

Astro Advice for last minute shoppers

# Scanning the zodiac for gift ideas

By EUGENIA LAST  
Herald Staff Writer  
As Christmas approaches we begin to rack our brains to come up with a unique and affordable gift for the loved ones on our list. To make this extensive job somewhat more fun and less intense I have scanned the zodiac for suggestions that might help.

VCR units or computers would do nicely as well. The Aries child likes movable toys, barking puppies, race car sets, new bikes, or anything related to sports. A pogo stick or an electronic game would make their little eyes widen.

For the Gemini we must keep in mind that



EUGENIA LAST  
they like things that appeal to the intellect. Perhaps a good book or anything required in such singular sports as skiing, or racket ball.

become so popular with both our participants and spectators. For the child maybe a toy typewriter, camera, electronic game or labyrinth which takes both mental agility and coordination.

**HOME BODIES**  
For the Cancer, remember they're homebodies and historians, so anything that will add comfort and beautification to their environment is ideal. They also like soaps and luxurious things for the bath as well as good food such as Christmas cake, nuts, candies and treats.

Junior trivia and things that can be used around the house. To delight them even further, please don't forget to place a candy-cane as an ornament on their package.

For the Leo, we must remember that being the kings and queens of the zodiac they like sunshine and gold. However, if you can't afford their rich taste try a gift certificate to a health spa, a Pot of Gold lottery ticket, or chocolates.

magic set or anything related to the arts in order to allow their theatrical side to flourish.

For the Virgo you must keep in mind that they like detail, so perhaps a calculator, digital watch or craft to work on in the new year. You would also do well with a VCR or home computer, however, additional supplies for these units would also be appreciated by the Virgos already owning such equipment. For the child, building toys, books, records, radios, electronic games or perhaps "Junior Trivia" will make them happy.



Paul Placido (front) and his brother Steve were at BI-Way in downtown Georgetown Saturday morning looking through the variety of toys and games available this Christmas. (Herald photo)

877-5213  
**FOBERT**  
Real Estate Inc.  
360 Guelph Street  
Georgetown, Ontario  
EXCELLENCE AND  
IN CUSTOMER RE

# the HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills - Established 1866

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1983

**thruway**  
347 Guelph St.  
Georgetown  
377-0179



## DOG'S DAY

Charity work can sometimes be a drag, or so Dick the Newfoundland canine would have us believe, but the rewards can also be uplifting. The Newfoundland Dog Club of Canada and the St. Bernard Club of Ontario were at Murray Dryden's Christmas tree farm in Caledon Sunday helping to

raise money for "Sleeping children around the world". The charity raises money to buy slumber kits for needy children throughout the world. All proceeds from the \$7 trees, plus tips to the hard-working dogs, will go towards the children's sleep fund. (Herald photo by Dave Rowney)

## Inquest on death of Georgetown man concludes

# Company tow motors in 'appalling condition'

By ANI PEDERIAN  
Herald Staff Writer

Tow motors at Maple Lodge Farms Ltd, RR2 Norval were all in an "appalling condition", and had an emergency button been operating on tow motor No. 7, employee Nic Bos wouldn't have been in the predicament he was, crown attorney Ken McCabe told jurors Dec. 13 as the seven day long coroner's inquest wrapped up.

Mr. Bos, 41, of Georgetown's Stevens Crescent, died July 9 of cerebral anoxia, meaning a lack of blood and oxygen to the brain. He was found in the first bin area at Maple Lodge Farms, with his neck between the handle of a battery-powered hand-controlled tow motor forklift and the skids on the second level of storage racks.

The tow motor was in reverse and the motor running. "There wasn't one tow motor which wasn't defective in one way or another," lawyer for the Bos family Fred Helson said. Inspected after the tragic incident, they were all found to have the safety switch and the cut-off switch to the brakes disconnected. Steering was also found to be defective.

During the inquest, a Maple Lodge mechanic characterized the tow motor which killed Mr. Bos as "a piece of junk", Mr. Helson recalled. "As a result of indifference, especially on the management level, but through to the lowest employee, Mr. Bos has lost his life," he concluded.

**SUPERFICIAL**  
Found by fellow employees, artificial respiration was done in a superficial manner, the crown said. "Nobody knew what to do; nobody had any training," Mr. McCabe said. "The sad fact is... nobody knew if there might be somebody else in that plant who could help out because he had training."

ny had a safety maintenance program, it was called an "abysmal failure" by Mr. McCabe.

The Maple Lodge safety committee was run by "completely inexperienced" people unfamiliar with the occupational health and safety act-in terms of what it provides employees and what their obligations to their fellow workers were, he said.

**NOT IMPORTANT**  
Safety hasn't been an important factor either at the employee or management levels, Mr. McCabe said in his suggestion that an effective maintenance program be adopted by

Maple Lodge with follow-up by staff, management, or the safety committee.

The ministry of labor was also criticized by Mr. McCabe who called ministry inspections too infrequent and "completely ineffective". A comment was made on the first-name basis relationship between the ministry inspector and plant supervisor, calling it "perhaps too casual, too friendly."

Although the ministry gave the company warnings about the tow motor brakes back in March and May 1983, nothing was done about the brakes. The ministry inspector made no written records of the

warnings and there was no follow-up to check the brakes had been corrected, Mr. McCabe noted.

"There was not an adequate or thorough investigation here," he said. "Clearly there should be. We rely on the ministry to supervise or police industry."

**A JOKE**  
With up to 10,000 industries in the area, and only seven ministry inspectors, "it's tantamount to a joke", Mr. McCabe said, calling it ludicrous. The province should increase ministry funds to allow for more inspectors to be hired.

