

# Dance school a 'dream come true' for new instructor Susanne Keith

When the Acton School of Ballet and Dance wrapped up its 1983-84 season with an annual recital in June, no one realized that the school's future instructor was sitting in the audience.

A resident of Acton only since last summer, Susanne Keith of Elmore Dr. was impressed enough by the talents of the school's young students that she phoned instructor Liz Chalmers to offer her assistance.

As it happened, Chalmers certainly did need some help. After three years coaching Acton youngsters in ballet and jazz dance, she and her family were moving from the community. The school needed a new instructor.

And as it happened, Sue Keith had taught ballet and jazz at the Ajax-Pickering YMCA. When her husband's office moved to Mississauga, the couple decided to make their new home in Acton, where Sue's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wright of Churchill Rd., have lived for the past 17 years.

Ironically, Sue had hoped to open her own dance school in Acton, but found the season already too far advanced last year and decided to drop the idea. When she called Liz Chalmers this past June, though, everything fell into place.

Keith and her daughter Lisa, who'll be attending Grade 13 at Acton High School this fall, will together instruct youngsters in four ten-week semesters starting Sept. 12. They also hope to launch a special course for local women who have no previous dance training.

Instruction will cover ballet and jazz, with the youngsters choosing one or the other or a combination of both. A primary course will cater to three to six-year olds, a senior course for those 13 years or older and junior and intermediate courses for the in-betweens. Classes will take place Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings at the Murray Memorial YMCA on Mill St. The local Y is the school's sponsor.

"It's a dream come true," Keith said this week. "I always wanted my own school, and I'd missed the children so much."

Keith had taught dance to about 100 Ajax area children in her final season there, whereas the Acton school's enrollment last year was about 50. The difference should make things a little easier for Keith and a little more productive for her students.

The courses will follow basic Royal Academy of Dance curricula, but Keith believes learning to dance "should be a fun thing."

Keith herself has been dancing since she was six years old, receiving instruction from Boris Bolkoff, the Russian immigrant considered the father of ballet in Canada, and dancing with the National Ballet in her teens.

Of her predecessor, Liz Chalmers, Keith says "she's just been fantastic."

"The girls will really miss her," she added, noting that Chalmers contacted last season's students personally to explain the changes and learned that most will be returning this fall.



## TUNING UP

Jill Pomeroy and Rod Gimpel were tuning up in anticipation of Halton Hills Days at the CNE Bandshell Aug. 18. Last Sunday at the Library-Cultural Centre in Georgetown the duo were rehearsing the ballads they plan to sing at the

Exhibition. Other entertainers will bring a mixture of rock, jazz and love songs and a variety of other attractions courtesy of the people of Halton Hills.



Susanne Keith's recent offer of help to the Acton School of Ballet and Dance turned out to be quite an understatement. Instructor Liz Chalmers was leaving town and a replacement was needed, so starting next month, Sue and daughter Lisa (inset) will be teaching local youngsters how to put their best foot forward.

## Vaudeville's back

Acton must have seemed a little quieter than usual last Thursday night. That's because approximately 40 rambunctious local children were participating in Vaudeville Night at Centennial Public School in Georgetown.

The children are participants in the

recreation and parks department's summer programs called Summer Activities, Tot Lot and Sports Camp.

The purpose of the show was to show parents what their children have been doing this summer and just to have a good time.

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**TOWN OF HALTON HILLS PLANNING DEPARTMENT COURTESY PUBLIC NOTICE**

Council for the Town of Halton Hills will conduct a Public Meeting to discuss and examine a proposed amendment to Georgetown Zoning Bylaw 57.91 to permit single family residential dwellings and a church use on an 11 acre parcel of land to be subdivided by Plan of Subdivision the land being described as Block "G" Registered Plan 817, and located at the intersection of Mountainview Road South (Regional Road 13) and Sinclair Avenue, Georgetown, as shown on the inset map.

Further information is available at the Planning Department.

**ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE WELCOME**

Time: 7:15 p.m.  
Date: Tuesday, August 7, 1984  
Place: Administration Building  
Town of Halton Hills  
7th Line, Trafalgar Road  
Town of Halton Hills

Deane D. MacLennan, M.E.P.P.  
Deputy Director Planning

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