

Discrimination charge laid, bright school students suffer

Bright students in the Halton school system are being discriminated against, says a spokesman for Halton Council of Home and School Associations.

Lore Willis, told Halton board of education Thursday that gifted pupils in Halton schools are not given the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

The board has taken a step in the right direction by hiring two consultants to help set up a program for the gifted, she said.

"However, the educational opportunities offered still vary enormously between schools," Mrs. Willis said. "Some schools, which have a

fairly large number of bright children, manage to do quite a good job of providing both peer interaction and a challenging program for them. Most schools, however, do not fall into this category.

"They simply do not have gifted students in sufficient numbers to do so," Mrs. Willis said. "Although in-service training may help in dealing with the gifted, it would be unrealistic to expect teachers and principals in schools with a large number of slower learners to devote their energies to those, who at the moment do not seem to present an obvious problem."

She recommended an eight point program the board could adopt to end discrimination,

including a set of guidelines for parents of gifted children.

Other recommendations were that classes be set up to allow for peer interaction and a level of instruction commensurate with the student's level of ability; that the classes be staffed by teachers experienced in teaching gifted children; that a program for the gifted continue throughout the school career and that testing of students be provided at regular intervals to accommodate "late bloomers" and new comers.

She also recommended that the admission criteria for programs be widened to include highly motivated and creative students even if they fall slightly short of the levels required on standardized tests.

All specific studies show that congregated gifted students achieve a considerably enhanced academic standing over those that remain within their regular class, she said.

"Congregation appears to give gifted children a more realistic perspective of their abilities and challenges them to further efforts."

She said the cost of educating a bright child need not be higher than for an average child.

She said not providing the challenge, attention and peer interaction these students need merely creates problems later on as the high pre-university drop-out rate among them indicates.

In reply to a question by trustee Judy Alexander, Mrs. Willis said American studies indicated that up to 90 per cent of the bright children drop out of university in the first year.

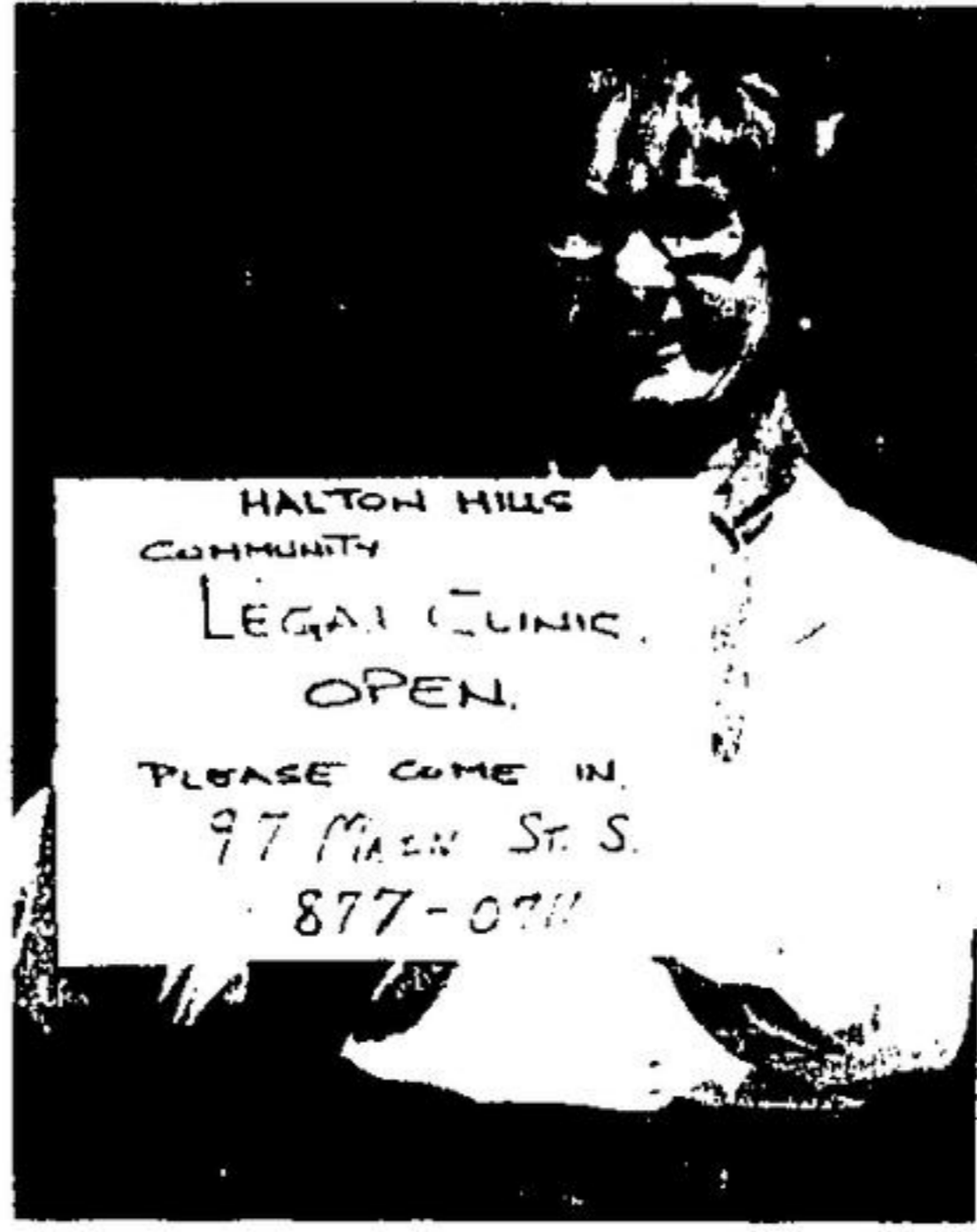
To trustee Florene Meares, Mrs. Willis said the association is not suggesting that the gifted students be completely segregated.

