

# the HERALD Features



## FIREFIIGHTERS HONORED

Four Acton firefighters were honored for their years of service to the Halton Hills Volunteer Firefighters Association at Monday night's council meeting and presented with a certificate and mug in appreciation. They were each completing either 25 years of service as a firefighter or with the town works department. Honored by Mayor Pete Pomeroy (centre) were (left to right) Capt. Herb Dodds, John Vandenberg, District Chief Alf Doby and Deputy District Chief Bill Spletvogel.

(Herald photo)

## Legion Lines

The enthusiasm over the Grey Cup has been and gone and another good time was had by all at the Branch. I'm still not sure whether it was because of the noise created by the East fans over the West fans, or the fact that the Argos won the game, but one thing is certain, the East beat the pants off the West!

Dec. 14, the Branch will be giving out the prizes to the winners of the Poppy poster competition competed in by the children of our local schools. There were over a hundred posters and the judges really had a job to pick winners.

Dec. 15 our Children's Christmas Party will be held with the usual fun and entertainment and with Santa being present with gifts for all the children who were registered. All gifts must be picked up at the Party.

The New Year's dance will be \$30 per couple. Tickets are limited to two couples per member and can be obtained from the Stewards.

**HOUSE TROPHIES:** The house trophy for Crib was won by Jim Ford and Joyce Markham. The house trophy for shuffleboard will be played for Dec. 10 at 1:30 p.m.

**STEAK SHOOT:** Will be held on Saturday Dec. 17 at 3 p.m.

**EUCHRE:** Winners of our Friday night Euchre were 1st Kathy Prust and Ebel Anthony, 2nd Lucy Snow and Rod Cronin. The booby prize going to Bess Allan and Bob McTaggart.

**CAR DRAW:** Winners for the draw Dec. 1 were 1st Joe Louth, 333 Peter Smith, 151 Dave Trefry, 321 Ed Caldwell, 352 Pat Barr, 58 Ray Ingalls.

The Imperial section will be holding their Christmas Meeting at 2 p.m. Dec. 11.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Dec. 10 by Norm Eyles.

**SICK LIST:** Georgetown Hospital - Bob Williams, Fred Weaver and Harry Allan Sr.



## BEAVERS INVESTED

Scouting is 'on the move' according to their new theme which replaces the former slogan 'catch the spirit'. Here, new Beavers are invested at St. George's Anglican Church, supported by (back row, left to right) Michael Bahr, Greg Taylor, Michael Cairns, Scott Yates, Robbie Wands, Sammy Kent, Ryan Parker, Ryan Martin. The new Beavers are (left to right, front row) Robin Buckley, Tim Patterson and David Wallbridge.

(Photo by Jean Layman)

Brampton Hospital - Lorne Crosse, St. Joseph's, Guelph - Mary Harley, Henderson, Hamilton - Phoebe Collins.

**LADIES AUXILIARY:** Christmas meeting will be held on Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. We shall have a brief meeting and then our Christmas Pot Luck Party. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Liz McNeilly

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT WORKSHOPS

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## School board psychologists help children cope

By ANI FEDERIAN  
Herald Staff Writer

Children suffer from stress as much as adults and they need support in the same way, a psychologist with the Halton board of education

said. "If their life is fairly chaotic, I don't see how we can expect them to focus on their job, which is school, any more than we would expect an adult to do so," psycho-

logist Dan Dalton said. In today's culture, children are products of families stricken with broken marriages, unemployment or perhaps mental illness, he said.

One of four psychologists with the board, Dr. Dalton works in the Halton Hills and Milton schools, assessing children with learning or social-emotional difficulties.

"I think the most challenging cases are those where children have a great deal of emotional and social needs," he said. "We have some children here who've lived through trying times."

Most cases to come to his attention are not just problems suddenly experienced by children in the last month or two. Often, they are rooted within the family and extend over a longer time period.

psychologists have a battery of tests they can give a child to assess his problems—perceptual, auditory, learning disabilities, and academic achievement tests. They are standardized tests, Dr. Dalton said.

## No 'instant solution' to student help

Dr. Dan Dalton strives in his job as a psychologist with the Halton board of education to help children deal with the stress of school or family problems.

From the assessments and tests, a program is developed for the student in consultation with the classroom teacher, parents, social workers, child care workers and program consultants who may be involved.

"Part of the assessment process would be interviewing the teacher and parents. Observations would be made of the child in the classroom and schoolyard," he said.

There are children who find it difficult to make friends and feel part of a group. Perhaps their parents have constantly moved, Dr. Dalton said.

"They feel isolated and alienated and don't have the social skills to handle a classroom setting appropriately. Perhaps they're intimidated by the

large group," he said. "They need special assistance to overcome this."

The board tries to keep the pupil in his natural environment as much as possible. If the needs are severe, then Dr. Dalton will look for a special placement with a smaller group of pupils for the child.

"We're finding many of these children act very inappropriately in a large group, but their unacceptable behaviors are less evident in a smaller group," Dr. Dalton said.

The children feel insecure in a large group and their perception may be that they're living in enemy territory, he said.

"These solutions aren't easy, and they're always worked out in consultation with the parent," Dr. Dalton said. "There's never an instant solution. We do what we can, but psychology doesn't have all the answers, nor the resources to implement solutions to all the social problems."

### Probation breached

A 30-year old Glen Williams man has been charged with break and enter and breach of probation for trying to break into a John Street, Georgetown, apartment Nov. 29 at 2 a.m. The man had removed a living room screen and broken the adjoining window, causing \$30 damage.

### Piggy bank robbed

A piggy bank, heavy with coin, was robbed from a McKenzie Drive, Georgetown, home during daylight hours Nov. 29. Thieves caused \$200 damage to a rear door they forced open.

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