



**NEW GUIDES**

New guides have been enrolled into the Fifth Guide Company. Back row, left to right, Debbie Lane, Kristin Bjerkelund and Cathy Beecham. In the front row, Patty Stone, and the twins Debbie and Carolyn McConnell.

**Need strong reason to oppose town official plan, planning head says**

Halton Region should have no intervention in Halton Hills official plan unless it can demonstrate its interest, "a legitimate, defensible interest," says Edward Cummings, planning director for Halton.

He is looking forward to a time when higher levels of government won't have approval power except in their own particular interests in a municipality.

Area plans in the region are all different but have points in common. Mr. Cummings said the agricultural plan below the escarpment is common to all four municipalities, while the escarpment is common to three and the lakeshore to two, he said.

**Farm safety thrust set for two areas**

Halton Farm Safety Council has undertaken two new safety projects for its next year. At its annual meeting Thursday in Milton, the council decided to give first year 4-H Club members hard hats and to publish a series of advertisements promoting farm safety with the help of farm machinery dealers in local newspapers.

At its annual meeting of the Esqueping Historical Society two members of the Ontario Historical Foundation spoke to members about becoming affiliated with the Foundation and presenting a plaque to commemorate a Credit River Dynamo first used in this area.

As well, the council will be continuing its support of 4-H safety program and try to build up a scrapbook of farm accidents in the region. There were two new faces elected on the three member executive. Chris Richardson of Milton, vice-president, and Norm Buzgar of Oakville, secretary-treasurer. Re-elected president was Mrs. Cecil Patterson.

According to a recent release from the ministry of agriculture and food, farm safety programs in Ontario are being tailored for specific commodity groups. The tobacco industry, for example, had about 500 lost-time injuries in 1975 and following a farm safety program, accidents dropped 29 per cent in 1976.

**Dynamo plaque, affiliation studied**

At the annual meeting of the Esqueping Historical Society two members of the Ontario Historical Foundation spoke to members about becoming affiliated with the Foundation and presenting a plaque to commemorate a Credit River Dynamo first used in this area.

Vrenia Ivonoffski wants to make local people aware of the need to protect and preserve Georgetown's heritage. She wants to attract residents from local and nearby communities to the unveiling ceremony of the plaque.

"People think history belongs under moth balls, or in the class room, but history is for everyone and history is fun," she said.

There is enthusiasm in this community, she said, but the historical society is thinking of preparing educational kits to present to the schools, each involving a series of historical lectures. John McDonald, a member of the heritage society may be a speaker.

John Roaf Barber contributed a great deal to the town's

**Society seeks new horizons**

The Esqueping Historical Society is well established after being in operation for the past two years. The time for the society to broaden its horizons, was discussed at its annual meeting.

Phil Baker, involved in the culture and recreation aspects of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, OHP, said that if the society becomes affiliated with the OHP it will receive certain benefits.

These benefits are becoming more involved with other societies, trading suggestions for different projects, and receiving a quarterly newsletter of the foundation. The OHP offers assistance in oral history programs, cemetery transcriptions and offers advice for publications, or any new program the society wishes to undergo.

An added benefit of becoming affiliated is being eligible to apply for a grant from the government, with maximum lending amount \$550. The group may be independently incorporated to receive the grant, also.

The society will later discuss the proposals.

**Ontario labor minister raps feds for buckpassing**

Ontario Labor Minister Bette Stephenson last week attacked the federal government over its restraint program which shifts responsibility onto the shoulders of the provinces.

She also attacked the provincial NDP philosophy of government leadership in job creation through increased government spending, while urging workers, employers and government to work together to increase productivity.

Speaking to the Georgetown and Esqueping Progressive Conservative Association annual meeting she accused the federal government of buck passing in shifting the responsibility for health programs back to the province after "they were seduced into

the federal program."

**High per capita Halton income based on two workers in family**

The average income per household in Halton is \$22,000 says Gerry O'Hearn, director of a soon-to-be-completed study on housing in Halton.

But if that seems high, it is because two persons per household are bringing in a paycheck, he added.

In Halton Hills, 78 per cent of dwellings are single detached homes, with the same percentage of homeowners, Mr. O'Hearn said. The Canadian average is 62 per cent.

Although housing starts in the region have grown from 1,500 in 1950, to 2,500 in 1960 and 4,000 per year in 1976, the average number of persons per household is declining, he said. By the end of the decade, there will be fewer than three per household, he said.

The trend in Halton since 1971 has been toward medium and high density dwellings, Mr. O'Hearn said, although less than half the increase is in single dwellings. In Halton Hills, over 60 per cent of the increase has been in single dwellings.

The vacancy rate in Halton Hills is zero, he said. While rental accommodation has a density of 3.4 persons per dwelling, single dwelling density is 3.2.

The housing quality in the region is "good to excellent."

The decline in populations combined with men and women living longer - men to 69, women to 76 - means more attention must be paid to housing for senior citizens, Mr. O'Hearn said.

Government and employers have a responsibility to provide direction and the proper climate for worker efficiency, she said.

Despite record unemployment in Ontario, 40,000 jobs were created in the province last year, Dr. Stephenson said. Ontario had provided confidence for the free enterprise system to maintain its economy, something she feels the federal government has not been able to provide for the national economy.

She pointed to the improvements in a stagnant economic climate: reduced work stoppages through strikes last year and a reduced growth level of Ontario Government spending.

Georgetown. Three employment adjustment committees are now working at two Georgetown plants, Abitibi Provincial Paper and Domtar Fine Papers where about 250 workers are to be laid off through plant reduction and closing.

Dr. Stephenson said her ministry is very concerned about job losses in Guelph, Fergus, Acton and

In other business Peter Ramsay was elected president of the association. Other officers are: Ab Tennant and Tado Beattie, vice-presidents; and Sandra Morrow, secretary; Mike Ross, treasurer and directors Marilyn Milton and Ron Chatten.

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 • Torben Waltrip for "News and Comments" (8 AM)  
 • Hal V. for "Great Radio News" (9:30 AM)  
 • Art from "Water Road Report" (7:45, 8:30 AM) today.  
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