For trustee H.H. (Bert) Hinton, Mrs. Willis defined a gifted pupil as any child who shows himself significantly superior in achievement or ambition and who achieves beyond his age. It includes the highly motivated child as well and the rules should be widened, she added.

Mr. Hinton asked which of intellectual or academic ability was most important.

"The two go hand in hand," Mrs. Willis replied.

"They should but they don't," Mr. Hinton said. "We're talking about students and their life and they should have a balanced rather than an elitist education."



MOVED!
The sign says all

Police, town OK office lease

A draft copy of the lease between the town of Halton Hills and the Halton Police Commission was presented at the police commission meeting Thursday for discussion by the commissioners before the final lease is prepared.

The lease, which is for a portion of the Murray Memorial Y Building in Acton, where the police office is now located, is actually a sublease. The town has leased the entire building from the YM-YWCA, and is now leasing a portion to the police.

The major concerns of the commission involved parking, and the methods to be used to arrive at the figure which will represent the police force's share of utilities.

Since the police force is renting a portion approximately equal to 61 per cent of the building, the police will be paying a 61 per cent share in utilities, including heat and hydro. The lease also contains a provision for the police to pay a share in taxes, should the building become taxable.

Chief Ken Skerrett expressed concern about the lack of parking facilities. He said there is room for three cars to park at the rear of the building, "but there's a car parked

in there now with mud up to its chassis." He added that if the parking lot is cleaned up, there would be more room.

Arrangements have yet to be made for the erection of signs providing for police parking only, which will be maintained by the police force.

Commissioner Glenn Magnusson asked the chief if the parking problems were important.

"If I had a car I cared about, I wouldn't park it in there," the chief answered. "The lane leading into the area is very narrow, and the lot is very muddy."

The commission accepted the draft lease, subject to clarification on certain items dealing with definition of the space being leased.

Raw or Cooked?
A simple way to find out which eggs in your refrigerator are raw and which are cooked might be helpful. Simply spin the "questionable" eggs gently. Cooked eggs will spin and raw eggs will not. Another egg tip: Eggs which have been cracked in the cooking process should be used as soon as possible.

