

# STORYTELLER EMERITUS

With elaborate hand gestures keeping his audience's eyes dancing, storyteller extraordinaire Robert Munsch delighted dozens of Halton Hills youngsters Saturday at the Acton and Georgetown public libraries. The author of four children's books, published in miniature "Annikins" size by Annick press of Toronto, Mr. Munsch started out simply making up some imaginative stories for children he was supervising. Characteristic of his modern fairy

tales, as the reprinted text from "The Paper Bag Princess" below indicates, is the unexpected whimsical twist his stories take. Other Annikins by Mr. Munsch are "Jonathan Cleaned Up - Then He heard a Sound", "Mud Puddle" and "The Dark". If you're wondering about that last title, it's a story about how the dark fell out of a cookie jar and started growing bigger and bigger until it swallowed up the neighborhood...

(Herald photos by Dave Rowney)



## Dragon makes off with her prince

Elizabeth carries out search wearing paper bag



### INSTALLING A BETTER IDEA

Guelph Street will soon become golden at night thanks to the help of Scott Kelman, 14 (left), and Jan de Jong, 7. The two youngsters, off from classes for winter break, were helping their dads last Tuesday replace street lights with the orange tinged high pressure sodium lights. The new lights are brighter for night drivers and are being installed by Guld Electric, a Toronto-based company.

(Herald photo)

When Elizabeth was a beautiful princess she lived in a castle and had expensive princess clothes. She was going to marry a prince named Ronald.

Unfortunately, a dragon smashed her castle, burned all her clothes with his fiery breath and carried off Prince Ronald.

Elizabeth decided to chase the dragon and get Ronald back. She looked all over for something to wear but the only thing she could find that was not burnt was a paper bag. So she put on the paper bag and followed the dragon. He was easy to follow because he left a trail of burnt forests and horses' teeth.

Finally, Elizabeth came to a cave with a large door that had a huge knocker on it. She took hold of the knocker and

banged on the door. The dragon stuck his nose out the door and said, "Well, a princess! I love to eat princesses, but I have already eaten a whole castle today. I am a very busy dragon. Come back tomorrow." He slammed the door so fast that Elizabeth almost got her nose caught.

Elizabeth grabbed the knocker and banged on the door again. The dragon stuck his nose out the door and said, "Go away. I love to eat princesses, but I have already eaten a whole castle today. I am a very busy dragon. Come back tomorrow." "Wait," shouted Elizabeth. "Is it true that you are the smartest and fiercest dragon in the whole world?" "Yes," said the dragon. "Is it true," said Elizabeth.

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## 'Rompin' Ronnie' joins Norval Junction celebration

# The Hawk returns

International country music star Ronnie Hawkins will pay Halton Hills the first of two return visits April 12 to publicize the Carling-O'Keefe Country Celebration, part of Jim Robertson's four-part plan to make this town "the home of Opry North".

A press conference at Mr. Robertson's Norval Junction nightspot April 12, which Rompin' Ronnie is expected to attend, will formally unveil plans for the Carling-O'Keefe "OV awards", an elaborate series of performing opportunities for up and coming Canadian country musicians designed to keep the country's finest musical talent north of the 49th parallel.

Fittingly enough, Ronnie Hawkins, the American country blues singer who came to Canada before becoming a real star, will return here for the first "Halton Hills Country Celebration" April 15, 16 and 17. He'll host and perform at the

three-night concert at the Junction, presenting a different group or individual performer each night. Tickets are now on sale at the Junction for \$6 (\$8 at the door); call 877-5570 or 846-0634.

At the first weekend Celebration and each weekend thereafter, officials from Carling-O'Keefe Breweries and CPGM-FM country music radio will watch well-known stars share the stage with rising stars from across Canada. Winners of the OV awards have chances to win free flights aboard CP Air as

well as auditions for the "Opry North" radio show broadcast nationwide by CFGM and taped "live" at the Junction.

According to his manager, Rompin' Ronnie is virtually donating his time for the Celebration as part of his own personal commitment to see that deserving music talent gets the recognition it warrants. Sponsors at Carling-O'Keefe view the concert series as a sound solution to the perennial problem facing Canadian talent: stay home and starve or head south to the lucrative U.S. market.

Scheduled to host the second Country Celebration the weekend following Hawkins' appearance is the Family Brown, stars of their own country music television show; then Kitty Wells comes to town, followed by Wayne Rostad and Johnny Burke.

Junction proprietor Robertson has just about everything in place for turning not-so-sleepy little Norval "the home of Opry North". The actual Opry North tapings continue on a more or less monthly basis, with CFGM hosting a lively afternoon party of ticket buyers to tape radio segments with a "live concert" atmosphere. And, coming up May 23 will be a special benefit concert featuring several top country music names performing to raise funds for a proposed Canadian Country Music Academy. Local service clubs are set to boost their own community service coffers if the province's Liquor Licensing Board okayes the Junction for alcohol sales for the Country Celebration. Represented by a recently-formed entrepreneur group, they'll tend bar for all Junction functions and share in the profits.



### Breath easier

The Halton Lung Association is re-opening its Family Asthma Program in Georgetown. These courses are developed for families with children who suffer from asthma and provide exercises to develop physical conditioning, better breathing and relaxation techniques, as well as swimming. The parents are involved too in an educational program that runs concurrently with the children's program. Speakers include allergists, pediatricians, nutritionists, pharmacists and other experts in the field. Dr. R.W.T. Haddon of Joseph Brent Memorial Hospital in Burlington is medical advisor for the Association and directs the program. Sessions are held at the Georgetown District High School pool, 70 Guelph St., Saturday mornings from 10 to 11:30 starting April 3. Grete Senst will be physiotherapist for this free Christmas Seal service.



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**Housing starts decline in 1981**  
Construction started on 106 dwelling units and was completed on 89 in Halton Hills in 1981, Statistics Canada says.  
That compares with 118 starts and 404 completions in 1980. The figures include work started and completed on single detached dwellings, two-family dwellings, row house units and apartment units.  
The figures are collected by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation in a nation-wide survey.

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