



ACTON CRAFT SHOW

At the first of many craft shows sponsored by the Halton Hills Libraries, Paulette Greig of Georgetown demonstrates weaving. The show was held at the Acton Library Saturday. Other displays included decoupage and metal working.

Board, teachers to talk, delay OK'd in program

Halton Board of education and district 9, Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF) have formed a committee to negotiate the issue of reorganizing high schools. The announcements came Monday at a joint press conference when the board agreed not to implement the chairmanship organization in the nine high schools still under the headship program while the issue is being negotiated and the teachers have lifted the embargo placed last December on approximately 114 chairmanship positions. It is the first time that the teachers are negotiating an item of board policy, chairman Rev. Garry Morton told reporters. The eight member committee is expected to make recommendations which the board will then take a position on.

The board ruled earlier that the chairmanship program would be implemented by Sept. 1, and the teachers are opposed to the mandatory nature of the ruling. However, as Emerson Lavender, director of education, told reporters the time to hire chairmen and related positions has passed and any major change, if required, will be phased in after September, or in September, 1978.

Right now there are Canadian cancer research scientists investigating viruses as a possible cause of human cancer; others are concentrating on the body's immune defense system; still others are examining basic life processes within cells. This is a sampling of the many projects devoted to understanding and controlling cancer.

"None of us is interested in the disruption of the school system," Mr. Lavender said. Mr. Morton said the board's position is that it wants to keep the management rights on behalf of the public but it is not willing to disregard those involved in developing the policy. He denied that the board was backing down on the issue. "It's a positive step by the board."

David Judd, the teacher's chief negotiator said the board's action will have a positive effect on negotiations. The teachers want the structure of high schools studied and an evaluation process of the systems established.

The decision to set up a committee has no effect on arbitration hearings between the board and the teachers. The arbitration hearings, expected to take place sometime in June is to see if

the placing of an embargo is a violation of the collective agreement. There is nothing in the arbitration proceeding about reorganization of high schools.

John Boich, the board's chief negotiator and superintendent of instruction, said he was heartened by the optimism of the teacher's negotiating team and felt that the collective agreement could be completed by the end of June.

On the committee the board will be represented by Rev. Morton, trustee Judy Alexander, Emerson Lavender, director of education and John Boich, superintendent of instruction. The teachers will be represented by David Judd, John Lynch, executive secretary of district nine OSSTF; John Phillips, a principal at Nelson High School and Ray Pimeau, field secretary of OSSTF's provincial executive.

Decline of fitness is early, expert tells UWC meeting

By HELEN TAZZMAN
"The decline in the physical fitness of Canadians begins in Grade 1," claimed Stuart Robbins of York University's Physical Education Department. At a meeting of the University Women's Club, Robbins recommended a program of daily physical education for all elementary school children. Such a program could be expected to enhance rather than detract from academic studies.

Robbins referred to a study of a school near Paris, France, where students achieved academically while devoting one third of each day to physical education.

Contrary to what might be supposed, Little League sports do not make up for the lack of daily physical education in the schools. One of the reasons is that parents too often drive their children to sports events. Another drawback is the large amount of time a team member may spend inactive on the bench.

Little League also has the disadvantage of being too complex for kids. Socially, the young child cannot cope with games in which there are nine or eleven players to a side. Not only do kids not relate to that many people, but they have fewer chances to play a significant role in the game.

Too often the expectations in Little League sports are unrealistic for kids. Robbins pointed out that kids being burdened by rules governing Pros.

Similarly, equipment used in kids sports is often unsuitable as it is designed for full grown athletes. Basketball hoops tend to be too high and soccer balls too big. Were adults forced to use outsized equipment on the same scale as kids, their games would suffer too.

Perhaps the Chinese have led the way to new sanity in sports by producing ping pong tables of different heights. There is a need also for kids to escape peer and parent

pressure in sports. Humiliating the opposing team takes the fun out of games for kids. From a study by the University of Ottawa, Robbins noted that six to eight-year-olds are dropping out of team sports. These youngsters will be lost for the teen years when they could reasonably have been expected to play their best.

Overspecialization is a problem when team sports are played too young. No little kid should have to choose between soccer and baseball. Rather, kids should be able to play a variety of sports once a week.

Likewise, it is inappropriate, Robbins felt, to subject preschoolers to the nervous strain of competitions such as swimming meets.