Acton Days an annual event

Acton Business Association's proposal to make Back-to-Acton days an annual event for the support of several local clubs and organizations at a preliminary meeting at the public library Thursday.

Association president Ed Wood and Louis Charlebois, Terry Grubbe, Bert Davidson and Val and Roger Caissie will form a special committee that will co-ordinate plans now being developed for the Canada Day celebration by most Acton service clubs and many other groups.

As was the case last year, the community's 97-year-old former town hall will be the focal point for the four-day affair, with the association inviting all merchants and participating groups to contribute a portion of their proceeds from the weekend toward the building's proposed renovation.

This year more than ever, though, the emphasis of the festivities will be on community activities, a concept which Vic Bristow best articulated when he wished aloud that Acton can rediscover some of the long-forgotten forms of entertainment that were popular in the "good old days."

Central to this concept of simple, inexpensive fun is the calithumpian parade, already being planned for July 1. Terry

Grubbe of the Acton Community Services Centre explained that the parade, featuring many costumes and much frivolity, was an annual Acton tradition for the long weekend for many years. It was regarded as highly-entertaining family fun by the entire community, she said.

At this point, virtually all of the plans remain tentative, with two exceptions. The Lions Club will be staging a bingo half-way along Mill Street, which will again be closed to vehicular traffic for the weekend. The club may also be selling photo portrait lapel buttons that would be made up on the spot, according to Mr. Bristow.

The guides and brownies have arranged to sell identification tags, an idea aimed at promoting community friendships.

Mr. Wood noted that commercial booths of all descriptions will be allowed downtown and this year for a change, their operators need not be concerned about business conflicts with nearby stores. The commercial aspect of Back to Acton Days 1978, in fact, is generally taking a back seat to the entertainment-oriented attractions.

Whether stores will seek special permission to open on holiday Saturday is a matter being left to the owners' discretion, but the business as-

sociation is recommending that the stores do open to generate more interest and activity downtown.

Karen King, of the Halton Hills recreation department reported that the town and the Murray Memorial YMCA may stage senior and youth fitness clinics and demonstrations of recreational programs. Children's games may be organized in Prospect Park, she added.

Val Caissie estimated that 40 per cent of the Credit Valley Artisans are Actonians and may be interested in setting up a booth to display their paintings, drawings and crafts.

Other activities being discussed include a repeat performance of last summer's

popular bluegrass concert, food and bake sales by the Scout and Guide mothers, continuous announcement of on-going events by the Acton Hillbillies Citizens Band Radio Club, a horseshow throwing tournament in the park and a box lunch auction and community picnic.

In tribute to Acton's senior citizens, some of whom provided the theme of the celebration by building the town hall, the YMCA is considering operating a pavilion where seniors could rest and enjoy free refreshments.

Local churches, sports groups and schools will be approached in coming weeks to take part in the activities,

Region budget

Continued From Page 1

\$9,833,000. Mr. Eriksen said police have taken more duties in north Halton but indicated that was not a justification of the increase.

"The police expenses have got out of hand," he said. "... and a \$10,000 reduction is not

Memorial endorsed

A memorial for the late Alfred Bridgen will be built around the flag pole at Hornby ball park.

Halton Hills council Monday approved the memorial after a plan was revealed by Spencer Wilson, spokesman for Hornby citizens.

Mr. Bridgen was the founder of Hornby ball park and of minor baseball in the village. He died in 1976.

Mr. Wilson said the residents of Hornby began collecting funds for the memorial in April, 1977. About 300 letters were sent out and the response was "wonderful," Mr. Wilson said. But the fund is still short about \$300.

He said the work would be done by July 1.

Coun. C.G. (Pat) Patterson greeted the request with favor. "Spencer and his group are doing well to honor the late mayor of Hornby for that's what he was known as," he said.

Mr. Wilson will show the plans again at the next works committee meeting at which time he is expected to ask the town for a donation for the memorial.

adequate."

