

Juvenile crime: what can be done?

Reporter — Ani Pederian's story on juvenile delinquency in Halton Hills points to a trend that we could well do without.

By year end statistics will show a dramatic increase in shoplifting by juveniles; by June there were 49 cases of juveniles charged compared to 26 for all of 1982.

There's no reason for optimism when we talk of thefts by juveniles other than shoplifting; they too will undoubtedly rise above last year's mark.

While the Halton regional police are meeting the challenge with new programs, there is still more we can do as a community to help reduce the number of crimes by minors.

On one hand there is a method of dealing with thefts and shoplifting by making it harder for youths to steal or vandalize. By increasing security measures businesses can help to minimize the opportunities for crime by adequately protecting their property.

However, there are other solutions worth exploring. There are probably more families in

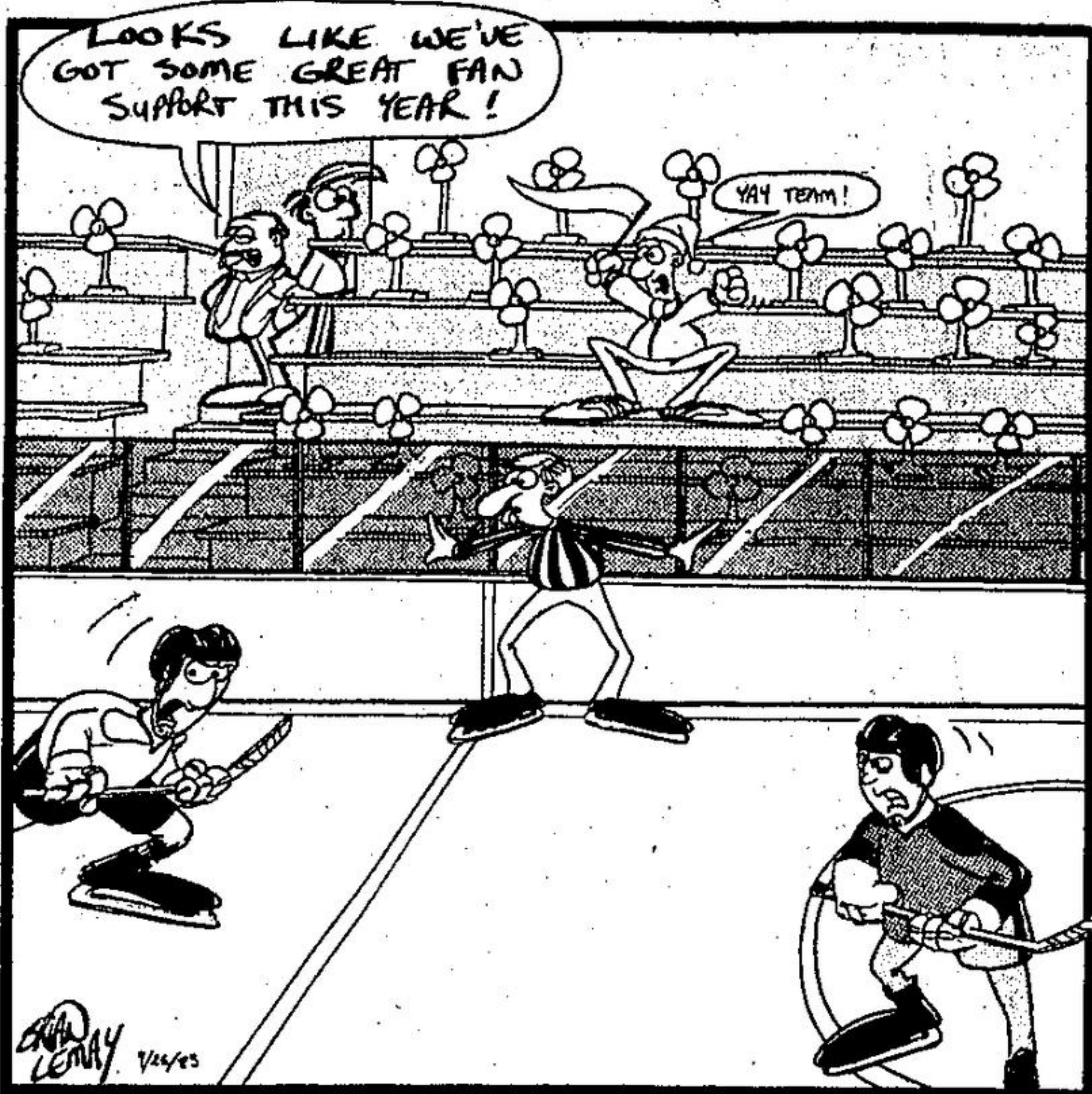
town where both parents work. This leaves a child with unsupervised time on his hands.

