

## Handicapped children's centre to provide new service

The completion of the Credit Valley Association for Handicapped Children treatment centre, expected to open by early fall, will provide an important service for handicapped children in the regions of Peel and Halton.

"There is quite an area here that is not served," said Grant Clarkson, a charter director with the Credit Valley Association for Handicapped Children. Clarkson pointed out that the nearest facilities are on Rumsey Road in Toronto and in St. Catharines.

A press conference was held

at the treatment centre Saturday to introduce the centre's new executive director, Diana Thomson. Construction completion of the 21,000 square foot, one story centre which occupies three acres is expected by August. Total cost of the facility will be \$1.25 million.

Miss Thomson was formerly the director of physiotherapy at Scarborough General Hospital. She assumed duties in March and will be responsible for organizing programs, assisting the board of directors and committees in recruiting

staff, as well as preparing the centre for its opening.

The treatment centre is located at 2277 South Millway Dr. on the south-west corner of Erin Mills Parkway, and Burnhamthorpe Road. It is expected to accommodate 70 children, but this figure will vary with the number of out-patient children.

It will provide several services to pre-school and school-age children including examination and assessment, physio, occupational and speech therapy on an out-

patient basis, and special education and treatment on an in-school basis. Parent guidance and a day nursery for children ages 2 to 5 will also be provided. The special education segment of the program will come under the jurisdiction of the Peel Board of Education, who have appointed David Beattie as principal.

Recommendations for admission of children in a program will come from doctors, parents, the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre, as well as other organizations and will be handled by an ad-

missions committee. A provincial government grant of \$730,000 will pay for the bulk of the costs, while the Ontario Society for Crippled Children has granted \$150,000 and local fund-raising has amounted to \$370,000.

Local fund-raising has been led by the Erindale-Mississauga Lions Club who, themselves, have raised over \$50,000. Fifteen other service clubs, including the Brampton Rotary Club, have also been active in fund-raising activities.

The Variety Club of Ontario, heavily involved in work with

the handicapped, have contributed \$35,000 and have an additional \$25,000 forthcoming. The building is designed by St. Catharines architect Robert Williams General, Ltd. Contractors are Newman Bros.

## Timing off for festival

A quirk of timing is keeping Georgetown Little Theatre from entering a one act drama festival.

The Oakville One Act Drama Festival, sponsored by the Oakville Players and the Oakville parks and recreation department, is to take place May

2 to 6 with the adjudication by Neil Freeman, associate dean of fine arts at York University.

"Our last play of the season goes on the last week in April," GLT spokesman Pat Jaynes told The Herald in an interview. "And then we have sum-

merfest the first week in June."

She said the company would need to put in a lot of effort to do well at the festival where over 12 local theatre groups from Oakville, Burlington, Guelph, Elora, Bramalea, Etobicoke and Toronto are vying for four awards in the categories of best one act play, best four actors, best director and four "free" awards. "A one act play needs at least three weeks of rehearsal."

She said the GLT has never been in this particular drama festival. "It's the way our season works out."



**CONTEST WINNER**

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