Mayor Barrett replied that the police costs are in line with the high costs of regional government and if the costs of county government prior to 1974 were compared with regional government costs, the increase would be similar. He challenged the committee to cut operating costs to as low figures as the police budget.

Oakville Coun. Maclean Anderson interjected that there is not adequate citizen representation on the police commission but that it has the right to present its budget. The alternative is for the commission to appear before the Ontario Police Commission.


Coun. Mulkeewich charged that Mayor Barrett's remarks that the costs are in line with other costs is a "red herring."

He said that Mayor Barrett as a police commission member has control over police expenditures and a "philosophical reply" is not warranted.

The mayor has to bring up the figures requested and answer honestly, Mr. Mulkeewich said.


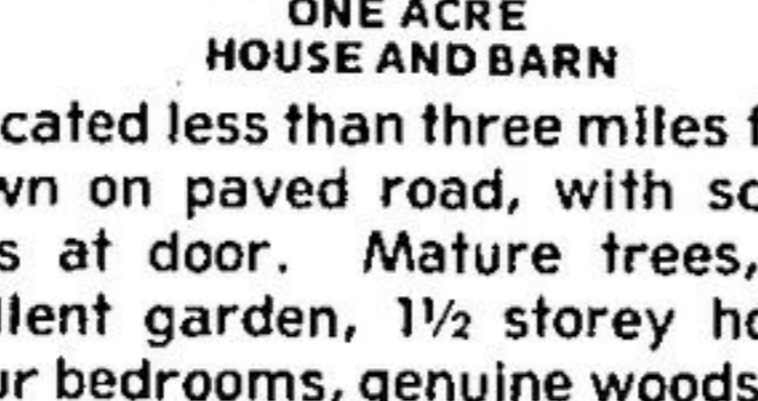







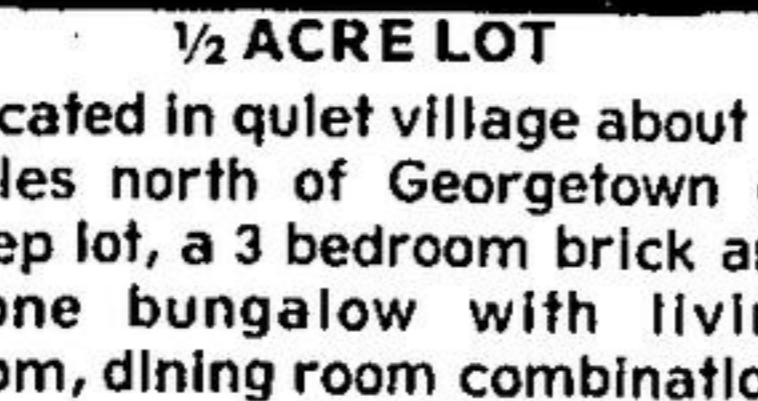






Mayor Barrett replied that policed costs in Halton are the lowest per capita in Ontario and also that the police crime rate clearance is the highest. Police costs are high Mayor Barrett said, but not when you make comparisons on a per capita basis.

Burlington Coun. David Cousins, also a police commissioner, said the commission has made efforts to make amendments and has recommended changes for judges and crown attorneys.



