



Halton Hills' new Ward 2 local Coun. Pam Sheldon (top left) led one of several workshops on the problems facing rural Halton today during a special "Farm Forum" in Milton Saturday. Sponsored by the Rural Development Outreach Program in conjunction with the Halton agricultural advisory committee, the forum approached such problems as land speculation, the

problems with urban encroachment on agricultural land and the changing pattern of life in Halton's rural communities. Most of the groups, although dealing with different subject areas and concerns in rural Halton, agreed that rural people need greater representation at all levels of government to help preserve their unique lifestyle. (Herald photo)

**RDOP Farm Forum**

# Need urban awareness of 'ruralities'

By CHRIS AAGAARD  
Herald Staff Writer

Emphasizing the need for improved public awareness about the province's rural communities, Durham regional chairman Walter Beath warned Saturday that outdated attitudes toward the farming industry have to change if it is to co-exist with increasing urban encroachment into the rural areas.

"One of today's biggest needs in the agricultural industry is public relations," Mr. Beath told the 60 people gathered at Milton's Centennial Manor for the Halton Farm Forum.

"Perhaps one of our greatest assets is the hobby or estate-type farmer," Mr. Beath said. "They sit on boards of directors, or are the executives of

the town and they have the ear of the press and access to the media."

The popular but ill-concerned picture of the farmer as the fellow out in his field, pitch fork in hand, should be laid to rest, he said, noting that modern agriculture requires a farmer to be well-read and up-to-date on changes being made within the industry.

"Rural" doesn't mean

agriculture alone," Mr. Beath said. "It means farming, recreation, forests and the aggregate industry as well. But agriculture was and still is the only industry that is an essential industry in this country."

Advocating a sound rural planning program, Mr. Beath warned against the destruction of good agricultural land by development, land speculation and even bad leasing policies to other farmers. He indicated that, as the amount of arable land is reduced in the U.S., Canadians may not be prepared to grow formerly imported crops if there is not enough land available within the right climatic area.

Canada," Mr. Beath said. "We have an ample supply of food without concern, without question of its quality."

If it was not for the tax reductions and subsidies available in the agricultural industry, the production costs involved in operating a farm would be entirely dumped on the consumer, he said. Other industries such as car manufacturers and oil companies receive similar grants, Mr. Beath added.

# Five men arrested after bank hold-ups

Halton Regional Police arrested five men Friday evening in connection with a series of bank robberies in Toronto and recovered over \$20,000 in cash.

The five were charged with armed robbery or with being an accessory after the fact. One man was charged with use of a firearm during the commission of an indictable offence. Only one of the five men is a local resident.

Staff Sgt. Paul Chapman of Halton Regional Police said a bank on Jane Street in Toronto had been held up Friday by two masked men, who escaped with \$26,000.

"As a result of information received, Metro police asked us to check a house at 4

Mackenzie Dr. about a suspect vehicle," he said.

Detectives Bob Waller and Bruce Richards investigated the report, but the vehicle was not there, so a stake-out was set up. Staff Sgt. Chapman said.

At about 6:30 p.m., two cars left the house. Constable Brian Farrell stopped one car on Mountainview Road at Armstrong Avenue and found a handgun and other evidence in the car.

The second car was stopped at the liquor store in the Georgetown Market Plaza. Police found a shopping bag with a large quantity of money in the car. Three men were arrested in the two vehicles and taken to the Georgetown

police station "without incident," Staff Sgt. Chapman said.

Several Metro officers arrived in Georgetown later in the evening and a warrant was executed at the house on Mackenzie Drive, where two more men were arrested and charged, the staff sergeant said.

The charges are in connection with a series of six bank robberies which occurred in Toronto over the past four years.

Charged are Randolph Gordon Lunn, 27, of Glen Williams, charged with being an accessory after the fact and possession of stolen property over \$200. David Lunn, 24, of no fixed address, charged with armed robbery; Kevin Patrick Bailey, 28, charged with being an accessory after the fact; James Charles Moore, 35, of Toronto, charged with armed robbery and use of a firearm during the commission of an indictable offence; and David Joseph White, 31, of Brampton, charged with being an accessory after the fact.

Mr. Bailey and Mr. White will be tried in Halton, while the rest will appear in court in Toronto. A bail hearing for the two men will be held this afternoon (Wednesday) at 2 p.m. in provincial court in Milton.

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## St. George's bazaar prize

The winner of the draw for a quilt held at St. George's Anglican Church bazaar Nov. 22 was Andrew Henwood of Irwin Crescent in Georgetown, who held ticket 483.

## Sorority raffle

The Xi Delta Beta Sorority of Georgetown will hold a doll raffle for a "My Friend Andy" ensemble Dec. 16. A chestful of clothes and a handmade bed come with the doll on view at the Langercraft store until the end of the week and then featured at Col-Craft the following week. Tickets (three for \$1 or 50 cents a piece) are available at Langercraft, Col-Craft and Toy Magic, or call 877-5323.

## Historical Christmas

The Esqueving Historical Society is planning a Christmas Party at the Halton Regional Museum in Milton Dec. 10. A bus going to the museum will leave the rear parking lot behind Silver's department store at 7 p.m. and return by 11 p.m. after a social evening by the museum's fireplace. The \$2.50 per ticket price covers bus fare, admission to the museum and refreshments. If you have not been approached by a member of the Society to buy a ticket, call 877-3404, 2803 or 3209.

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# No further knife worries?

Halton Regional Police report there have been no further incidents involving a man armed with a knife in Acton in the past two weeks.

Police are investigating a series of incidents involving a man armed with a knife who is alleged to have attacked two young women and followed some boys in Acton. There have been no further incidents since Nov. 15, and police believe the man has either left Acton or gone underground.

A composite drawing of a suspect was released last week, with a request that anyone with any information about the man fitting that description contact police.

The drawing came from a description by a witness. The suspect is a white male

between the ages of 19 and 25. He is about five feet, seven inches tall with a medium build. His hair is thought to be straight and brown, and he has a moustache that curves around his mouth to the edges of his bottom lip.

The man is alleged to have attacked a woman on Tyler Avenue, trying to force her into his car at knifepoint. A young girl alleges that she was indecently assaulted in her apartment a few hours after the first attack.

The description of the man involved in the two attacks matches fairly closely with the description of the man who has been seen several times in the vicinity of St. Joseph's School, and police think they are looking for one man in both cases.

As opposed to urban encroachment on rural areas, Mr. Beath said he could see nothing wrong with basic industries, such as agriculture, moving closer to major cities to take advantage of close, readily-available marketplaces.

"The farm's contribution to the economy is nothing short of spectacular," Mr. Beath explained. "The money is spent locally for seeds and equipment."

Urbanites moving into rural areas, meanwhile, should learn to appreciate the comforts and bear up to some of the discomforts of living in the country and suggested that newcomers adhere to a "code of practice" as farmers have received from the provincial government.

Farm smells, Mr. Beath said, pose no danger to human health; however, garbage strewn recklessly over rural property or dogs running loose and endangering livestock greatly affect the agricultural livelihood in rural communities.

Mr. Beath also criticized public complaints about rising food costs and the tendency to blame the farmer and government subsidies he is given to operate his business for the increases.

"The fact of the matter is we have a cheap food policy in

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<b>ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH</b> Anglican REV. ROSWELL TEES Sunday, December 7, 1980 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist Junior Church - Nursery 11 a.m. Morning Prayer	<b>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> Sunday, December 7, 1980 PASTOR: REV. DR. J.M. DRICKAMER Sunday November 9, 1980 8:45 a.m. Church Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Church Service Church of the Lutheran Hour

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