


877-5213



FOBERT
Real Estate Inc.
388 Guelph Street
Georgetown, Ontario

EXCELLENCE AWARD
IN CUSTOMER RELATIONS



CAPITAL
FORD SALES LTD
381 Guelph St. 877-6928
Highway 7 Georgetown
"YOUR BEST DEAL... is
A CAPITAL DEAL"



**THEY'RE
READY
FOR
SHOW BIZ**

One lap seats (two empty, Joanne Porter (centre), 13, shared her seat Nov. 22 at the Old Hide House in Acton with schoolmates Erin McMahon (left), 7, and Allison Coe, 6. The St. Joseph's Roman Catholic School students, decked out in red choir robes, sang sweetly for the CKCO television cameras. They'll be on channel 13 Dec. 17 between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. on the Monday to Friday show "Tempo". Also to be aired at the same hour tomorrow (Thursday) is an interview with Chef Rui Cardoso of Jack Tanner's Table, Dec. 7, the station is airing an interview with Teresa Roberts, a woman who does semiotone patchwork with fabric to make shirts, dresses, vests and children's clothing sold in the Hide House's Artisans Village, Dec. 14, Artisans Village glass blower Peter Keough talks about his craft, Dec. 21, the Robert Little Public School choir will be seen performing at the Hide House, Dec. 22, the Artisans Village sculptress Dawn Connell interview will be aired along with performances by the Acton High School Band, Dec. 29, there will be an interview with Hide House retail manager Steve Dawkins and a fashion show featuring ladies' leathers, furs, woollens, footwear and handbags.

(Herald photo by Ani Pederian)

Trustees weigh Ministry of Education changes

Cost increases feared

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff Writer

Education minister Betty Stephenson's announcement Monday of a major reorganization of the current high school program means a five or six per cent increase in education costs for Halton taxpayers.

Halton board of education finance chairman Bill Priestner told The Herald Tuesday he anticipates the changes to cost the board that much.

The minister increased the course load for Ontario students from 27 to 30 credits for a high school diploma.

"Who will teach those extra three courses?" Mr. Priestner asked. He said teachers' workloads won't be increased any to make up the difference.

More teachers will have to be hired to handle the extra teaching load, Mr. Priestner said.

Because students planning to go on to university will be able to include the six Grade 13-level courses as part of the 30 credits required for their high school diploma, it means a drop of three courses from the current Grade 13 diploma requirements. This will mean a slight financial saving for the board, Mr. Priestner said.

However, more students take high school courses to Grade 12 than do to Grade 13, so the addition of three more credits to graduation will affect more students, and cost more than the saving from students going through for Grade 13 graduation.

"I'm pleased they're allowing us to stay with the 110 hour credit courses instead of increasing it to 120," Mr. Priestner said. "That was good news. It makes scheduling easier for schools and saves money."

Increasing courses by another ten hours each would have cost the board in extra salaries, he explained.

The ministry's changes take effect in 1984 with students entering Grade 9 that September.

The education ministry changes reflect a move to

more compulsory subjects, reversing the 1970s' trend to wider course choice.

Students will be required to take guidance classes in Grade 7 and 8 to help them decide what courses to take in high school.

In high school, the ministry will designate 16 of the 30 courses a student must take, an increase of seven more courses than are now compulsory. The new requirements include at least one course in French, social science, physical education and health, arts, business or technical studies.

Students will also have to study five English courses, one more than now, two science courses, also an increase of one. The ministry isn't changing its requirement for two math courses.

A strong advocate of retaining Grade 13, Mr. Priestner was pleased the

education minister didn't entirely do away with it, although students can now, if they wish, graduate in four years with a Grade 13 diploma under the 30 credit system.

Mr. Priestner thinks the extra year of schooling gives students more time to mature before going to college or university.

"Half the program is now designated courses. I'm very much in favor of that. I believe we got too far away from the basics," Mr. Priestner said.

More compulsory courses for students, will mean less optional courses for schools to have to offer. This will mean more savings for schools, Mr. Priestner observed. With fewer subjects being offered, there'll be fewer small classes.

"A lot of subjects that schools didn't drop because they had 12 students

in the class, will now attract only about five students and schools will be able to drop them. There'll be fewer classes with small numbers of students, Mr. Priestner anticipates.

