



YOUTH ENTERTAIN

Santa's merry voice filled the halls of Sargent Court senior citizens apartments last Sunday afternoon as he helped the Red Cross Youth group entertain the residents with a Christmas play.

Historical group formed

Although Halton Hills councillors have not yet heard about it, plans are under way to set up a Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) to suggest which local buildings are of historical value to the municipality of Halton Hills. John McDonald, president of the Esqueping Historical Society says he is working in conjunction with Wayne McEachern of the Halton Region planning department and Halton Hills planner, Mario Venditti, to prepare a presentation to Halton Hills planning board some time in the new year with a view to establishing a LACAC.

HEALTH FOR ALL

Lungs at work

Nonsmokers and smokers are joining forces. Finally. The overwhelming majority of both groups think separate smoking and no-smoking sections in public places are a fine idea. In a survey of more than 9,000 residents in six counties it was found that 89 per cent of smokers and 78 per cent of nonsmokers favoured the idea. Another national survey done by the government showed that the majority of both groups across the country think smoking should be banned in more public places. In the six county survey, nonsmokers and ex-smokers also pin-pointed the places - public and private - where smoking disturbs them most. The results are fascinating and no doubt, a surprise to some smokers!

- Cars 75 per cent
- Restaurants 64 per cent
- Planes, Buses 53 per cent
- Elevators 52 per cent
- Friend's Homes 51 per cent
- Waiting Rooms 51 per cent
- Meetings 43 per cent
- Hospitals 41 per cent

Lung associations across the province distribute buttons, stickers, signs and leaflets to help people create more smoke-free environments.

Helping smokers and nonsmokers protect their own lungs and health is the aim of your local lung association - the Halton Lung Association - the "Christmas Seal People." Because they care about every breath you take, so ask them for help. You can help them, in turn, by sending in your Christmas Seal contribution to support their efforts to help nonsmokers and smokers join forces.

Health council recommendations come after ministry, hospital figures reviewed

The Halton district health council will make recommendations regarding extended care facilities in Halton Hills but the discrepancy between figures supplied by the ministry of health and those supplied by Georgetown and District Memorial hospital must be resolved first, council chairman Terry Baines said Monday.

There are two studies of extended care facilities in Halton being carried out, one by the ministry of health and one by the district health council, Mr. Baines said. Once the correct statistics are arrived at, the council will make its recommendations to the ministry.

There is substantial need for extended care facilities in Burlington, Mr. Baines said, although most of the extended care facilities in Halton are in the southern half of the region. He said this could be due to the make-up of the population and the handling of applications in Burlington.

Mr. Baines said that if Ontario's position is compared with almost any other jurisdiction, it would be found that Ontario has more nursing home beds per capita than almost any other area.

"It isn't as if we're badly off - but the ministry of health would be the first to admit we may have a maldistribution of facilities," he said.

The hospital has made a very reasonable proposal, Mr. Baines added, but at the moment, the ministry is saying they have no money for this.

"The cost constraints at the ministry are substantial, and you have to have a lot of material to throw back at the Ministry to defeat their statistics," Mr. Baines said.

At present, there is a freeze on the building of extensions for the purpose of extended care due to cost constraints.

"It would be two to three years before an addition could be completed, even with the approval of the ministry," Mr. Baines concluded. "We think we're doing the community a service by studying the proposal thoroughly for six or seven months."

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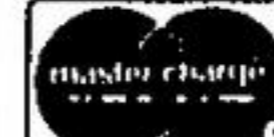
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