

About the Hills

Anyone for immersion?

The Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department is in the preparation stages for its summer program. The department is considering development of a French Immersion Summer Activities Program. If you would support this program and be interested in enrolling your child, please call the Department at 877-3183, ext. 62.

Miltonian heads RAWF

Colonel G. Allan Burton of Milton was elected last week to a two-year term as 25th president of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Col. Burton moves up from the vice-presidency to replace David Weldon, thus culminating a lengthy association with the Royal's board of directors. He is former chairman of Simpson's Ltd., company he served for 44 years until his retirement in 1979. Col. Burton lives with his wife, Betty Kennedy, at Limestone Hall Farms, a 400-acre farm specializing in Herefords and cash crops.

Fun for funds

A fund-raising dance is being held by the Girl Guides of Canada at the Clarkson Community Centre in Mississauga March 19. Money raised will go towards sending delegates from the White Oakes region, which includes Halton Hills, to a provincial conference in Sault Ste. Marie. Leaders, parents and the public are welcome to attend. Tickets are \$16 a couple and are available from Barbara Phipps at 877-8555.

Children's services meeting

The Children's Services steering group of Halton will be holding its second annual meeting March 30 at 1:30 p.m. at the Oakville Public Library, 120 Navy St., in Oakville. The meeting is open to all interested persons.

Tomorrow's heirlooms

Rugs craftsmen from across Ontario will participate in the fourth annual Heritage Rug Hooking Guild's "Tomorrow's Heirlooms" show March 30 to April 15 in the Toronto-Dominion Centre on Toronto's King Street West. Spectators are invited to browse among the displays in the north lobby of the bank tower weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, contact show convener Joan Cowan at 822-1838.

Euchre friendships

Almost everyone wins a prize or rewards themselves with new friendship at the Nassagaweya Women's Institutes annual euchre night, coming up this year March 31 at Brookville Hall on the Guelph Line, four miles north of Highway 401. Admission to the 8 p.m. evening is \$2 and refreshments are provided. There will be a draw for a handmade applique quilt.

AECEO annual

Support your local branch of the Association for Early Childhood Education Ontario and attend the annual general meeting March 31. A wine and cheese social will follow that Halton Branch meeting which ends the fiscal year and elects a new executive for the upcoming year. Nominations will still be accepted from the floor on the evening of March 31. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at Sandwell Nursery School, 139 Sandwell Dr. in Oakville.

Education symposium

The Halton board of education's "Symposium '82" examines the rights and responsibilities of children, youth and parents April 15 and 16 at the Oakville Holiday Inn. Halton board education director Wally Beevor will join officials of the ministry of education, the solicitor-general's office and other agencies to speak at the symposium, which is limited to 250 people. For more information, call the board at 878-8451.

Daffodil days

Daffodils will enhance numerous living rooms in Halton Hills as the town's cancer society launches its annual campaign for funds. The town has proclaimed April as Cancer Month.

No help for Maple Lodge

Continued from Page 1
policy is not fair, pointing out that "benefits from our company, being a major taxpayer and employer, spill over regional borders".
Mr. May adds, "Should we not be making decisions on the basis of what is good for

Ontario and Canada, not just Halton Hills?"

Meanwhile, Gerhart Treviranus, the farmer who applied to the MOE for a "certificate of approval" to use the sludge on his land, has withdrawn his application.

Grant situation worsens each year as workload grows

Financially troubled CAS sits waiting

Regional councillors voted Wednesday on a \$3,254,211 budget for Halton's Children's Aid Society (CAS), a financial package which, CAS executive director Ion Coupland said last week, barely enables the society to maintain its dubious honor of being one of the lowest-funded agencies of its kind in the province.

While the budget remains to be endorsed by the province's community and social services ministry, council's approval would put pressure on the ministry to grant the regional CAS the funding it needs.