In addition, an increase in single parent homes have left children without two permanent role models. Having to work and care for a child single-handedly can be challenging for any parent and they deserve our support.

Various clubs such as boy scouts, church groups and sports organizations can make a more concerted effort to recruit individuals to get involved. Parents too, can take the initiative and consider enrolling their child in a new program.

Halton Hills takes pride in its musicians, artists and sports teams whenever they represent us in out of town events. To have more of our youth involved in community events supports a feeling of pride and sense of accomplishment.

The challenges today are to find anti-shoplifting and anti-vandalism programs that will make a positive impression on our youth. They can be made to work if everyone in the community works towards that goal.



One area where Tories fail



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

If there is one area where the Conservative government has failed to achieve its aims, year after year and decade after decade, it is in the field of skills training.

That's why the fuss here over the recently announced \$6 million Ontario Training Incentive Program (OTIP) seems so out of place.

Liberal and NDP criticism, for example, concentrates on attacking the government for how little it is putting into the scheme. The Liberals call it inadequate and note \$6 million is what the province spends each day in interest payments on its debt. The NDP figures it means \$667 for each of the 9,000 training positions the government hopes to fill.

But it hardly matters. The program is highly unlikely to spend all the money allocated to it anyway.

In fact, the NDP even points out that the joint federal-provincial General Industrial Training and

Critical Skills Training Programs in 1982 actually spent only \$36 million out of a budget of \$63 million.

In one sense that's good, in that it implies some care was shown on how money was thrown around.

NOT GOOD

But in another sense it's bad, because it confirms once again the inability of government to forecast accurately the needs of the workplace and then fill those needs.

Perhaps in a market economy like ours government will never be able to read the minds of millions of people striving in their own ways to achieve ends that aren't necessarily foreseen by bureaucrats at Queen's Park or Ottawa.

The latest OTIP scheme will give employers as much as \$1,000 a year for four years to hire and train unemployed or laid-off workers in some occupations.

Trainees can also attend, at no cost, a community college for up to 50 days.

How successful OTIP will be we won't know for a year or two, but the track record indicates it will be partial at best.

WELL DONE

Until the recession hit various Canadian companies continued to recruit skilled workers in Europe. Ontario Hydro, for example, only stopped last year and it is far more

susceptible to government pressure in this regard than much of the private sector.

There is another side to this coin too, beyond government's continual failure to accurately read the job market.

It is psychological and involves us all.

The education system that Bill Davis built, with hearty cheers from the NDP (and to a much lesser extent, the Liberals), was an education system devoted to self-discovery and personal liberation rather than the learning of basic job skills.

LOW STATUS

It relegated so-called blue collar work, even, to some degree, engineering to the category of something that is okay for recently arrived immigrants to be, but it is not something a person would want for their own son or daughter.

This low status is a reason various training programs have often had empty spaces even when they were fairly certain to guarantee a job on graduation.

Unions haven't helped any either with their restrictive job security and seniority concerns. Nor are businessmen exactly saints when they refuse to fund skills training in their own firms, preferring instead to raid some other company that did invest the cash and the time in the long-term job of matching someone to a skill.

Local MS chapter considers read-a-thon for Halton Hills



Editor's notebook

By DAVID ROWNEY

At the first meeting during introductions it was hard to say, "I've got MS," Orest Dzman remembers.

Last spring Halton Hills formed a Multiple Sclerosis unit to help serve the north area which is covered under the umbrella of the Burlington chapter.

The first meeting helped those who attended see they weren't the only ones that had MS-related problems. "Basically, a lot of us like to talk about research at the meetings," Mr. Dzman says.

Meeting every third Tuesday of the month at 98 Main St. in Georgetown, 8-10 members work on promoting an awareness of the disease.

"Our goal is to educate the public and doctors," said Mr. Dzman in a recent interview.

He remembers having a doctor who said he was, at 39, too old to have MS. A neurologist didn't even

recommend seeing a local MS chapter for support after Mr. Dzman was diagnosed.

A majority of the members attending the meetings, have MS, but everyone is welcome to come to meetings. Bev Daquano from the Jayettes has been active at every meeting helping to co-ordinate programs like carnation day in May (just before Mother's Day).