Maple Lodge lawyer Bob Folkes said there

was no intent on the part of his employer to have employees working in an unsafe place.

"The day-to-day concern of getting the job done took a primary role and superior consideration to safety aspects," he acknowledged.

Since the incident, Maple Lodge has implemented changes, coroner Dr. Jim Cairns said. Mr. Folkes and personnel and Maple Lodge industrial relations manager Keith Coutlee declined to comment on the changes when questioned at the inquest. The Herald was unable to get their comments as of press time.

## Public funding hopes dim for Acton town hall use

By CHRIS AAGAARD  
Herald Staff Writer  
Hopes dimmed Monday night that town council would ever contribute public funds to the restoration of the 100-year old former Acton town hall.

Although the restoration project is well underway, Ted Tyler urged councillors to turn over \$24,000 remaining in a reserve account (once slated for the building's restoration), to Heritage Acton. Since February, Heritage Acton has been using federal job creation funds and cultural

grants to repair the old town hall which has been abandoned since the mid-1970s. Just over \$180,000 has been spent repairing the exterior brick work and renovating the interior, Mr. Tyler said. When completed, the old town hall will have a spacious first floor with meeting rooms, a kitchen and washrooms, and a second floor auditorium.

About the renovations, Mr. Tyler said: "We're going to do it with or without the (\$24,000), but it would make things so much easier with the money."

**Staff Sgt. promoted**  
Criminal Investigations Bureau Staff Sgt. Les Graham, who works out of the Georgetown station, has been made the new head of the Criminal Intelligence Bureau at the Halton regional police Oakville headquarters. Staff Sgt. Roy Smith will take over the Investigations Bureau as of Jan. 1, 1984.

**Sheep shots**  
Sixty pounds of sheep meat were stolen by three people who fleeced the Teggart Farms on Steeles Avenue east of Tenth Line. Halton regional police said the incident took place Saturday after an argument over sheep blood. The suspects were purchasing mutton. Police are investigating.

**SPORTS INSIDE**  
**Sports**  
A Swedish minor midget calibre team will take part in the annual Georgetown midget tournament next week. Page B1

**Tree vandal**  
A John Street resident woke up Sunday to find the eight foot blue spruce tree in his front yard had been chopped and stolen away in the night. Halton regional police said the tree had been cut with a handsaw.

**Entertainment**  
'New Girl' set for February opening. Theatre training starts early for many GLT, Globe veterans. Page A10

**Passenger injured**  
A 35-year-old man was taken to Georgetown Memorial Hospital by ambulance Dec. 13, after the car in which he was a passenger slid into rocks at the entrance to Burns Transport on Armstrong Avenue. Sam Jolicoeur suffered minor injuries in the collision and was released from hospital two days later. There was \$2,000 damage to the vehicle.

## Jury recommendations

"No one is excluded" from ensuring safety at Maple Lodge Farms in Norval, a coroner's inquest jury told Coroner Dr. Jim Cairns Dec. 13.

The three women-two men jury sat through seven days of evidence in the inquest into the July 9 death of Maple Lodge employee Nic Bos, 41.

Determining the cause of Mr. Bos' death as accidental, and the result of being trapped by a tow motor which was malfunctioning, the jury made several recommendations which follow:

- employees be given proper and adequate instructions in the use of tow motors and equipment and have knowledge of all safety features.
- have available all operation and repair manuals for tow motors and equipment making sure all supervisors, operators and maintenance personnel read and understand the information.
- detailed records of past maintenance problems be kept and made available to Ministry of Labor inspectors.
- training courses be made available to maintenance personnel working on tow motors and equipment.
- all plant managers, supervisors and willing employees on each shift have a minimum of C.P.R. and/or St. John's Ambulance training.
- Maple Lodge Farms should have a first-aid room, which complies with Occupational Health and Safety Act, with qualified staff and equipment.
- post on bulletin board throughout all department

minutes of all safety committee meetings, requesting all employees to peruse and comment, with distribution in multi-languages.

-in layman's language, all employees to understand their rights and obligations pertaining to Occupational Health and Safety Act.

-tow motors and equipment to be fitted where practical with roll bars or cages.

-all management and supervisors and willing employees be instructed in safety and labor laws to ensure information is displayed in all departments.

-safety committee to ensure safety signs throughout plant be concise and clear in employees' own language, published in every department in visible areas.

-the provincial government provide greater funds for additional inspectors available for the Ministry of Labor to carry out duties more effectively throughout industry to ensure inspectors do and maintain a thorough inspection as set forth in the Act (Occupational Health and Safety) complete with follow-up policy to ensure problems have been corrected.

-Ministry of Labor make available a course to inform persons on Safety Committee of their responsibilities and obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

-Ministry of Labor should make sure any recommendations made by this jury are carried out.

Generous donations of cash and food to Acton's Salvation Army mean that numerous Halton Hills families will have a brighter Christmas this year. It's truly been a community event, with service clubs, merchants and schools joining

**Sally Ann's spirit of giving**  
By PAM DOUGLAS  
Herald Special  
The spirit of giving is alive and well and residing at the Salvation Army's Acton bureau where staff are preparing Christmas hampers for the needy. To date, applications for the hampers have reached 70, but organizer Captain Wilson Perrin is expecting a few more applications before the Army distributes the hampers. "At Christmas every body finds buying toys for the children an extra burden. A lot of people don't even have the money to buy any toys," said Capt. Perrin. "The hampers help make their Christmas a little easier financially," he said. The Army gets help from social workers who verify facts on applications such as income, job situation, and financial situation. Each has to be looked at separately. An application is looked at individually and for its own merit," said