"That will be a money saver and will help to pay for the extra credits," he said.

Halton education director Wally Beevor said he supported the increase in compulsory courses.

"We've seen the gradual return to compulsory courses and this is a good compromise between compulsory and optional courses," he said.

Mr. Beevor said the ministry was giving plenty of lead time to implement the system in the Halton board.

"She has done something that will sit well with

most people in education," Mr. Beevor assessed. "She's kept Grade 13 but doesn't call it Grade 13 and that satisfies that component."

Educators should be pleased with these changes because they'll help build the confidence in the system that was being eroded in the seventies, Mr. Beevor said.

Only time will tell whether students will continue to get their Grade 13 diploma in five years or in four, and it would be appropriate to monitor this, he said.

Halton Hills trustee Dick Howitt supported the move back to more compulsory subjects.

"My first reaction is that it's a good move, this going back to basics and more compulsory subjects," he said.

Reed criticizes NDP for restraint opposition

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

Halton-Burlington Liberal MPP Julian Reed has slammed provincial New Democrats for hindering passage of "valuable" legislation which would help cut government costs.

Speaking at the riding's Liberal Association annual meeting Friday night in Milton, Mr. Reed said

that the NDP's manoeuvring may force the government to impose counter-measures to bring the restraint legislation from the committee level to the Legislature for full discussion.

The Liberals, Mr. Reed said, have a number of worthy amendments to the legislation which, among other things, calls for

wage restraint in the public service and quasi-government agencies. While the wage restraint proposals drafted by the government limit wage increases for these unions to nine per cent this year and five per cent next year, Mr. Reed said the Liberals' amendments will make the package a little easier to swallow for rank and file union members.

The restraint proposals have met tough resistance from leaders of the province's labor movement.

"The irresponsibility of the NDP is unprecedented," Mr. Reed said, speaking to party members at Ligny Hall on the Milton-Halton Hills border near Highway 25. "The Legislature has been reduced to a point-making society."

"It's a sign of desperation on their part," he added. "The general membership of those unions is not as enthusiastic about the opposition to the bills as their leaders are. They believe wage restraints are rough justice but are prepared to accept (Liberal) amendments."

Among the amendments proposed by the Grits are a "notching clause" by which low income union members affected by the bill could receive wage

increases of greater than five per cent after the bill comes into effect; retention of the right to strike on non-monetary issues; a plan to include the medical profession in the restraint package and a proposal to allow unions to finish the first part of current contracts at the agreed wage rates before imposing the five per cent guidelines.

Liberal MPPs also want the governing Conservatives to have some sort of "post-restraint" guidelines which would come into effect after the 12-month term of the restraint bill ends. They are concerned that new contracts after the restraint period would try to "catch up" by proposing substantially larger wage increases, negating the effects of restraint.

If the procedural wrangling by the NDP doesn't end, Mr. Reed said, he feared the government would invoke closure on the bill before the Liberals have a chance to discuss their amendments in the Legislature.

The bill would affect such unions as the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU), The Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), and various teachers' federations.

Continued on page A2

Still time for tickets

Youngsters are getting "wound up" for the co-production of "Hickory Dickory Dock" by Georgetown Little Theatre and the Peel Panto Players. The special Christmas feature goes on Stage at the John Elliott Theatre Dec. 10, 11 and 12 and ticket sales are well under way. To get yours, drop by the theatre box office tomorrow (Thursday) between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. The box office will also be open next Tuesday (Dec. 7) and Thursday Dec. 9 at the same time. For further information about tickets, call the box office at 877-3700.

For music lovers

Do you like chamber music? Do you like Christmas carols? The Georgetown Choral Society is offering you both this weekend. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, they'll be putting on evening concerts at the John Elliott Theatre. "Fantasia for Christmas" starts each evening at 8 p.m. and tickets are available for the family-oriented show by calling 877-8839 after 6 p.m. or by calling the theatre box office at 877-7915. Tickets are \$6.50 for adults and \$4.50 for seniors and students. Everyone's welcome to join the merrymaking.

Career seminar

Ontario has some 540 unemployed professional engineers, according to the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario, whose Brampton chapter is sponsoring an evening seminar on "Managing Career Changes" Dec. 13. Interested citizens should pre-register by phoning Bob Walterson at 865-9513 (days) or 877-9289 evenings. The meeting takes place Dec. 13 from 7 to about 10 p.m. in the band room of the Bramalea Civic Centre.