Some people confuse MS with Muscular Dystrophy, Mr. Dzman explains. The difference is that MS is a disease of the nerves rather than muscles.

The cause of MS is undetermined, but it is known that the coating around the nerve fibres is affected. Mr. Dzman explains it like this: picture a garden hose as a nerve; when the hose is squeezed, it short circuits, or prevents impulses from being transmitted.

There are about 25 MS patients in Milton, Georgetown and Acton and some 35 thousand suffering from MS in Canada.

Mr. Dzman, who is active with the Jayettes and a slow pitch baseball team, when not working for Northern Telecom, remembers his own anguish in finding out he had the disease. It's hardest on the families, however, he

As their publicity chairman, he has taken an active role in promoting an awareness of MS so that one day a cure can be found.

Projects have developed in town, but others can be started, like his daughter's \$6 contribution from selling popcorn and cool-aid.

For the past two years the Jaycees Crazy Boat Race has asked for pledges from participants in support of MS.

The first year all the money raised by sponsors went to MS research, but last year some money went to the local chapter to help cover their expenses.

One program Mr. Dzman is considering as a local project would be to hold a MS Read-a-thon. Apparently the program has worked in other communities, where sponsors pledge a certain amount of money for a person to read a book.

The local school should be more than happy to encourage their students to learn while helping to support a good cause.

The local unit is still looking for a patients service co-ordinator, a volunteer who perhaps might have some background in the medical profession. The number to call for more information about the MS unit is 877-7744.

Actario plans on schedule

Herald Special Fundraising draws aimed at aiding the restoration of the old town hall are planned for the third consecutive year, said organizer Ted Tyler.

This year Actario will hold month-long mini-draws with ticket prices dropped to \$10 for each of the three series planned before Christmas.

Each participant will be included in the four draws held on each Saturday of the month. This time the prize will be split three ways - \$200, \$100, and \$50 - to create more winners. A trip worth \$1,500 to

"We've run into a few problems," said Mr. Tyler, "and it's been very frustrating. We'll still be predicting we'll open Dec. 31. At least I hope we will."

"I have a hand hired and it's all legal and binding. We have that party planned and I don't want to have to move it at the last minute."

The gaping hole in the face of the upper storey is awaiting the return of the crew's bricklayer who broke his foot when he dropped a brick on it. Once he gets back to work, Mr. Tyler expects things to proceed as

scheduled.

The discovery of dry rot in a second timber in the roof resulted in even more iron and bolts being used to ensure the safety of the structure and caused considerable unexpected expense, Mr. Tyler said.

The architect then discovered cedar shingles under the asphalt roof and insulated the building by re-shingling with the more expensive material to restore it as authentically as possible.

—Courtesy Guelph Mercury

Spoiling us with cultural goodies

In just two short years, the Halton Hills library-cultural centre has become an easily accessible centre of stimulating entertainment and information.

Its prominence underlines two things: in an age when everything seems to be regionalized, centralized or federated, a community's unique cultural spirit is an important heritage, well worth passing on to our children. Secondly, the pursuit of culture and education is as important a part of leisure time as keeping athletically fit.

Too often, residents in town see the enhancement of the sports and cultural pursuits as two opposing ideals. With municipal budgets becoming increasingly tighter, especially in Halton Hills where there's no substantial growth to help share the tax burden, the division of funds for culture and sports seems to be viewed as a competition.

Until recently, there hasn't been a focus like the cultural centre and the new spacious library which adjoins it, for the arts. Sports clubs gather

at soccer pitches or arenas, but arts groups, prior to the opening of the cultural centre, were left to find their own space.

In new larger quarters, the arts community and the library have come up with numerous fascinating programs, performances and art exhibits. They've filled a gap in the community with their earnest interest in the new building, proving to people that they don't have to leave town to enjoy quality entertainment in comfortable surroundings.

For new residents and people who haven't found the time to visit the centre, the recreation and parks department's anniversary celebration is a golden opportunity.

Featured guests during that Oct. 11 week include the Good Brothers and the Second City Touring Company, as well as local talent.

To ensure that the library-cultural centre has many more anniversaries in which there's something to really celebrate, it will need the growing interest of new converts, as well as the continued support of the groups who get the most benefit from it.

Write us a letter

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. It is of utmost importance that all parts of the letter are clearly legible. Letters must be signed and include the telephone number and address of the sender.

