

## SCHOOL DAYS AT THE CENTRE



Students from Georgetown District High School scratched rudely on stage, yawned and let their bloomers show, but they were doing it consciously. The young men and women were singing and acting out an introductory scene from the musical "My Fair Lady". Based on the play Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw, the popular musical is the story of a young English flower girl who is taught "proper" English by snobby Professor Henry Higgins. The show's at the Library-Cultural Centre Nov. 26, 27 and 28.

opportunity to use the Centre's stage. Dressed in their Halloween costumes, the youngsters recited poems.

(Herald photo)



Spooky creatures from Harrison Public School's grade one filled the Cultural Centre's stage Friday afternoon as part of the Afternoon School Program in which local schools were given the

opportunity to use the Centre's stage. Dressed in their Halloween costumes, the youngsters recited poems.

(Herald photo)



Selections from a musical "Cool in the Furnace", based on chapters one to three of the Book of Daniel, were sung by the Georgetown Christian School Choir. There seemed to be quite a few choirs on stage Friday afternoon from the various schools participating. The largest choral group couldn't even fit on the

stage. Centennial School's choir with 120 students joined up to sing with the Stewarttown choir while the Georgetown District High School band played in the background. Overflowing into the aisles, the singers posed a problem for the choir director who couldn't avoid having her back turned to some of them.

## RDOP reports

Guelph University's Rural Development Outreach Project (RDOP), funded by the Kellogg Foundation, will continue to stage public forums and workshops in Halton region during the coming year as part of its pilot project on rural development in Halton and Huron County.

In a summary report, RDOP officials recently recapped the project's progress in Halton thus far, underlining the publication of "Ruralities" by a local rural living task force and the development of a community improvement program for Acton as its major achievements thus far.

"Summer projects produced historical studies of several small communities and a well-

received audio-visual production ("The Invisible Giant") on the importance of agriculture in a rapidly urbanizing zone," the report states. "It is intended to make information preparation and dissemination the combining thrust for (all Outreach projects) in 1981-82."

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ANSWER to crossword page A6



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## A tale of empty shelves

# A library in 'culture shock'

By ANI FEDERIAN  
 Herald Staff Writer  
 Halton Hills is going through a species of culture shock, Georgetown's chief librarian said Friday evening at a quiet reception celebrating the opening of the library in its new facilities.

Amid tables of dainty sandwiches, nibbles and other goodies, Betsy Cornwell said she predicted the public would experience such a "shock" upon visiting the new library. "They come in and ask 'Where are all the new books?'" she said. "They expect to find a vast expansion of our book collection, but that doesn't happen overnight."

She said the library has an enormous capital stock lining the shelves already, and with books running at an average of \$12 apiece now, massive book purchases aren't likely to be around the corner.

Mrs. Cornwell said making the new facility work is next on the agenda. Services will be expanded and staff upgraded and increased.

"Because the building is so divided and split up, we can't work the way we used to," she said. "With two floors to operate now, and various nooks and crannies, the physical layout of the library requires more staff, which the library is currently hiring. "This building is just barely big enough for the community

now," said Mrs. Cornwell. Further expansion will take the form of branch libraries, something she sees happening within the next ten years.

"If the McLaughlin development (S.B. McLaughlin's Focal Properties Ltd. proposal for 1,740 homes in south-eastern Georgetown) goes through, it'll create so much demand that we'll need a new branch," she said.

Mrs. Cornwell said she expects to see an increase in circulation and a vastly different pattern of use now that there are places for people to sit and study in the library.

"There'll be a major increase in the demand of reference services," she said. "The expectation that the library is fully equipped will be difficult to meet." Such expectations require a highly trained staff and a greater depth of collection, she said.

To make the library more efficient, computer services are being introduced. Linked with the Oakville and Milton libraries, the Georgetown Public Library will have their resources to draw upon as well. Mrs. Cornwell sees this as reducing duplicate purchasing and increasing specialization in each library's collection.

A PATTERN "This is a pioneer step, linking up with two other library services," she said proudly. "We're a prototype of a pattern of co-operation."

The library is moving towards becoming fully automated in its services. Mrs. Cornwell said a file is being built up on computer of all the borrowers and books in the Georgetown collection.

Codes, similar to product label codes are being put on the library's books so that they can be charged in and out with scanners, much like the Loblaw's store scans products for the price at the check-out counter.

She said it will give the library a much clearer idea of where its strengths are. Librarians have begun coding to produce a date base for the computer, said Mrs. Cornwell who expects 75 per cent of it to be completed by the spring.

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One word says it all, said Betsy Cornwell, chief librarian at Georgetown Public Library. And that word is "hallelujah!" Mrs. Cornwell cut into a cake Friday baked by librarian Anne Irvine and led to look like a book by audio-visual technician Jeannette Thompson. The library staff were hosting a sandwiches and punch reception to celebrate their new facilities at the Library-Cultural Centre on Church Street.

(Herald photo)

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