

Backstage 'army' works towards Dracula's success

Herald Special
With painstaking care, the scene-painter had faithfully reproduced the design of the motif surmounting the fireplace on the set of "Count Dracula" from sketches supplied by set designer Sonya Bell. Altogether it had been an hour's work from start to finish. But it took only one look at the finished effect to convince Mrs. Bell that her original concept "just wouldn't work" - and to direct that it be painted over and work begun again.

"It's always hard to tell someone their work has been a wasted effort - particularly when we're all volunteers," recalled Mrs. Bell. "It had looked so right when I sketched it, but once up on the set it looked too Baroque."

The scene-painter, Linda Roe, far from being upset at the decision, agreed with Mrs. Bell.

"Obviously, one doesn't like to do an hour's work for nothing - but it simply didn't



What would Count Dracula be without his coffin? The Audience at GLT's "Count Dracula" this weekend won't find out, thanks to the efforts of the backstage crew, which constructed this coffin, as well as being responsible for the set design and construction. Edna Ferguson (left) and Sonya Bell, who is responsible for the set decor, worked on the finishing touches to the coffin Monday evening while the cast completed the first of three dress rehearsals. (Herald photo)

look right. And getting it right is the important thing."

This concern for detail and authenticity in stage sets, as well as properties and costumes, has been a hallmark of Georgetown Little Theatre productions over its 21 seasons.

"Count Dracula" is the group's entry in the Association of Community Theatres-Central Ontario annual drama festival. The show, which opens Friday at Sacre Coeur Church Hall, will be adjudicated next week by Marie Hoppe. The backstage crew - in addition to the actors - has been working almost solidly for two months to make this comedy-thriller an outstanding production.

Dorothy Hunt, whose telephone has not stopped ringing since she became producer, said the impetus to "really pull out all the stops on this set" came when she heard the Festival Adjudicator tell Bramalea Little Theatre that she had "never seen a better set" and that she did "not expect to see a better one" during the remainder of her festival travels.

ARMY TOOLS
Said Mrs. Hunt: "You can be sure I'll be listening closely to the adjudicator's remarks regarding our set!"

So too will a veritable army of backstage workers, many of whom toil production after production out of the limelight. Les and Jo Heed are prime examples. About 10 years ago a former GLT member asked Les to "give him a hand" on a Little Theatre production. Mr. Heed enjoyed the work and the camaraderie, so helped out with other plays. A year later he and Jo became members, both devoting all their energies to backstage work.

Often now regarded as the seemingly tireless back-bone of the regular set-construction crew, Mr. Heed's past handiwork has included the building of a full-scale suit of armour complete with a detachable halberd, designed to fall exactly at the moment the villain of the piece passed by ("The

Numberly Inheritance"). In "Count Dracula", Mr. Heed's contribution to special effects - which this time are being co-ordinated by Ron Hunt - remain a closely-guarded

newcomer Ian Oldaker who moved to town a year ago from Manitoba where he was heavily involved with theatre.

Mr. Oldaker, who enjoys directing, has performed similar lighting chores with Hamilton Place and the Oakville Performing Arts Centre. His wife Yvonne, a professional

ballet teacher and examiner, will be assisting with refreshments.

"It's just that kind of a group," said Mrs. Hunt. "There's a place for anyone who is not afraid of a bit of work and who is willing to pitch in wherever required." Dress designer Barbel

Schirm, who is heading up costume design and wardrobe for "Count Dracula", joined the group about two years ago. In that time, however, she has volunteered for other duties including successfully coordinating the season's opening night benefit wine and cheese

Continued on page A8



the HERALD Entertainment

Serve groups of
15-30-50-200
or more.

Colonel Sanders

"do-it-yourself" BUFFET

only \$2.35 per person

See the manager of your local store for details.
Sun. - Thurs. - 11:30 - 12 Fri. - Sat. - 11:30 - 1:00

chicken Villa

116A GUELPH STREET GEORGETOWN 877-5241



CHANTEURS
CELEBRES

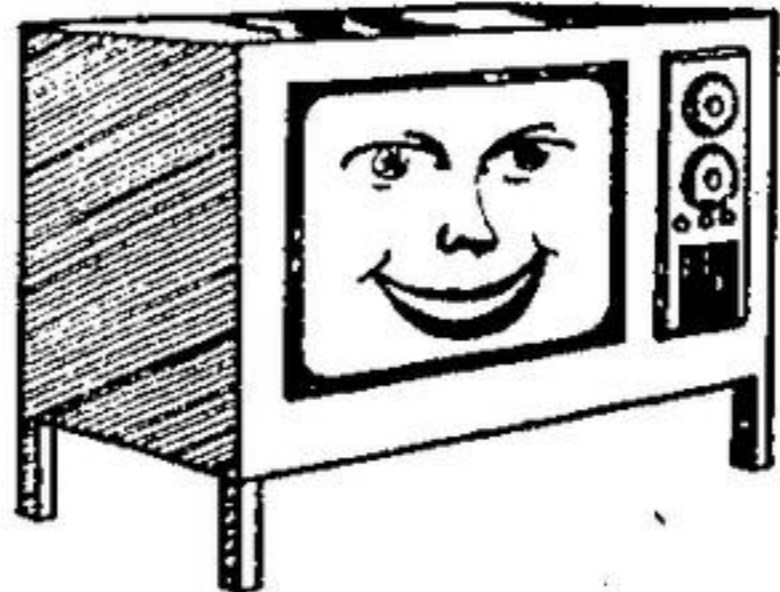
Les Tournesols, founded five years ago to help promote the French language in Ontario, did just that Sunday afternoon at Sacre Coeur Church hall in Georgetown, thrilling a large audience of all ages with their musical expertise. Under the direction of Sister Gisèle Pilon, the instrumental-vocal group has represented the city of Ottawa at the Ontario Arts Festival, has performed in concert from St. Catharines to North Bay to Ottawa's National Arts Centre, has appeared on television and has recorded two albums that have been well-received in the U.S. and Europe. Sunday's bilingual performance was arranged by Ecole Sacre Coeur principal Michel Serre.

