

Little known nurses

Public health nurse duties

Continued from page 13

are both welcome to attend the classes, which include a tour of the hospital, she said.

Public health nurses regularly hold senior citizens' clinics at the senior citizens' residences in town. The clinics are held on the first Thursday of each month at the John T. Armstrong apartments on Durham Street, and they alternate on the third Monday of each month at Kincaid and Sargent Court, Mrs. Wood said.

CHECK BLOOD

At these clinics, the nurses check the senior citizens' blood pressure, weight and urine, and help them care for their feet. Foot care is a problem for senior citizens who aren't flexible enough to reach their feet, and whose vision is declining, she said.

It isn't necessary to be a resident at these apartments to attend a clinic, Mrs. Wood said. Any member of the public can call and make an appointment to attend a clinic, she said.

The public health care program is doing its share to reduce medical costs with its home care program, Mrs. Wood said. In many cases, the home care program can shorten or prevent a hospital stay, she said.

Services available to patients in their own homes include physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech correction, Victorian Order of Nurses, lab services and homemaking, Mrs. Wood said. All these services are available free of charge to the patient. However, the family must be involved, she said, because none of the services,

including homemaking, are available on a 24-hour basis.

The Halton Regional Health Unit is involved with the Alcohol and Drug Addiction treatment program, which is a four-year-old pilot program sponsored by the Addiction Research Foundation in Toronto. The health unit does the initial assessment of people applying for the program, and refers them to an agency which can help them. The public health nurse is involved in co-ordinating the services, Mrs. Wood said.

IN TOUCH

There are 41 public health nurses in Halton. Seven of the nurses are based in Halton Hills. The health unit also employs 12 registered nurses and seven registered nursing assistants, Mrs. Wood said.

The health unit is funded 75 per cent by the province and 25

per cent by the region, she said.

"We get a lot of satisfaction out of putting people in touch with the services that make life easier for them," Mrs. Wood said. "It's really gratifying to visit a senior citizen who's so pleased about the Meals on Wheels program or some service like that."

"You have to care about people and about the community to be a public health nurse," Mrs. Bennett said. "You have to have empathy. People come to us with a lot of problems, and we have to be able to identify their needs and how we can best help them."

"We deal with the activities

of daily living," she said. "It's hard to gauge the effect of what we do, because it's tied up with prevention and teaching. We don't get instant satisfaction, but sooner or later we'll hear from someone that our services were appreciated."

Mrs. Wood said she would like to remind the public that the health services are available to members of the public free of cost, and the health unit can be contacted at 877-2238. Members of the public can also visit the health unit in person, in the medical building on Princess Anne Drive on the other side of the hospital.



CASH FROM THE COLONEL

On Wednesday September 5 Carole Pfeiffer on behalf of Col. Sanders Chicken Villa in Georgetown presented Optimist president John Horning of the Georgetown Optimist Club with a cheque for \$400.00 to be used for youth activities and community services in the Georgetown area.

Tennant is chairman of hydro commission

Albert V. Tennant was elected chairman of the new Halton Hills Hydro Electric Commission at its inaugural meeting Friday.

Vice-chairman is Wilfred McEachern. Under the provincial government Bill 119 which established hydro commissions for each of Halton's four municipalities, it was decreed that Halton Hills' commission consist of the town's mayor, two members of the Georgetown commission and one from Acton commission as they existed immediately prior to the new act coming into force, and one resident from the area of the town not served by the two old commissions.

Following these directions Halton Hills council appointed William Smith and Albert Tennant of Georgetown, Wilfred McEachern of Acton and Muri Allison of H.R.I., Georgetown as the commission members for the area until its term expires on November 30, 1980.

On April 1 the commission will have the sole right to supply and distribute power in Halton Hills. This will entail establishing a uniform rate for customers in similar classifications throughout the town, as well as appointing staff to proceed with negotiations involving assets and responsibilities associated with restructuring and to arrange for the transfer of customers to the new utility.

Customers will be notified of

commencement of operation, rate structures, customer policies and available service by direct mailing and/or media. The new utility will have

approximately 11,500 customers, 6,000 from Georgetown, 2,500 from Acton and 3,000 served by Ontario Hydro in the rural areas.