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CONCENTRATE ON COUNTRY

 <p>HALF ACRE Brick schoolhouse built in 1955 to government spec. Converted to 3 bedroom home with large living room, two kitchens and a 3 pc. bathroom. High and dry basement with walkout to treed yard. Excellent garden soil has excellent possibilities. Listed under \$35,000. Located just a min. to 89 hwy. 53 miles from Georgetown.</p>	 <p>ONE ACRE HOUSE AND BARN Located less than three miles from town on paved road, with school bus at door. Mature trees, excellent garden, 1 1/2 storey home, four bedrooms, genuine woodstove in very large country style kitchen. Needs some work but is still a good buy at under \$60,000.</p>	 <p>LARGE LOT Located in one of Brampton's most prestigious districts. This beautiful 4 bedroom home is dutch clean and beautifully decorated. Main floor family room, separate dining room, finished rec. room, 5th bedroom or den in basement. Professionally landscaped, inground pool. Asking \$105,000.</p>	 <p>2 1/2 ACRES 2 1/2 Acres, 5 minute drive to Trafalgar and 401. Stone and aluminum ranch bungalow, 2 fireplaces, large rec room, attached double garage. Professionally landscaped lot, 4,000 sq. ft. of woodshop. Ideal for small businesses. Listed at \$125,000.</p>
 <p>LOW DOWN PAYMENT 2 bedroom bungalow on quiet street within walking distance to downtown. 50x100' lot, detached garage, mature trees and private drive. Listed at \$42,900. Immediate possession.</p>	 <p>NEW LISTING 3 bedroom bungalow on quiet court. Home and lot extremely well cared for. Walking distance to schools and shopping. Listed in the low \$40's.</p>	 <p>ONE THIRD OF ACRE Hillside property about one third acre with panoramic view. Living room has cathedral ceiling design and open staircase to upper floor with 3 bedrooms and walkout to deck. Kitchen with dining area, plus family room on main floor and 4 pc. bath. Excellent finishing touches have been added by builder owner. Asking \$72,500.</p>	 <p>37 ACRES 4 bedrooms, high ceilings, pine floors, wide pine trim and open staircase. TV room, family room with rec room under construction. Several acres reforested. 37 acres excellent farmland. 2 1/2 miles from 401 and Trafalgar Rd.</p>
 <p>1/2 ACRE LOT 1/2 Acre property on a ravine lot. 3 bedroom bungalow overlooking beautiful Terra Cotta. Low, low price at \$57,500.</p>	 <p>1/2 ACRE LOT Located in quiet village about 15 miles north of Georgetown on deep lot, a 3 bedroom brick and stone bungalow with living room, dining room combination. Stone fireplace and eat-in kitchen. Walking distance to store and public school. Asking \$58,500.</p>	 <p>ALMOST 2 ACRES Three bedroom chalet with beamed ceilings and pine floors. Stone fireplace in living room, spring fed pond and small bush. On paved road. Asking \$89,900.</p>	 <p>1 1/2 ACRES Beautiful four bedroom two storey home on 1 1/2 acres, rolling hills, gorgeous view of Credit Valley. Cracking fireplace, professionally decorated, three bedrooms, 2 1/2 car garage.</p>
<p>BETTER THAN RENT In top condition with living room, kitchen and hall recently carpeted. Fridge, stove, washer and dryer included. Deck and closed porch entrance attached. Located on rented lot in attractive park area. Asking \$23,000.</p>	 <p>13 ACRES Rolling hills and green acres surround this beautiful four bedroom tri-level brick home. Formal entrance, living room with fireplace and separate dining room. Three bathrooms, double car garage. Swimming pool with deck. Horse barn and many, many more extras. Asking \$189,000.</p>	 <p>97 ACRES 97 acres of good farm land, large bank barn. 4 bedroom log house aluminum sided is well preserved. Wood burning fireplace in living room, large family kitchen, 1 1/2 baths, main floor laundry room. Full basement under main house. Grand Valley area. Asking \$86,500. 37 miles north of Georgetown.</p>	 <p>10 ACRES Brick and stone back split on 10 acres, with 25x40 barn, property fully fenced, 10 min. drive from Brampton, exceptionally well built home, with central vac. intercom, beautiful top quality broadloom throughout, appliances include stove, fridge and dishwasher. Listed at \$159,000. A must to see, if you are looking for a country property that has quality, location and price.</p>
 <p>BRAND NEW - 10 ACRES Solid stone home on 10 acres with panoramic view. This home comes with many beautiful features. Walkout to sundeck over 3 car garage, intercom system, central vac. Large family room with stone fireplace, formal dining room. Basement high and dry with roughed in fireplace and much, much more. Listed at \$194,000. Truly an exquisite country home and priced to sell.</p>			