

25th anniversary celebration Nov. 3

First Stewarttown school lacked books, hydro

Herald Special
Stewarttown Senior Public School is one of the several Halton schools that are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year. Their special Open House is Thursday, Nov. 3, 1983, 7-9:30 p.m. marking the opening, in the fall of 1958, of the new five-roomed complex.

In this connection we are presently doing some research into the beginnings of education in our area (Stewarttown and Esquesing). When the survey of 1819 was completed, this meant that the township was ready to receive settlers. Two of these

were John and Duncan Stewart, who arrived in this neighbourhood a year previously, 1818, and are considered the founders of Stewarttown. They recognized that the abundant water supply of the west branch of the Credit would, when dammed, would make an excellent place to build a saw mill and a grist mill, which they did, launching the new community in 1820.

Development was very slow over the next twenty years. Stewart settlers had to wrestle with the forest in order to carve out a homestead. Climate, isolation, sickness, were

among the adversities they had to cope with, and education was further down the list. Since the children were so scattered, and the road conditions so bad (mud spring and fall and deep with snow in winter) the first education was imparted by the parents or by some educated person who might sojourn in the community for awhile and give private tutoring as a way of earning a living.

As you pursue this further you realize that the pioneer home contained few luxuries that would be classes as resource material for teaching. The Bible

would be the only book available, there would be little in the way of writing materials, no school texts, no newspaper, not even a calendar.

The early schools could offer little more in the line of equipment or supplies. In a pioneer account of an early school of 1845, the three texts that sufficed were the Mavor spelling book, an English Reader, and the New Testament. In 1946 Egerton Ryerson began to make some improvements in Ontario's education system, the first of which was authorized Readers for each "book" or class; as we say now. He set up an inspection system for schools, too, and these township inspectors (who were often local clergymen) reported to a provincial superintendent.



Stewarttown Public School will be remembering her past when old classmates get together for an Open House Nov. 3 to celebrate their 25th anniversary. You'll probably see some familiar faces appear like these seven teachers who instructed in 1967 before the school's addition. Seen here are: (back row, left to right) Mrs. McKelvey, Peter Gardiner, Ron Chatten, principal, Mr. Blain, Mrs. Eleanor McKeown; (front row, left to right) Barbara Whitmee, Margaret Lawson, Hilda Boyes, Thelma Hearnes, secretary. The anniversary committee would appreciate receiving old class pictures, school pictures or old textbooks or materials. They may be brought to The Herald where they will be forwarded to the school committee. (Photo submitted)

Information about the first school at Stewarttown is sketchy, beyond the fact that it was a log building, erected by the men of the settlement in 1855 and located in the present school grounds on the east side of the Seventh Line. There were plank benches for a working surface around the walls, with blocks of wood for seats.

There were certainly no blackboards, no maps and few books. The heating system worked best when you stoked the stove with nice dry wood, rekindling it each morning, meant an early trip for the caretaker so the place would be exhibiting some evidence of warmth when the pupils arrived. Outdoor conveniences were the rule! (Hydro came to old Stewarttown school in 1940.)

HALSEY'S WATERBEDS

Present Their Annual....

WAREHOUSE BLAST!

LAST 3 DAYS
Thurs., Fri. & Sat.

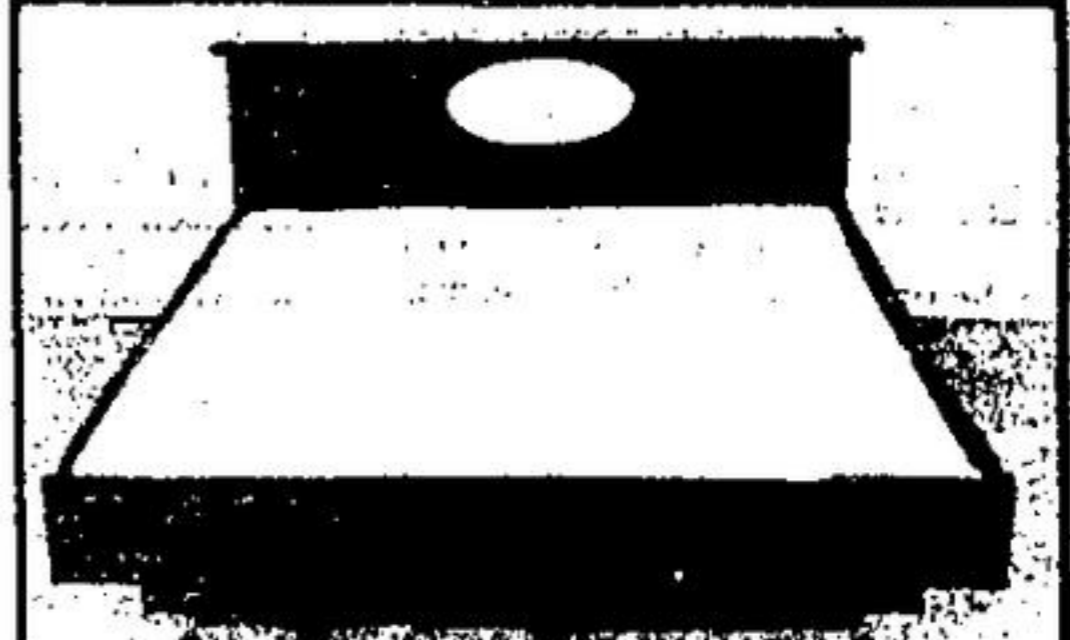


- Scratch & Dents
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- Waterbed Kits \$99.00
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BOOKCASE WATERBEDS