Turning from the negative aspects of athletics, Robbins outlined some of the benefits of a wholesome programme of physical education in the schools. For instance, reading and writing readiness may be developed in the gym. Exercises in which a ball is followed from left to right relates to following words across a page. Games with printed letters or words are also helpful. Physiological activities on such equipment as trampolines help develop the co-ordination needed for writing.

Games also assist in the socialization process. While initially, kids play along side, rather than with others, they finally learn to co-operate in the creation of bigger and better projects.

Through playing games, kids also learn about the laws of society. Left to their own devices, kids work out reasonable rules and balance out inequalities in group sports. To keep games exciting, they prefer to keep sides fairly evenly matched so that the outcome is not a foregone conclusion.

Ideally, the great benefit of physical education in the schools is the development of healthy minds in healthy bodies. In a province that has the third most costly health care in Canada, physical fitness cannot be considered a luxury. As Robbins pointed out, \$30 million could be saved annually if everyone in Ontario were brought to a level of minimum fitness.

Apart from the financial aspects, the desire to avoid the needless misery of early backache, ulcers, and heart attacks should spur Canadians to improve physical fitness.

A sound program in the elementary schools, developed by specialists in physical education, would not only ensure a healthier future but would improve the quality of Canadian life.

Moore Park residents seek police action

Residents of Moore Park are concerned over the apparent lack of enforcement of bylaws to prevent "pot and beer parties" at Emerson Park adjacent to Joseph Gibbons school.

A spokesman who wished not to be identified, told council that warm weather is bringing out groups of youth for beer and pot (marijuana) parties on the property and little appears to be done by police to control it.

She said residents of abutting properties are having beer bottles and stones thrown into swimming pools and onto properties; the lighting equipment at the tennis courts have been broken into and activities take place under night lights to as late as 1 a.m.

Young people in the area are being intimidated and harassed and broken beer bottles can be found around school entrances.

Mayor Tom Hill, a member of the Halton police commission, promised an investigation of the circumstances surrounding an April 30 incident in which a group of youth played ball hockey on the tennis courts until after 1 a.m. contrary to a town bylaw which sets a curfew of 11 p.m.

The spokesman said police were called to investigate the incident and despite being at the scene at least twice within a half hour, no action was taken and a call to police a day later indicated the police had accepted an argument that the group had a permit from the town recreation department.

Mayor Hill said police are powerless to make an arrest on private property unless there is contravention of the Criminal Code. The area in Moore Park, he said, belongs to the school board and police can only act on a complaint.

Wards 3 and 4 school trustee Don Long, in the audience for another matter, said he is prepared to seek approval of an agreement between the board and the town to allow police powers to enter the property.

The Moore Park spokesman said youth hide on the roof of the school when police arrive.

Mayor Hill said Halton Hills now only has an agreement with the board of education for maintenance and cost-sharing of the facilities owned by the board and used for public activity.

Ward 1 Coun. Pat McKenzie, a former school principal, argued that the public regards school board property as public property and as such police should be prepared to act on incidents such as this. "If they (the school board) believes this is private property they are fooling themselves," he said.

Coun. Roy Booth, a resident of the area, argued that police appear to have accepted on several occasions "a song and dance by some persuasive teenagers."

It is not known when the report will be completed.



CAR WASH BENEFIT

Cathy Longbottom of Georgetown puts the Texaco Service Station on Guelph Street. Proceeds from the wash will be directed to the Ontario Society for Crippled Children.

School board approves drug, alcohol program

Halton school teachers who have problems with alcohol or drugs or suffer from emotional illness may have a program to assist overcoming their problems by September.

Haltoun board of education, Thursday heard recommendations that it adopt an employee assistance program to provide for the prevention of dependence on alcohol and other drugs, and that principals and academic supervisors be trained to learn the procedures in the program.

The program has the support of the elementary and secondary teachers' associations, principals and the Addiction Research Foundation (ARF) in Halton. If the board approves establishment of the program, Halton ADAPT will be the prime referring agency and provide medical consultative services.

ARF spokesman Peter Marks of Acton told the board that teachers are in a high risk

occupation with high stress. About three per cent of any average workforce is addicted and a further three per cent have their work performance affected by alcohol or drugs, Mr. Marks said. The cost of treatment is paid for by the province.

Halton has about 2,500 teachers and according to the figures, about 150 teachers would benefit from the program.

Trustee H.H. (Bert) Hinton said he was not against the philosophy of the program but would rather see the money spent on busing. The teacher's federation should take care of its own, he said. He feared that if the board adopted the program it would eventually become part of the collective agreement.