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Heslop Court homes okayed

A proposed 5.8-acre extension to Heslop Court in Georgetown, which will add 28 new homes, has been granted conditional approval by Halton regional council.

The draft plan submitted by Rex Heslop Holdings Ltd. passed both the regional planning committee and regional council last Wednesday after members agreed on several conditions designed to resolve outstanding concerns.

The development firm plans to build 28 single family homes on a portion of a 16.3-acre site which will eliminate the turning circle at the end of Heslop Court and create an extension of the same road.

While 12 of the 16 municipal and provincial agencies invited to comment on the proposal had no objections, some concerns arose among the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, the town of Halton Hills and the region's own public works department.

The Conservation Authority expressed reservations about slope stability at the proposed site, prompting the developer to launch a geotechnical study which has resolved concerns

about possible erosion. Similarly, three revisions to the proposal suggested by Halton Hills council have been made, and servicing concerns noted by the public works department have been met.

In all, some 19 conditions of approval were imposed, ranging from the basic technical aspects of the proposal itself to the necessity for a detailed vegetation plan to be submitted to the town engineer.

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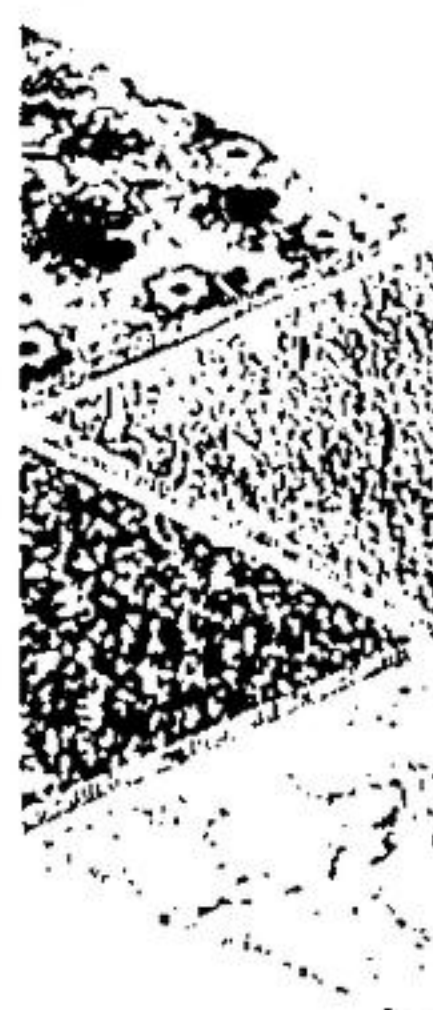
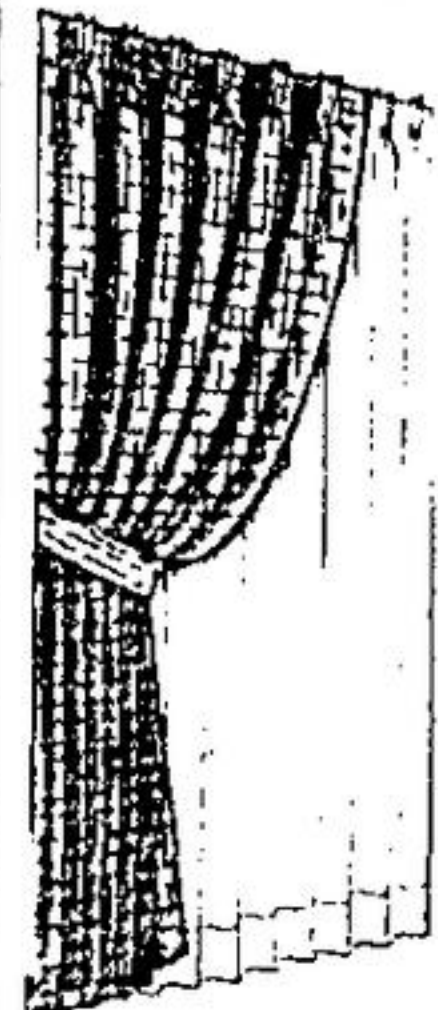


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