FROM \$249.00

- "MEMPHIS" \$249.00
- "ORLANDO" \$289.00



- "COUNTRY MANOR" \$349.00
- "LEDUC" \$389.00



Dan Martin new president

By JOHN KESTELOOT
Herald Special
The new Optimist president is Dan Martin (877-5427) while Bruce Totten is the secretary-treasurer.
All organizations please note that requests

for financial aid should be addressed to Bill Meek, financial chairman at 877-2931.
The official visit of the District Governor, Gord Hull, will be Oct. 11. The governor will install new members who are asked to make every effort to attend.
At present there are 103 members in the Century club, making it the largest club in eastern Ontario - a net increase of 21 members.
The club is providing free skating for one and a half hours beginning at 1 p.m. This will be on each P.A. Day starting Friday. Check with the recreation department because the arena location may change.
The total of 19 days of skating, one and a half hours each, was made possible through the firewood donated by the town, cut by the Optimists and sold to the public.
The Optimists wish to thank those who supported their snack bar at the ball diamond. The money raised goes directly to various programs in town.
Saturday Oct. 15 is the Optimist cross country run, starting at 9 a.m. at Cedarvale Park. Optimist members are needed to help with the marshalling in the morning. Call Mike Rèmes at 877-3588 for more information on the race.



Poppy Week

Poppy Week, the beginning of November, is fast approaching and is probably the main and original reason for our existence as a Legion. Our Poppy chairman is Harry Brown and I know he is making a great effort to make this another record breaking year. To do this he needs all the volunteers he can get and would appreciate those interested to contact him (873-1157). Orders for wreaths etc. should be given to Harry as soon as possible to ensure that they are available on time.
Our Remembrance Day Supper and parade will be held Nov. 5 and 6. Further details will be given later.
The B.B.Q. Steak night Oct. 1 went off with a bang to a full house, everyone enjoying themselves.

es. A hand of appreciation to all those who assisted to make it a success.
The winners at our Euchre Night held Sept. 23 were: 1st prize - Bob McEachern and Anna Swinkle. 2nd prize - Jean and Gord Harley. Booby - George Louth and partner.
ENTERTAINMENT: In the lounge on Saturday, Oct. 8 will be provided by the Sonic.
SICK LIST: In Georgetown Hospital: Walt Louth, Tom Harlow, H. Allen Sr. and Fred Weaver. In Peel Hospital: Lorne Cross.
FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY: A most enjoyable Wine and Cheese evening was held on Sept. 30 to celebrate our 55th birthday.
Entertainment by Katherine Beeton, pianist and singer, from Toronto. We were delighted to have Comrades from other branches join with us on this occasion as well as our Zone Commander, Comrade Rose Green.
We thank Bramalea branch for the Hors d'oeuvres tray, Brampton branch for a plaque and Bronte branch for brass candlesticks and to those who sent cards.
Rosy Ruthers of Bramalea branch won the 50-50 draw.
Our hats off to Ruby Bailey, Nellie Bell, Hazel Dumper and Flo Carswell for doing a fabulous job of our Wine and Cheese party, also to Chuck Tuttle on the bar.
The Ladies Night will be held Oct. 21. Call Leanne Hall for your tickets while some are still available.

HAND invites marchers

To the editor of The Herald:
This letter is to invite your readers to join members of HAND (Halton Hills Action for Nuclear Disarmament) and millions of people around the world to demonstrate our stand for a balanced, verifiable de-escalation of the nuclear arms race.
Saturday, Oct. 22 is the day, rally time for the march is 10:30 a.m. The assembly area is University Ave. north of Queen Street.
It is also hoped that this letter will encourage readers to write their response (pro or con) so that a public forum might take place through this "Letters to the Editor" column.
Yours sincerely,
Eldon Comfort

Creative Cookery Oct. 12

The North Halton toy library is presenting the creative cookery experience on Wednesday Oct. 12 at 8 p.m.
This demonstration will be held at St. John's United Church and tickets cost \$4 per person. Call 877-1565 or 877-8729.

CORRECTION

★★★
THOMAS VIDEO
Located in Moore Park Plaza
Georgetown
★★★
The ad which appeared in The Herald Weekend on Sept. 30/83 stated: 48 hr. Weekend Rental Special only \$14.95 - when it should have stated: 48 HR. WEEKDAY SPECIAL ONLY \$14.95.
The Halton Hills Herald regrets the error and any inconvenience this may have caused Thomas Video and their customers.

ONE "SUITE" DEAL

SOLID PINE SUITE INCLUDES



- 4 POSTER WATERBED
- DRESSER
- CHEST
- WING MIRROR
- 2 NIGHT TABLES

ALL FOR ONLY \$1495.00

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— HOURS —

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Fri.	9-9
Sat.	9-6
Sun.	12-6

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Georgetown Warehouse
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Oakville Hopedale Mall Rebecca & 3rd Line 827-6541