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## Mental Retardation Week

# Helping us all

In the month of May we're often caught up in a swarm of promotional 'weeks' dedicated to increasing the profile of different groups and individuals.

However, May 6-12 is high on our list of special dates because it marks Mental Retardation Week in Canada.

From its humble beginnings 29 years ago, the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded has grown in staff, volunteers and resources.

The NHAMR and organizations like it across the province provide a variety of services to mentally-han-dicapped residents, as well as other types of support through ancillary organizations.

Direct services include life and social skills training through residential programs and job skills at Arc Industries.

Meanwhile, other helpful groups fall under the NHAMR's umbrella. They include the toy lending library, Tinkerbell Nursery School in Milton, the Be-A-Friend program at Hornby's Countryside residence and the Extend-A-Family service which began last fall.

As president of the North Halton Association Bert Arnold has said in the past, "It's not 'them' you're helping, it's us."

You might want to keep that in mind as the Association fund-raising continues this week.

## Support your blood donor clinic

Monday, May 14 is the next Blood cancelled due to the need of blood, and Donor Clinic, so take a friend or member of your family to give blood. . . blood donor but are nervous or shy because they don't know what to

Everyone between the ages of 17 and 65 are encouraged to come. The clinic at Holy Cross Auditorium begins at 1:30 p.m. and continues until 8:30

In Canada we are fortunate enough needed, for free, where in the U.S. you have to pay a fairly high price for the

same life-saving privilege. There just isn't enough blood on hand to meet needs and needs are growing faster than the increase in

blood donations. The blood bank is in great need of our most common blood type which is

'O' Positive and 'O' Negative. Some operations have to be

if there was to be an emergency a request would have to be made for Many people would like to be a more blood packs from Toronto which would take I or 11/2 hours before they would arrive here. It is emotionally upsetting for

patients to become "psyched up" for surgery only to have it cancelled due to the lack of blood supply.

Many people feel since 'O' Positive is the most common type blood, there is no need for them to donate blood. But to have our blood given to us when since it is the most common it is also the one most frequently called for. becoming rare at times.

Every adult has 12-13 pints of blood in his system. Removed is slightly less than one pint (the amount donated to a Red Cross Blood Clinic) and the body replaces the plasma or liquid portion of the blood in 24 hours and the red cells in 3 or 4 weeks.

Giving blood is giving life.

Letters to the editor

# Group asks where is MPP's support

EDITOR'S NOTE: This letter was filed with The Herald for publication,

Mr. Julian Reed, MPP. 15 Montgomery Lane. Milton, Ontario

Dear Mr. Reed,

It was suggested last week at a public meeting with Ontario Censor Board Chairman, Mary Brown that those concerned with the increase in violent and childabusive films and videos contact their local MPP. I informed those present of the discussion we had at your Strawberry Social in the spring of 1983. In reply to my statement that exploitation of children was my group's major focus, you replied that that was a federal matter coming under the Criminal Code of Canada and that cruelty to animals was your major concern.

After our talk, your letter "Censor Board should end Hypocracy" appeared in both local newspapers. I was pleased to see that in it you prioritized your concerns as 1. children, 2. violence and 3, animals. Your letter was posted at the Mary Brown meeting and I referred the audience to it to read your comments for themselves.

Having acted in commercials you will appreciate the power of visual advertising. General Mills wouldn't pay thousands of dollars to have viewers watch people enjoying Cheerios if they didn't know that would influence them to try them for themselves ...

What the Ontario Censor Board does then is to prevent the worst parts

of these films (6 per cent of some 1900 films have some segments clipped annually) from being seen publicly. They limit these "ads" for anti-social sexual beha-

Certainly federal laws need to be changed so that children apparently under 18 cannot be used or portrayed as sexual objects in all media. Britain as well as many other countries have child protection laws whereas in Canada some politicians have been working since 1978 to effect such a law. It is only because of the Ontario Censor Board

that we have had some protection from this kind of material. Any bill intended to

create a child pornography law has died in the House due to lack of public support. What are you as a representative, albeit provincial, but still a representative of people in Halton doing to pressure the federal government into enacting this much

needed law? I look forward to your reply,

Yours truly, Gail Rutherford, Citizens Against Violent Pornography

## Don't be deterred by unfavorable press

Dear Sir.

I am pleased to express faith in nurses especially the nurses at our hospital and the health

As a 76 year old patient in hospital I have found them to be efficient, loyal to their duties and exuding the all important tender loving care. I would hope that no would-be nurse will be

deterred by the unfavourable atmosphere created by some unfortunate media coverage, (some call it inquisition).

I urge all nurses to be of good cheer - carry on with your splendid contribution to society! Ernle Forgrave

## Bang-O-Rama parade

A parade with RCMP horses trotting from Cedarvale Park to the Georgetown Fairgrounds is being planned for Bang-O-Rama.

The annual Victoria Day event is being held by the Georgetown Optimists May 21, and received general committee approval by town councillors Monday night.

The parade will begin on Deirex Boulevard, south of Maple Avenue at 12:30 p.m., go west on Maple Avenue, north on Main Street, west on Mill Street, south on Market Street and west on Park Street into the Fairgrounds.

The parade will celebrate Onterio's bicentennial with the theme of "Our Heritage". All townspeople, church and service groups, are

invited to take part. Fireworks worth \$6,000 will be fired off.



"Doctor, it's a Mr. Mulroney. Seems he saw the latest polls!"

# Bells can hijack parliament on behalf of whatever cause



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

The only truly innovative legislative tactic introduced in the past decade has been that of "letting the bells ring". And it is a troublesome one.

When a political party decides to let the bells ring it, in essence, hijacks parliament on behalf of whatever cause it is favoring.

It is, for example, the way the Manitoba Conservatives derailed the provincial NDP government's plan to entrench French-language services in the constitution. And it was also the way the Ontario

then-Treasurer Frank Miller's budget in 1982. The technique itself is the height of simplicity. Parliamentary tradition dictates that when the bells are rung

Liberals expressed displeasure at

actually taken until the whips of all parties appear before the Speaker. DON'T APPEAR

Both in Manitoba and at Queen's Park the official opposition whips stayed away, therefore effectively bringing the business of the Legislatures to a halt.

In Manitoba the bells rang for weeks. Here it was two days plus a weekend. (And in Ottawa, where the federal Conservatives first used the tactic, it was two weeks).

In no case could the deadlock be broken unless the protesting opposition party returned or the government decided to dissolve parliament and take the issue to the voters.

In Manitoba the NDP government, knowing it would be hammered in an election, finally caved-in and removed its French-language services bill.

In Ontario the Liberals came back and Miller's budget bills went ahead as planned. All the Grits gained was a little publicity.

NEW IDEA

But ever since the 1982 incident politicians here have been toying with various schemes to prevent an opposition party using the bells method to freeze parliament.

These have now been formalized in a committee recommendation that would allow a bell crisis to run about three weeks, during which time the government would not proceed with the Item in dispute.

But only six days would actually be lost "to the bells" within that time.

Conservative support.

**GRITS AGAINST** 

approval fairly small.

If so, then inevitably the Assembly here will fave another bell-ringing episode when one or other opposition party thinks the issue important enough or, simply, that it has the public on its side.

The committee's complex formula appears to be mainly the brainchild of Oshawa New Democrat Mike Breaugh, and should have NDP and maybe

But the Liberals prefer another method of handling the bells, Liberal House Leader Bob Nixon would agree to taking votes automatically at the end of every sitting day if the government, in return, would allow the two opposition parties to refer to public committee hearings as many as five items (total) every calendar year.

That Liberal dissent makes the likelihood of the committee recommendation receiving legislative

# calling the members to vote, no vote is Liberal leadership plans interfere with NDP party



Ottawa Report

By Stewart' McLeod

It's fine for New Democratic Leader Ed Broadbent to talk about the need to sell NDP policies to the Canadian people - but that's not the party's basic problem right now. It's my rather unscientific view that, through the Liberal leadership race, Canadians are having enough difficulty trying to figure out the policies of the person who will be the next prime

minister. And this preoccupation is further complicated by the fact that we're still coming to grips with the policies of Tory Leader Brian Mulroney, the man generally perceived likely to succeed, and rather quickly at that, the new Liberal leader as prime minister.

Given the fact that the Liberal candidates, in their touring road show, are offering us just about every conceivable philosophy in the political spectrum, and the winner will automatically head the government, is It reasonable to expect us to show much concern with the policies of the NDP which, according to the latest Gallup poll, is supported by only 11 per cent of the electorate?

Let's face it, Ed Broadbent is not going to become prime minister of

Canada in the immediate future. WON'T WAIT

In a recent television interview. Broadbent optimistically predicted that the NDP will bounce back once the economy begins to improve. "It has now become almost commonplace to say in northern democracies, either here or in Europe, when there is a perceived economic crisis people don't tend to respond to new ways of doing things politically like the NDP offers, but tend to become more conservat-

He went on to say that the party is not going to sit back and wait for the economy to improve. The NDP would even be going door-to-door seiling its policies on such issues as women's programs, unemployment and technological change.

And, as if fulfilling a prerequisite of any party leader, he said he thought Canadians are becoming more attentive to policy. It would be a lame-duck leader indeed who would dare say that Canadians are becoming more disinterested in his party's policies.

There are probably many reasons why the NDP is in such a disasterous condition right now. Broadbent is no doubt correct in pointing to the economic difficulties. One could also point to a general swing to the right in the industrialized world. And one could also mention the fact that Broadbent is not the most charismatic leader in the western world. And, if one were to delve into policies, a finger could be pointed at the fact that the Liberal party has tended to take over much of the fertile ground traditionally occupied by the NDP.

One could even suggest that the trade unions in general, and the Canadian Labor Congress in particular, haven't been all that helpful.

NOTRELEVANT But even if you were to eliminate all of these probably problems, it seems highly unlikely that the NDP would be a relevant factor in Canadian federal politics these days. Over the last 15 months - and perhaps a good deal longer - we have been immersed in the leadership problems, and policies, of the two major parties. During last year's Conservative leadership race, we were offered everything from extreme Red Toryism to extreme Blue Toryism with the expectations - still relatively undiminished - that the winner would eventually become prime minister. And now we're at it again, with a battery of candidates ranging from socialist to conservative, with the winner automatically becom-

ing prime minister - however, briefly. Quick, how many nights have you stayed awake wondering how an NDP government would deal with technological change?

Since everything in politics seems to have a cyclical motion, I suspect Ed Broadbent is on safe ground in predicting the NDP will bounce back. But I think the party would be wasting its money in any immediate policy blitz.

Until the Liberals get around to selecting a new warlord in June, and until the NDP know what this new enemy stands for, its own politics are largely irrelevant. Perhaps absolutely

### Letter to the editor

# Block parents need our help

Dear Sir, We all operate under the assumption that bad things may happen to someone else or in some other community. Let's hope that we are right. Maybe the Block Parent Program is the ounce of prevention that keeps bad things from happening to kids in Georgetown.

Some people with signs in their windows are unhappy that they have not been called on and think that the program is not working. How wonderful that they have not been needed.

The signs are a deterrent to would-be, child molesters who can see that this is a community that cares about its children. Because we have had

no serious incidents in the last couple of years. there has been less interest and support for the program. The committee that looks after the Block Parent Program has dwindled to two and the service club that once generously gave financial support withdrew it three years ago. The phone lists must now be

reorganized. Some people have moved or changed phone numbers without reporting the change. In a few cases Senior Block Parents or Area Captains have an unreasonable number of people to phone.

All Block Parents should expect a phone call in the next few weeks. When you are

called please remember that this is a very necessary call. If information is incorrect we are living with false security. If you are asked to be a Senior Block Parent or an Area Captain please remember that this is a very small time commitment.

Many communities wish that they had a Block Parent Program. We have one but it could die for lack of interest. If everyone does a little it could be here when our grandchildren set off for kindergarten.

Block Parents are hoping for closer cooperation with the police and schools to streamline information to children and to help in the recruiting of new

Yours truly, Barbara Halsall, Georgelown

### Christmas Seals raise **\$118,919**

The Christmas Seal Campaign itself raised \$118,919 but thanks to our Supplementary Fund Raising I.e. Holly Day, Book Sale, Bingo, Coins from Oakville Place Fountain etc., we came within \$244.15 of reaching our goal of

\$130,000. Our cordial thanks to

> C.L. McFadden, Chairman. Christmas Seal Campaign

# Halton's History

THIRTY YEARS AGO-The first minstrel show organized in Georgetown in years, Two Dark Knights, was a self-out two nights in a row. Feature performers included Rev. John M. Smith, Wheldon Emmerson, Vern McCumber, Stu Young, Ern Hyde, George Glassford, Tom Faram, Isobel Dobson and others.

A member of one of Georgetown's pioneer families, Laurence Burt, 74, died at his farm home near Georgetown Saturday morning. Mr. Burt had farmed for almost 50 years on the Seventh Line, purchasing the property from his uncle George Burt. Prior to that, he farmed two years in Erin Township on a farm adjoining his dad's. FIFTEEN YEARS AGO-A small fire

firemento Ike Wilde's home. En route. firemen spotted a huge unreported barn fire on Sixth Line just north of Sideroad 17. An increase in the incidence of rables in the county brought Health of

in a Sideroad 17 residence brought out

animals division Ministry of Agriculture doctor A. McNabb to Esquesing council Monday night. Five men cut up the \$1,000 first prize money in al elimination draw, highlight of the Junior Raiders Hockey

Club's first annual stag night in the Legion auditorium. Work on the Halton Falls and Scotch Block projects may be started next year by the Halton Region Conservation Authority. Budget for the Hilton Falls Reservoir calls for

\$161,000; for the Scotch Block reservoir it's \$135,000. TEN YEARS AGO-September is listed as the starting date for home delivery of mail according to Acton postmaster

Gord McKeown. The Northwest GO transit service between Georgetown and Toronto was officially opened Saturday amid pomp and fanfare usually reserved for a royal visit. Mayor Tom Hill, regional chairman Allan Masson and Halton East MPP Jim Snow welcomed 500 people and the Acton Citizens' Band to

the Georgetown station, Debbie Eyre, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Eyre of Shelley Street received a silver medal for second place and a bronze for third for singing at the Peel Musical Festival. She's a Grade 8 pupil at Stewarttown

Public School. FIVE YEARS AGO-When auctioneer Ward Brownridge wants a bid, he lets you know. He was on hand for one Charles Street auction Saturday. With the warmer weather, auction season will soon be underway and auctioneers like Mr. Brownridge will be kept hopping

Winners in the recent Opti-Mrs. euchre party in St. Andrew's United Church include Rena Evans, Earl Hoskins, Luena Campbell, Clarence Baker, Sylvia Graham and George Louth.

Howard Green took part in the Zeller's Bubble Yum Bubble-Blowing contest. Over 200 children competed in · the contest to see who could blow the largest bubble.



If you are visually impaired, all major chartered banks, credit unions, and trust companies offer special services. All new Royal Bank branches are being constructed with the needs of the disabled in mind. A booklet can be obtained listing branches with facilities as well as a tape describing personal

services. The Royal Bank Letter is also available in braille: In addition, the Visa Centres are equipped with "Visual Ears", allowing hearing impaired clients with compatible devices at

home to obtain information directly. The financial institutions are interested in obtaining your business, so it still pays to shop around for the services best suited to your needs be it large print cheques, printing guides, braille, accessibility, or better hours and personal service.

Every now and then someone

develops a new wheelchair that will climb and descend stairs under its own power. I'm looking at a picture of a West German model that is neat, tidy and has no problems with stairs. Unfortunately its size would preclude most indoor use. Oh well, back to the drawing board. Between April 25 and 29 the USA

National Amputee Champlonships were held in Nashville. Kim Harnois, sponsored by Halton Hills Taxl, Morley Mills Co-op, and friends and neighbors, won 3 silver and 3 bronze medals in various track and field events. Kim has won gold in the past for

swimming but she is now turning to other sports. At the end of May, Canada will be choosing a team for the Olympics to be held in Long Island, New York. Let's all hope she can make the team and represent us in this international event.

## Poetry Corner

DONQUIXOTE

I'll walt:

CHARGE.

Though you are caught within the net A thousand dragons seek your fate... You raise your hand to say "Not yet". I'll wait. But, be assured though time be large: To quietest whisper "now",... I will not walt But fully to your rescue

-Robert D. Rennie, Acton