The board is expected to act on the proposal in June.

Downtown improvements start after eight years

Architect Paul Martell is going to see results this summer after eight years of submitting improvement ideas to the Georgetown Downtown Business Improvement Association.

Included in the core's business taxes (first payments due July) is money for the first application of the beauty treatment. Total funds equal \$4,000, so improvements will be made over a five-year period he said.

But the \$4,000 would also buy 10 trees in planters that may be distributed along Main Street (individual price for a tree in planter - \$300) six banners identifying the downtown area and parking areas, and with the remaining funds paint for two supergraphics on buildings used to attract attention and liven up the area.

"Georgetown is unique because all the businesses are in a contained section and if you enter Main Street from the outskirts you do notice that you're in a business district," Mr. Martell said. "The signs are to make an impact on newcomers."

The main improvements Mr. Martell feels necessary are improved parking facilities and walkways leading from the lot to Main Street.

"The walkways need to be lighted and remodeled to resemble walkways, not alleyways," he said.

There are 28 parking spots along Main Street, but when these are full downtown merchants believe potential customers drive away instead of using the parking lots off Mill Street.

He proposed a parking lot be added on Wesleyan Street, bringing the total number of parking places to 300. "Signs are needed to show access routes to parking lots."

"The logo used in the improvement project donated by the Herald will become a symbol that people will relate to the improvement project," president of the Business Improvement Area, Monty Hyde said. "The parking signs may be designed with the logo in green, a color people associate with parking if they drive in Toronto."

The main project Mr. Hyde would like completed is the Silver Creek park. "The park would attract people to Georgetown and offer a relaxing spot for shoppers," he said.

Barbara Shuttleworth, manager of Touch of Class said, "We have talked for so many years of improving the downtown core, once we start it will prove that we've meant it all these years."

"Downtown Georgetown does have everything to offer people, but they are not aware," she said. "We have started promotion by the ads, but we're not really promoting anything yet."

There is a problem with trees which might slow that part of the improvement plan until fall. The problem is meeting the region's approval on placing trees on the curb. Mr. Martell was told by the Halton Region that trees would pose problems for snow removal, but Mr. Martell said the curbs could be flared allowing enough room.

Another problem is that trees should be planted in early spring or late fall. "If the trees were planted this month it would be acceptable."

The planters are three feet high protecting the trees from salt in the winter, dogs and trees can be relocated easily if contained in a planter.

Mr. Martell and Mr. Hyde plan to meet again before approaching the engineering department with plans. Mr. Hyde said he wants the signs visible by Pioneer Days in June.

The downtown merchants are excited that finally the much-talked about plans will become a reality this summer.

Police seek suspect

Police suspect a 16 or 17-year old youth with long blond hair, about 5'8" and thin, with a reddish brown cosmetic case containing \$7 in cash and personal papers from the purse of a Chapel Street woman. The theft occurred May 9 in room 4 at Park School, police said.

Flower show, auction today

By D. FITZSIMONS
After that long hard, dreary winter let's give a welcome to Spring. And that's what the Georgetown Horticultural Society is planning at its Spring Flower Show and Plant Auction to be held today at Knox Presbyterian Church.

An auction will be a welcome experience, a chance to obtain plants and flowers for that bare spot in the garden. The show will be a sure sign that spring is here.

Spring flowering bulbs and other perennials, together with classes for potted indoor plants all go together to promise a delightful show.

Arrangements will be entered under the theme of "Spring Song" with categories such as Apple Blossom Lime, Singing in the Rain, or Cruising Down the River.

A special arrangement class for Juniors (those 16 years and under) is being offered. There will also be an Educational Exhibit for Juniors only. This is a picture composed of seeds. It is hoped that the juniors will come up with some interesting exhibits.

If you think you'd like to enter an arrangement or one of your prize tulips or lilacs don't hesitate. You don't have to be a member of the Society. Anyone can enter and special classes have been established for Novice Horticulturalists with a special prize for the novice with the most points in the decorative classes.

Ribbons will be awarded to all winners.

Entry tickets are available at Pauline's Flowers, Fendley Florists, GIS Television or at the church hall free of charge.



JUST TAGGING ALONG

Mother stands unconcerned as her named two-week-old colt gives himself the once-over during open house held Sunday at Wildwood Manor. Visitors were treated to a tour of the facilities and a short horseback ride. Eleven-year-old Bruce Rieger is about to take Shawna, the mother, and her son for a short trip through the fields surrounding the riding stables.

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