Varian contract

Varian Canada Inc. has been awarded a \$327,386 federal government contract, supply and services Canada has announced. The Georgetown firm will supply electron tubes to the national defence department. The contract was one of \$2.5 million, announced by the department.

Police nab shoplifter

Three members of a family and a Mississauga man have been charged with possession of stolen property in connection with the theft Sunday afternoon of approximately \$3,000 in leather and fur goods from Acton's Old Hide House.

A man was caught shoplifting in the store about 4:40 p.m. and following his arrest, Halton regional police stopped a car packed with goods shoplifted earlier.

Charged with theft over \$200 and possession of stolen property is Mark Fox, 30, of Glen Williams. Charged with possession of stolen property is Frank Fox, 18, and Robin Fox, 28, both of Glen Williams.

Also charged with possession is William Ritchie, 21, of Mississauga. The three will appear in Milton provincial court Dec. 20. A bail hearing for Mark Fox was held yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon as The Herald went to press.

Province dips into special fund

Region projects to aid workers

Almost \$25,000 in grants have been given to Halton region for two projects concerning the region's employees.

The money, from the provincial housing and municipal affairs minister's "Municipal Action

'85" program, will be partly used to fund a project relating employee salary increases to individual productivity and performance.

In an announcement Wednesday, housing minister Claude Bennett said

\$9,500 will be used for the performance project, designed to make more cost effective use of salary dollars and form training and career development strategies for the region.

"This will lead to more effective use of human

resources, improve employer-employee relations and increase efficiency," Mr. Bennett is quoted as saying in a press release from his ministry.

Another grant of \$15,300 will be used to start an assistance program to help employees with alcohol, drug, family or emotional problems.

The project will establish a committee of union and management representatives to inform shop stewards and supervisors

about the goals of the assistance program. It is expected that the region will benefit from the program through decreased absenteeism and improved employee performance.

The grants, totalling \$24,800, represents 50 per cent of consultants' costs to set up the projects.

Municipal Action '85 is a three-year program supported by the ministry to help municipalities develop better management and staff skills.



GUESTS OF HONOR

The moment every child waited for was the arrival of Santa Claus Saturday at the Acton Y's Meas' annual parade. A new twist was added this November. Santa brought along his lovely wife, Mrs. Claus, who is known to spend more behind-the-scenes work in preparing for Christmas day than the bubbly Santa. But a source close to Mr. Claus told the Herald that the North Pole workshop is actually ahead of schedule and plans have run smoothly to meet all demands. More photos, page A3.

(Herald photo by Dave Rowney)

LOOK WHAT'S COOKIN' AT THE 'Y'

For some, the delightful smells of Christmas baking have already begun. Here, a German Christmas baking course was offered by Helga Schwarz to make sure four members of the YMCA-sponsored session would have "Weihnachts-Stollen" in their pantry along

with three different types of German cookies. The bakers are (clockwise from left) Sue Scott, Helga Schwarz, Ann Riedstra, Marg Fox and Nancy Shortall.

(Herald photo by Dave Rowney)

Good Neighbor returns

ROMA TIMPSON
Good Neighbor Service Coordinator

Many inquiries have been made as to how people can help with this year's Good Neighbor Service which leads me to believe we will have another successful campaign.

Having spoken to the girls in Burlington who prepare the lists from which we get our names (Family Benefits and Halton Regional Social Services) our lists will be larger this year.

This Service is not only for those who are receiving monthly help but for a needy family to help them over the festive Christmas holiday, particularly where there are children.

This is where the Kinettes come in. They are the gals who pack all the toys and gifts, which are delivered along with all the food

baskets that are contributed, packed and delivered by all those volunteers who wish to help in their special way.

We are looking for a headquarters at present and all schools have been contacted for the generous contributions from the students. Pick-up day will be Dec. 21, and sorting will begin that day. Sorting will continue on Dec. 22 along with packing the kits and our delivery day will be Thursday Dec. 23. Turkeys have been ordered and the baskets to pack and we are rolling right along.

Anyone wishing to donate food or money may drop their donation off at 53 McIntyre Cres., L7G 1N5 or call 877-9135. Please make cheque payable to Good Neighbor Service.

Please watch this col-

Continued on page A3