



**S.O.S. ON PATROL**

The volunteer Save Our Streams (SOS) group took to the floodplain around Silver Creek again Saturday, this time evaluating the success of its tree planting campaign conducted the year previous. While some members (above) compared notes on the health of the saplings and scanned the riverbanks and surrounding brush for more of the scrap paper and other debris they'd cleared last year, Grant Lee and Sheila Ward (left) examined one of the new plantings for insects. It was the SOS group's third visit to the floodplain between Main Street and Trafalgar Road outside Georgetown, where a long-range clean-up and erosion control campaign should greatly benefit the previously neglected area.

(Herald photo by Harold Bransch)



**Millions paid in teachers' salaries**

**Trustees assess PD day value**

By ANI PEDIERIAN  
Herald Staff Writer

Each professional activity day costs the board approximately \$3.5 million in teachers' salaries, the superintendent of instruction told Halton board of education trustees Thursday.

The board, despite opposition from some trustees, approved eight elementary and nine secondary professional activity (PA) days for next year, the same as they had this year.

That means eight days of no classes for elementary and nine days out for secondary school students.

Professional activity days are used by teachers for parent interviews, student counselling, program planning, exam marking, promotion meetings and professional development.

Since classes are suspended on PA days requiring parents (especially of elementary school students) to make arrangements for their children to be cared for, the PA days aren't too popular with working parents.

Oakville trustee Jim Clelland told fellow board members he has received a great deal of communication on the issue from parents complaining about the inconvenience PA days cause them.

Thursday night he tried to reduce the number of PA days to seven at each level for next year. School boards can designate up to eleven days as PA days.

Mr. Clelland questioned why the number of days set aside for professional activities hasn't been re-

duced over the years to correspond with the growing experience of board staff.

Why, when 80 per cent of the board staff have over five years teaching experience and 60 per cent have over ten years experience, is there still as great a

need for PA days, Mr. Clelland asked.

"There are a number of needs that continue from year to year irrespective of the age or qualifications of the staff," Superintendent of instruction Ray Stoness said, referring to parent interviews and

promotional meetings.

Mr. Stoness said PA days are spent on more than just professional development. They are spent on tasks that are the same as tasks required of teachers ten years ago. As well, they allow staff time to understand and imple-

ment changes in ministry of education guidelines.

"Eight days is certainly comparable with other boards," trustee Doug Morton said. "Our school days are longer by half an hour. I don't hang my head in shame that we're short-changing the taxpayer."

**Letters to the Editor**

**Public responds to story, Halton police grateful**

To the editor of The Herald:

On behalf of District 1 (Halton Hills) police officers, I wish to thank you and your staff for the assistance rendered to our department in your newspaper coverage of the alleged rape of a young girl several days ago in the Norval area. The publicity accorded this incident resulted in a response from local citizens, and we have been able

to clear this matter successfully.

We appreciate very much the thoughtfulness of your reporters, and we assure you of our continued co-operation in matters of mutual concern.

Yours very truly,  
M.A. MacPherson,  
Inspector

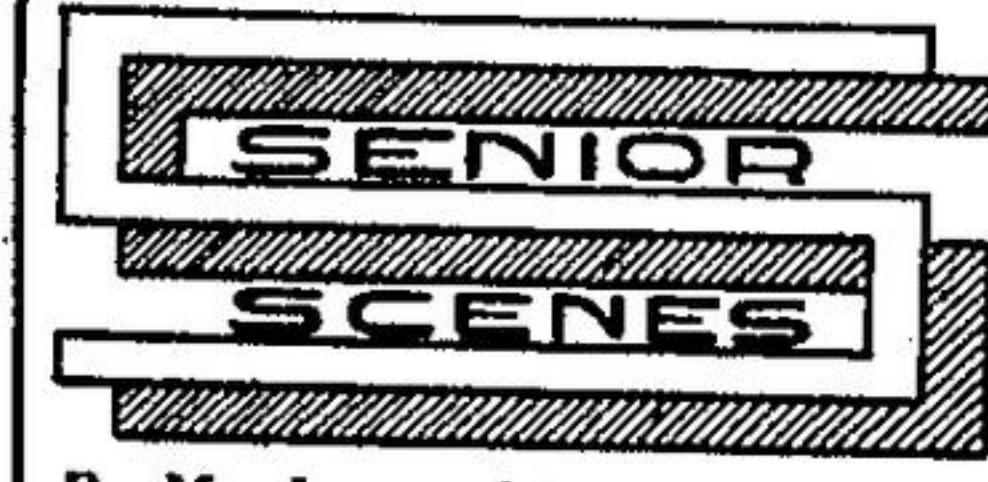
**Readers think 'Cosmos' just out of this world**

To the editor of The Herald:

For the past 13 weeks, the Georgetown Library has provided a Carl Sagan series "Cosmos" for those people interested. It has been an enjoyable and thought-provoking experience. We would like to

express sincere thanks to those responsible for this programme, and to Mrs. J. Thompson who ran the film each week.

Mrs. Edith McGonigal,  
Elsie and Paul Barber,  
Edith Hackett.



By Morley and Lauretta Mills  
877-3915

**GRANDMA**

The old rocking chair is vacant today For Grandma is no longer in it. She's off in her car to office or shop. Just buzzing around every minute. No one shoves Grandma back on the shelf. She's versatile, forceful, dynamic. There isn't a pie in the oven today. Her baking today is ceramic. You won't see her trundle off early to bed. Or seek a warm comfy nook. Her typewriter clackety-clacks through the night. For Grandma is writing a book. Without ever taking a look at her yarn To slow her steady advancing. She won't tend the babies anymore For Grandma's taking up dancing. She isn't content with crumbs of old With meager second-hand knowledge. Don't bring out the mending for Grandma to do: For Grandma has gone back to college.

—By Martha Moore

As a grand finale to Senior Citizens' Week, the Seniors Information Committee and the Halton

District Health Council are sponsoring a one-day seminar, entitled "Agenda for the Eighties", 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 23, at the Sheridan College Oakville Campus, 1430 Trafalgar Rd. (north of the QEW). It will be of particular interest to senior citizens and representatives from organizations and agencies which deal with seniors.

One of the chief speakers of the morning will be Lawrence Crawford, provincial co-ordinator for senior citizens, followed by a question period. This would be an ideal time for the seniors of Halton Hills to ask "Where is the 50-bed nursing home promised by the then-health minister Dennis Timbrell in September, 1980?"

The afternoon session will consist of three workshops with a choice of two. The topics will be: (1) independence for seniors, (2) transportation for seniors, (3) political activity and information exchange - What are seniors' rights?

Registration is free, coffee is provided, and lunch may be purchased in the college cafeteria. Brochures and registration forms may be picked up from the "Y", the Georgetown library, Helping Hands at 164 Guelph St., Georgetown Hospital, or call the Contact Centre 877-1211.

Due to the problem of accommodation and transportation, it is necessary for those wishing to attend to pre-register as early in June as possible and mail to the Halton District Health Council, 2324 Trafalgar Rd., P.O. Box 1086, Oakville, Ont. L4W 5E9. If necessary, you may call Zenith 40340 (toll free) to register or for further information.

Note the following corrections under Home Support Services in the Seniors Directory: (1) the Red Cross Emergency number for Georgetown is 877-5233 or 877-1211, (2) Halton Helping Hands Halton Hills is 873-1177, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon. Tues. Thurs. Fri.

The next meeting of the "Belles and Beaus" Seniors' Club will be held in Stewarttown Hall June 7 at 1:30 p.m. Note the change of date.

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