Excessively long letters may have to be edited due to space constraints. Letters may be dropped off at the Herald or mailed to: 45 Guelph St., Georgetown LG 3Z6.

If you would like to write your Federal Member of Parliament or Member of the Provincial Parliament on some matter of interest below are their mailing addresses. Also if you need us a copy of

your letter, it might be suitable for our letters to the editor column. John McDermid, Member of Parliament, Brampton-Georgetown, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ont.

Julian Reed, Member of Provincial Parliament, Halton-Burlington, Ontario Legislature, Queen's Park, Ont.

Otto Jelinas, Member of Parliament, Halton, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ont.

THIRTY YEARS AGO—Fred Armstrong, Jr. was appointed caretaker at Georgetown High School when North Halton high school board met Monday in Milton. One of four applicants for the position, Mr. Armstrong will replace Jack Evans who is retiring this month after serving for 23 years at the school. He has been employed with George Muckart while also operating a market garden at his home on the Check Line. Mr. Armstrong's salary is \$2,400.

The board will again sponsor classes in English and Citizenship for new Canadians in the three district high schools this winter, if there is a demand. A series of 20 classes is planned to start in a month. Orders were placed with Valley City Mfg. Co. for laboratory equipment for the new Georgetown and Acton schools, after a company salesman had shown these at the meeting.

Included in the purchase are 15 two-student desks for Georgetown and five four-student desks for Acton as well as stools, chairs and desks for the instructors. Principals of the three schools reported enrolment this year as 230 in Milton, 182 in Georgetown and 132 in Acton.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO—Georgetown Park will be bustling with activity Friday and Saturday of this week when the Esqueping Agricultural Society presents Georgetown's 112th annual fall fair. The fair is the highlight of the year and with favorable weather should attract a large attendance.

The big week-end gets underway when the fall exhibit are placed on Friday morning, judged in the afternoon and open to the public for perusal on Friday evening. The outside attractions are held Saturday when livestock, horses, poultry and farm exhibits start arriving early in the morning, with the horse show and harness races getting away at 12:30 with Vince Mountford as master-of-ceremonies. A starting gate will be used for the races and there will be jumping horses, ponies and road and saddle horse races. A brand new midway has been engaged this year, with Green Shows taking the spotlight.

TEN YEARS AGO—Monday is election day in the new region, tentatively known as North Halton, until a formal name is chosen. Voters will elect a regional council and a local council, both for a three-year term. The regional council will consist of 24 members. The local council for North Halton will have 13 members including its mayor. The mayor and four councillors will serve on the regional body.

ONE YEAR AGO—Georgetown lawyer and Esqueping resident Dick Howitt announced Tuesday he'll seek the Ward 2 (Esqueping) board of education seat in the Nov. 8 election. Currently chairman of the town's library board, Mr. Howitt spent a total of six years on the former Esqueping township council and later Halton Hills council between 1970 and 1976. He replaced the late Len Cox on regional council for a year and a half between 1975 and 1976. With a nine-year old daughter in the school system, Mr. Howitt explained that he is particularly interested in schooling in the region. He and his family live on Sidersoad 10.



Parking issue to be discussed

Mr. Lusty, our town Bylaw Enforcement and Licensing Officer, recently informed me that a municipal bylaw regarding handicapped parking spots will be presented within the next month to council. They intend to create parking spots for the disabled in all municipality controlled parking lots and urge private business, offices and stores to do the same.

A fine of \$25 is proposed as a gentle reminder to anyone contravening this bylaw. If you feel that you will require the use of these parking areas, I urge you to apply for a sticker or permit as soon as council passes these new rules. A medical certificate will be a requirement for these permits.

If you wish input into this bylaw before it is passed, contact your councillor now. Their phone numbers are listed on page three of the Fall-Winter recreation department circular recently distributed. The town office will also provide you with appropriate phone numbers.

A committee is being formed to represent the physically handicapped citizens of North Halton. Their aims include: identification of the needs and problems of the physically disabled with the intent of implementing solutions, assisting groups undertaking projects designed to increase participation and mobility of the disabled, provide information to the handicapped, concerning available facilities, resources and services, provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information for organizations and individuals in order to create awareness and promote a positive attitude, and to express the viewpoints of the disabled to appropriate officials and government representatives.

Those wishing further information, please call 833-2423.

Bible digest

Sunday, October 2, 1983: "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me." Psalm 56:3,4. Keep looking to God, no matter how things look!