentally retarded students will find a place in the separate-school system for the first time this fall.

What has been referred to by Sue Quennell of the board as an "exciting" change will involve 50 children throughout the region. The move will keep the Halton Separate School Board a step ahead of the new Education Act to be in place by 1985.

"I'm really excited about the Education Act. We're in the middle of educational change which also relates to societal change," said the consultant of diagnostic services.

There will be 10 classes for the trainable mentally retarded established in Halton.

The new service will require the hiring of five teachers and child-care workers.

"We have always wanted to educate retarded students," said Ms. Quennell.

Mentally retarded Roman Catholic students are currently educated through the public system. The funding mechanism for this special education is operated by the ministry of education.

The provincial government has increased funding for exceptional educational programs to help boards meet guidelines stipulated in the new Act.

Parents of trainable mentally retarded students can transfer or enrol their children in classes to include religious instruction by contacting Sue Quennell at 632-6300, ext. 314.

Cadet inspection draws former COs

Some old friends were on hand last week to help make the annual inspection of the Royal Canadian Legion Air Cadets, Squadron 756, even more memorable.

Halton Hills resident Colin Cousens, a district commander with the Ontario Provincial Police in Downsview, revisited his old squadron, which he commanded through its formative years until 1975, to serve as reviewing officer.

Also on hand, representing the Air Cadet League of Canada, was Rod MacDonald, who reminded Cadets and guests that it was almost 15 years to the day since he proudly watched the squadron's first inspection as its commanding officer.

Last week it was Captain Carl Groskorth's turn to stand by proudly as Superintendent Cousens and assisting officer Captain B.A. MacDonald reviewed the young men and women of his command.

As well as presenting nine different trophies to eight Cadets for their outstanding efforts since last fall, Groskorth and invited dignitaries applauded the Squadron's marching band, directed by Nancy Crouse, as it was presented with a special Legion award.

Promotions were in order for 13 cadets: new corporals are Denise Duffie, Jeff Duncan, Mary Jane Guest, Nathaniel Ng, Guy Rulton and Alex Shean;

New sergeants are Eric Darling, Adrian Alder and Anthony Soward;

New flight sergeants are Joel Brown, David Collier, Laura Groskorth and John Gray.

Pursuing their squadron interests at basic summer camp July 23 through August 3 will be Mary Jane Guest, Barbara Kerkhof, Tim Gold, Cam MacLean, Michael Vranic, Chris McHale, Geoff De Jong, Robert Jennings, Mark James, Alison Morgan, Ann Gourlay, Trina Bassett, Nathaniel Ng, Barry Jowett, Jonathon Newcombe, Ross Leonard, David Mahal, Robert Horton, Richard Crawford, Kevin Fabian, Estelle Rulton, Bret Serjeantson, Paul Howlett, John Balsillie, Roberta Christie, Sandor Gombocz, Karl Normore, Gino Feletto, Martha Darling and Leo Rabstein.

Allan Bray will attend an aircrew survival course at Trenton during the same period. Joel Brown and Jeff Duncan are off to the air studies course at Trenton July 9 to 27, where at the same time a junior leaders course brings in Louise Parker, Warren Martin, Adrian Alder, Scott MacLean and Richard Percival.

A drum and bugle band course at Ipperwash will be attended by Blair Tracey, Andrew Soward, Guy Rulton, Alex Shean, Mike Bray and Andrew Boettcher.

Robert Boettcher will take a glider pilot course at Mountainview July 9 to August 17. Julie Balch a senior band course at Borden during the same period, and Robert Rivers a flying scholarship course, through which he'll receive a private pilot licence.

The squadron has cadets from all over Halton Hills and area.



Nine years after he retired as Commanding Officer of the Royal Canadian Legion Air Cadets, 756 Squadron, Ontario Provincial Police Superintendent Colin Cousens revisited the unit last week as reviewing officer for the annual inspection. He's accompanied here by Napply Officer Cadet Ann Jerrard. "It's personally rewarding for me to see 756 doing so well," Cousens told squadron members and their families.