



### DARREN WON'T BE HUNGRY LONG

One of the more popular displays at Zeller's last Saturday was this bake sale arrangement prepared by the United Church Women of St. John's Church on Georgetown's Guelph Street. An exuberant Darren Hugel of Burlington is joined by (left to right) Flora Alcott, Fran Crichton, Ruth Evans, Janet Milton and little Wendy Dixon. Bon appetit, Darren!

## Furlong leaving Georgetown after 13 years

# GDHS principal retiring

After 13 years as principal of Georgetown and District High School, a period that saw the school's student population rise by 500 while the students' academic and athletic achievements simultaneously rose in stature, Michael Furlong is retiring at the end of the current term.

Mr. Furlong formally advised the Halton Board of Education of his intention by letter at Thursday night's meeting, noting that he had reached the age and level of experience that usually accompanies retirement from the educational system.

In a specially-extended meeting Monday night, the board appointed Don Baker as Mr. Furlong's replacement in Georgetown. Mr. Baker is currently vice-principal of White Oaks Secondary School in Oakville. Bill Thom and Dick Scott will continue as GDHS vice-principals next season, the board decided, making no other changes among secondary school faculties in north Halton for the 1981-82 year.

Mr. Furlong told The Herald Monday he'll spend the summer at his family's cottage considering several possible fields of activity for future years. After about two decades spent administering schools within an increasingly complex system, he said,

he'd like to find "some pleasant employment" that's "not too stressful". He's got a few ideas where he'd like to work next, he said, but has made no decision.



MIKE FURLONG

Mr. Furlong was appointed principal of GDHS in 1968 after serving as vice-principal of Dr. G.W. Williams High School in Aurora for five years. Prior to that, he'd headed the physical education department and taught math and other subjects at Sault Ste. Marie High School in Stoney Creek after completing his studies at the University of Toronto and the College of Education.

Raised in Port Colborne, Mr. Furlong and his family moved to Georgetown soon after his reappointment, but

moved again to Burlington several years ago.

In his 13 years as head of GDHS, Mr. Furlong has watched the student population grow from about 1,300 to a high of roughly 2,000 four years ago, then gradually decline with the nationwide trend to 1,842 this year. Enrollment is expected to be 1,723 next September.

GDHS itself has been growing consistently since its construction, but two of the main additions took place while Mr. Furlong was principal. The current cafeteria, with its much-used stage facilities, was built onto the original structure about the same time as his arrival, while the large indoor pool was added a few years ago.

Most impressive has been the school's growth in provincial status during that same 13-year period. The more recent years have seen GDHS athletes and students involved in other extra-curricular activities boost the school's ranking into the top five - if not the pinnacle - among Ontario secondary schools. Mr. Furlong cites consistently positive feedback from the universities regarding GDHS graduates as proof that Georgetown alumni are better trained than most other Ontario high schoolers.

"Probably the thing I'll

remember most fondly about this school is the really terrific bunch of students here," he commented. "We have our problem students the same as all schools do, but on the whole they're really great kids."

"And I have to credit the staff here as well, the way they've worked with me. I've had more than my share of co-operation and commitment from them. Most of them are always upgrading themselves by taking summer courses. I don't think you'll ever get a better group than this one I've had the pleasure of working with."

Acknowledging his mixed feelings over the kinds of changes Ontario's educational system has experienced in recent years, Mr. Furlong commented that those changes must reflect society's own evolution, as "hard to accept" as they sometimes might be.

"These days (educators) have to be quite skilled in human relations," he said,

noting that relations between school administrators and faculty members, as well as between teachers and students, continue to become more complicated.

"When I came here, the principal was always very authoritarian in the school," he said. "Now, the staff fully expects to be part of every decision, at least in a consultation basis."

Mr. Furlong said there will be no formal announcement to the students regarding his imminent departure. He'd already been asked to write some "parting comments" for the school yearbook, he laughed, so the word is obviously getting around.

And, as one of his fellow "sons of the Emerald Isle" - a GDHS teacher - has reminded Mr. Furlong, "We Irishmen cry when we read the phonebook"; thus, no organized going-away party among the students is expected. No fan of the "long goodbye", Mr. Furlong would prefer to take his leave quietly.

### Jaycees say a big thankyou

The Georgetown Jaycees are hosting an all-club appreciation night May 6 at Howie's Restaurant in Georgetown to say thanks for the help they received during this year's Winterfest. Guests are invited to arrive between 7 and 7:30 p.m. For further information call Bill Pshyk at 877-6702 after 6 p.m.

## Hydro's independence, rates targets for reappointed critic

**Herald Special**  
The reappointment of Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed as energy critic for the Ontario Liberal Caucus was announced last Tuesday at Queen's Park by Opposition Leader Stuart Smith.

"Julian Reed has been one of the most effective Opposition Critics in any field over the last four years", Dr. Smith said. "He has an

### Thom to chair social planning council

Top positions on the North Halton Social Planning Council formed last November were filled during the council's annual meeting Thursday night.

Georgetown and District High School vice-principal Bill Tom, one of the founders of the group dedicated to bolstering social services in north Halton, has been appointed chairman. Dolly Moulden is treasurer and Sandy Symmes vice-chairman. A co-chairman and secretary have yet to be appointed.

The council ratified its first constitution and will shortly begin dividing its 22-member board of directors into sub-committees.

Mr. Thom told The Herald Tuesday that the council will continue to work toward establishing a volunteer bureau in the area, with offices in Milton, Georgetown and Acton. Once the branch offices are opened, potential volunteers can get information about the type of work they want to do.

Meanwhile, the council has expressed its concern about the region's intent to switch to "purchase of service" agreements to provide family counselling throughout Halton. While private counselling organizations from which the region can purchase service are readily available in Oakville and Burlington, north Halton relied heavily on the family counselling of Halton's own advisor, Betty Hill. The group hopes to insure that family counselling services in the area are maintained after the switch takes place.



JULIAN REED

almost encyclopedic knowledge of the whole complex energy field. I know he'll continue to do an excellent job."

As energy critic since 1978, Mr. Reed has been an outspoken watchdog over both the Ministry of Energy and Ontario Hydro. He's been particularly critical of Hydro's often contradictory load forecasts, which predict how much electricity Ontario will need. Mr. Reed and his colleagues were also responsible for having a Queen's Park Committee look into skyrocketing construction costs at Hydro's Bruce Generating Station.

"For a Crown Corporation,

Hydro has had far too much independence in the past, and the Ministry of Energy has had little importance in past Governments", says Mr. Reed. "Our efforts in the Opposition have done a lot to change both those situations, but we're still not very happy with many of the decisions being made at Queen's Park."

The difference between urban and rural Hydro rates is a perfect example. Despite assurances to the contrary, rural users keep the pressure on to change that."

Mr. Reed's appointment became effective on the first day of the new Legislature, and will continue until further notice.

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