(Herald photo by Harald Branch)



The Ottawa-based vocal and instrumental group Les Tournesols put on an impressive show at Sacre Coeur Church hall in Georgetown Sunday afternoon, combining 75 young talents who've enjoyed extensive performing experience around the province during the past six years.

HAPPINESS IS 18 CHANNELS



IS YOUR TV SET HAPPY?

- 2 BUFFALO
- 4 BUFFALO
- 5 TORONTO
- 6 GLOBAL
- 7 BUFFALO
- 9 TORONTO
- 11 HAMILTON
- 13 KITCHENER
- 19 TORONTO
- 25 TORONTO
- 79 TORONTO
- 4 LOCAL

- PLUS! On Your Converter
- 3 BARRIE
 - 10 LONDON
 - 12 PETERBOROUGH
 - 17 BUFFALO
 - 29 BUFFALO
 - 47 TORONTO
- AND MORE COMING

and no interference from planes, cars, trucks and trains. Good solid pictures, solid colours. On cable, your TV works the way it was intended to.

CALL US FOR DETAILS **877-0181**
AFTER HOURS PLEASE CALL 877-0183



Halton Cable Systems Ltd.

HALTON HILLS ARTS COUNCIL Movie night

The Credit Valley Artisans welcome one and all to an informative arts and crafts movie night March 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Cedarvale Park Cottage in Georgetown. As well as "Creating with Ceramics" and "Creating with Watercolor", there'll be a biographical film about revered French painter Henri Matisse. For those unfamiliar with any of these subjects, the evening offers a perfect introduction.



Neville Worsnop, director of the current Georgetown Little Theatre production of "Count Dracula", is busy with rehearsals for another play. Mr. Worsnop is co-starring with Brampton performer Doreen Boss in a production of the Bernard Slade comedy "Same Time Next Year" at the Lester B. Pearson Theatre in the Bramalea Civic Centre March 20 and 21. The play is being sponsored by the Rotary Club of Brampton South to benefit a community project. Tickets are available at the theatre box office or by calling 792-4600.

Cable 4 this week

Start your evening of TV entertainment with Cable 4.



Presenting your community 4 nights a week, Tuesday to Friday. Call us for details at 877-0182.

TUESDAY! WEDNESDAY! THURSDAY!

DINNER SPECIAL Just **\$5.95**

MENU
SOUP OF THE DAY
GARLIC BREAD
PLUS YOUR CHOICE OF

- Filet of Sole Almondine... Bred in Sweet Butter, Topped with Toasted Almonds.
- Wiener Schnitzel... Served to a rich golden brown.
- Shrimp Pioneer... Served with Rice Pilaf, Curry Sauce.
- Chicken Cordon Bleu... Served with Rice Pilaf, Sauquetiere
- Brochette of Beef... Cubes of Choice Tenderloin, Mushrooms, Green Pepper. Served on a Bed of Fluffy Rice.
- Roast Beef Au Jus

THE Cellar DINING LOUNGE
877-0288
YOUR HOST - GABE SARA
THE OLD BANK DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN

CANADIAN ODEON THEATRES GEORGETOWN 3

- 1 "COAL MINERS DAUGHTER"
Wed., Thurs. "Ordinary People"
 - 2 HELD OVER AND GREAT WEEK
Gene Wilder - Richard Pryor
"STIR CRAZY"
Warning: some language may be offensive - Theatres Br. Ont.
Weekdays: 7:00, 9:20
Sat., Sun.: 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
 - 3 "INSIDE MOVES"
Warning: some language may be offensive
Weekdays: 7:00, 9:20
Sat., Sun.: 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
- Wed., Thurs.: "Seems Like Old Times"
235 GUELPH ST. 877 6232

EXCHANGE TAVERN
37 KING ST. 877-3541
GEORGETOWN
- ENTERTAINMENT -
Thurs., Fri., Sat., Feb. 19, 20, 21
"SEAN CONNON & GUEST"
Hot and cold lunches 877-3541

presenting.....
for your dancing & listening pleasure
Thurs., Fri. & Sat.
Feb. 26, 27, 28
"Tega"
Also..... TREAT YOURSELF!
to our dining room features
• Roast Beef • Corned Beef
• Chicken Wings • Hamburgers
• Ham & Cheese sandwiches

DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN'S ENTERTAINMENT SPOT
The McGibbon Hotel 877-3388
DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN