The constitutionality of having a 12-year old trustee on the Halton board of education has never been looked at, Halton Hills trustee Dick Howitt noted Thursday night. Born on a leap year, Mr. Howitt only celebrates his birthday every fourth year, when Feb. 29 claims its spot on the calendar. At the board meeting, Mr. Howitt was presented with a home-made birthday cake by chairman Betty Fisher (left) and a T-shirt proclaiming him the youngest trustee. Halton Hills trustee Arlene Bruce (right) didn't miss out on the birthday wishes.

A long wait for Dick Howitt

It's always a long wait between birthdays for Dick Howitt.

The Georgetown lawyer and Halton Hills trustee is born on a leap year and it's only every four years that he gets to blow out the candles.

When he was just a little boy in Windsor he used to make the papers with headlines that read "Poor Richard, he won't get a birthday this year".

One birthday, his wife threw him a surprise birthday party at which all the guests dressed up as 10 year olds with pigtails, rompers and short pants.

"We had hot dogs and played children's games," Mr. Howitt chuckled. "They all gave me presents suitable for a 10 year old."

According to the calendar, Mr. Howitt turns 12 this Feb. 29, chronologically, however, he's really 48 years old.

"The only trouble with being born on a leap year is that everyone knows how old you are. All they have to do is multiply by four to get my real age," he said.

A law graduate from Osgoode Hall in 1964, Mr. Howitt said there have been no legal cases he's aware of in which the age of a person born on a leap year has been questioned.

Being 12 means he shouldn't be allowed in bars or places restricted to minors. According to his profession, minors can't be an executor of a will or sign contracts that are binding.

"However, that's never been used as a defense," Mr. Howitt said. "Other people wonder legally what is my age, but I think there's no question I'm 48."

He said his daughter Sarah gets a kick out of his age. She's going to be 11 in April and is already telling her schoolmates, "I'll soon be as old as my dad, and next year I'll be the same age as him."

Legion Ladies

Zone cribbage trophy won by Acton auxiliary team

By LIZ McNEILLY
Herald Special

The Zone Cribbage was held in Georgetown on Saturday the winners being: First - Georgetown 'A' Team - Floss Tracy and Vi Hewitt. Second - Georgetown 'C' Team - Pat Barr and Jean Read. Third was a team from Milton. In the play-off for the Zone Trophy Acton emerged the winners.

Please remember your donations for the Bazaar coming up on March 31. There will be a meeting at the Branch on Thursday, March 1 at 8 p.m. in the lounge for all interested ladies of the auxiliary to help with the arrangements and ideas for our social that will be held on Thursday, April 12.

If you are unable to attend and would like to offer your help or be on a committee please phone Mid Brunski at 877-4225.

Apologies to Dot Day for the error in reporting last week. Dot received her 35 year pin, not 30 as reported.

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