Recent commitments from the province have not kept up with service demands. Mr. Coupland indicated as he presented his detailed budget forecast to the region's administration and finance committee last Wednesday.

If council endorses the budget, approved in principle by the committee, the region's share would be \$650,842 while the ministry would provide the balance.

But the CAS budget, pared to the bone by the society's board of directors, is still \$300,000 more than the province's 1982 budget base of \$2,842,172. This year's budget marks an

increase of 11 per cent over the 1981 figure according to the provincial base and represents \$30 a year per youngster in Halton up to 17 years of age.

The society wants to see that commitment rise to \$43.68.

One CAS board member told the finance committee that the society has traditionally been in a position in which it is "fighting to stay above the survival line". This year's budget, he added, "won't

enhance that position".

Areas of CAS service that are most likely to suffer from under-financing include the foster care program and the increasingly important child abuse services. Because Halton's CAS pays homes which take in foster children at lower rates than those available in neighboring Peel or Hamilton-Wentworth regions, the society has trouble finding new ones.

Meanwhile, outside agencies

are "pirating" foster homes in Halton, placing youngsters in homes here and paying higher rates. An increase of between 21 and 23 per cent in the Halton CAS budget for foster care would only bring it up to par with rates paid Peel and Hamilton last year.

There's a 20 per cent increase foreseen in the CAS's child abuse caseload for Halton region in 1982. With February recording the highest month for demands on the

CAS's child abuse counselling services, cases during the first three months of this year have jumped 83 per cent over the same period in 1981. The caseload has become so great for the current staff of child abuse specialists at the CAS, that referrals are already being made to other agencies.

Included in the CAS budget proposal are funds to help recover a \$24,221 deficit incurred by the society between 1978 and 1980.

Farm groups faring well as region doles out grants

While regional budget architects have, in many cases, held grant increases to Halton agencies to eight per cent over last year's amounts, area agricultural organizations appear to be getting all they ask for.

Halton's administration and finance committee last Wednesday approved grants totalling \$10,150 to help various farm-oriented groups and agricultural societies.

The largest share of the farm grants will go to the Halton Federation of Agriculture, if figures are approved by regional council.

The federation will receive \$6,400 this year, up

\$2,000 from 1981 as the organization establishes an honorarium for its newly-appointed press secretary.

Although Burlington Coun. Juan Little argued that the recommended grants for the farm interests should be pared to the eight per cent limit, committee members who supported her were told by chief administrative officer Dennis Perlin that in the case of the federation's grant, a reduction would be considered by regional farmers as "a slap in the face". The appointment of a farm press secretary last autumn is seen as an important stride for agricultural reps trying to make

non-farm residents and councillors more aware of farm issues in Halton.

Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy told committee members that agricultural societies provide valuable recreation for residents and if they don't get adequate support from the region, they may be forced to stop holding fairs. He added that the region may then be expected to fill the recreational needs previously provided by the societies, costing Halton taxpayers considerably more than the annual grants.

He was particularly bothered by the effects an eight per cent cut would have on the grant requested by the Georgetown Agricultural Society, whose 135-year old fall fair might not be able to continue unless it receives more support. Money is needed, Mayor Pomeroy said, to allow the society to offer prize money for entrants at par with other fall fairs in the province.

Grants to other farm groups included \$1,800 to the Acton Agricultural Society and \$2,200 to the Halton (Milton) Society. The Halton soil and crop improvement association has been given \$1,500, subject to council's approval, and the Halton branch of the ministry of agriculture and food was awarded \$500.

Funds of \$650 were awarded

'Liberals insensitive' - McDermid

Continued from Page 1
arrogant and insensitive government. We will continue to fight where necessary but

wait and see. Parliament and Canadians are to be thanked for protecting democracy.



MP JOHN McDERMID
hopefully this government has learned that Canadians do care; they do want a government that will be sensitive to their needs. Maybe now they will listen to Canadians and their concerns about the budget, jobs and high interest rates. We can only

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