

Sunshine sale opposed

Herald Special
Efforts by Acton area school trustee Betty Fisher to prevent the sale of Sunshine School when it closes in June failed Thursday.

Mrs. Fisher told the Halton Board of Education she has been contacted by several Halton Hills people who want to see the school returned to the North Halton Association for the Mentally Handicapped when the board phases it out at the end of the school year.

The school was built originally through the fund-raising efforts of volunteers, and Mrs. Fisher said she is opposed to the board letting it go to anyone else when the Association would like to have it back. The school was given to the board in 1969 when all Halton public schools were put under the control of the single board.

Business and finance superintendent Bruce Lindley said the association might be able to get the school back but it appears unlikely they would get it for \$1, as had been requested.

"Unfortunately, we have a precedent that spoils that," he said. "When Lynwood School in Oakville was closed as

redundant, we sold it to the region of Halton for a day care centre. Since they bought the school, I expect the association will also be expected to buy Sunshine."

The association won't even get first crack at the school, he said. It must be offered to other educational organizations first. This means that the North Halton Association and the Halton Separate School Board have first refusal on the brick building on Trafalgar Road just north of Steeles Avenue. After them comes the town of Halton Hills and the region of Halton. Other government agencies follow that and public tenders are called when none of these three want the building. If no tenders are received, a sale can be worked out by negotiation, he said.

Burlington trustee Bill Priestner also opposed the sale of the school, only on different grounds. He opposed the integration of trainable mentally handicapped students into regular schools and said he feels that in a few years, the board will want the facility again because mentally handicapped students will be being removed from these integrated schools.

"I feel in ten years the pendulum will swing back and we'll be looking for a school for

these students again," he said. "We'll pay a lot more then for a building for them. I think we

should keep it." Only six board members voted against the sale.



SUPER SCOUTS

Two Scouts from Halton Hills received the highest award in scouting at a special ceremony at Halton Regional headquarters Sunday. John McPhail, 15, and Evan Siddals, 14, were both presented with the Chief Scout Award Sunday. Twelve of the

awards were presented to Halton scouts. John is a member of the 1st Ashgrove Group, and Evan is a member of the 5th Georgetown Group.

(Herald photo)

FIRST-TIMERS MAKE CLINIC SUCCESS

Red Cross officials reported this week that 349 donors attended the Georgetown Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic Monday and donated 314 blood packs.

Thirty-five people were rejected for various reasons, including medications, active allergies, etc. There were 52 new donors, of which 46 were first-timers. The Kinsmen Club of Georgetown sponsored this

successful clinic. They gave special assistance with poster distribution, advertising and their club's "Bucket of Blood" promotion, which the Kinsmen themselves won this year, topping nearly a dozen other service clubs.

Next regular clinic for Georgetown will be Monday, August 11. Attendance is very important during the summer holidays.



Despite Mark Clairmont's grimaces (staff at The Herald agree the man's a born ham), the donating of blood is a relatively painless procedure, as Herald staffer Lori Taylor (right) will attest. Attending the two at Monday's Red Cross clinic are Fay LeClair (left) and Ann Noble.

(Herald photo)

Consolidation still possible

Herald Special
Although local politicians are trying to get help for an Acton business so it can purchase a new facility and consolidate, there has been little progress to date.

Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy said last week he sat in on meetings between Frank Heller and Company Ltd. owners Ron Heller and Fred Dawkins and representatives of the Ontario Development Corporation, Ontario ministry of Industry and tourism and Halton's business development officer last week.

"The only progress I can report so far is that the meeting was held," he said.

Last month, Heller's general manager Fred Dawkins announced that an expected deal for his company to buy the closed Disston plant from Sandvik Canadian Ltd. had fallen through.

Heller's has three plants, two in Acton and one in Georgetown. The move would have consolidated their operations.

In announcing the collapse of the tentative

agreement between the two companies, which had been negotiating since December, Mr. Dawkins pointed to high interest rates, the slow economy and lack of government aid as culprits behind the failure to complete the deal.

The meetings with government representatives has encouraged him, he said, and notes that the drop in interest rates is the key factor in reviving the talks.



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Georgetown Area Ratepayers Association.

is holding their annual general meeting and elections. The Agenda will include a review of the Master Parks Plan.

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