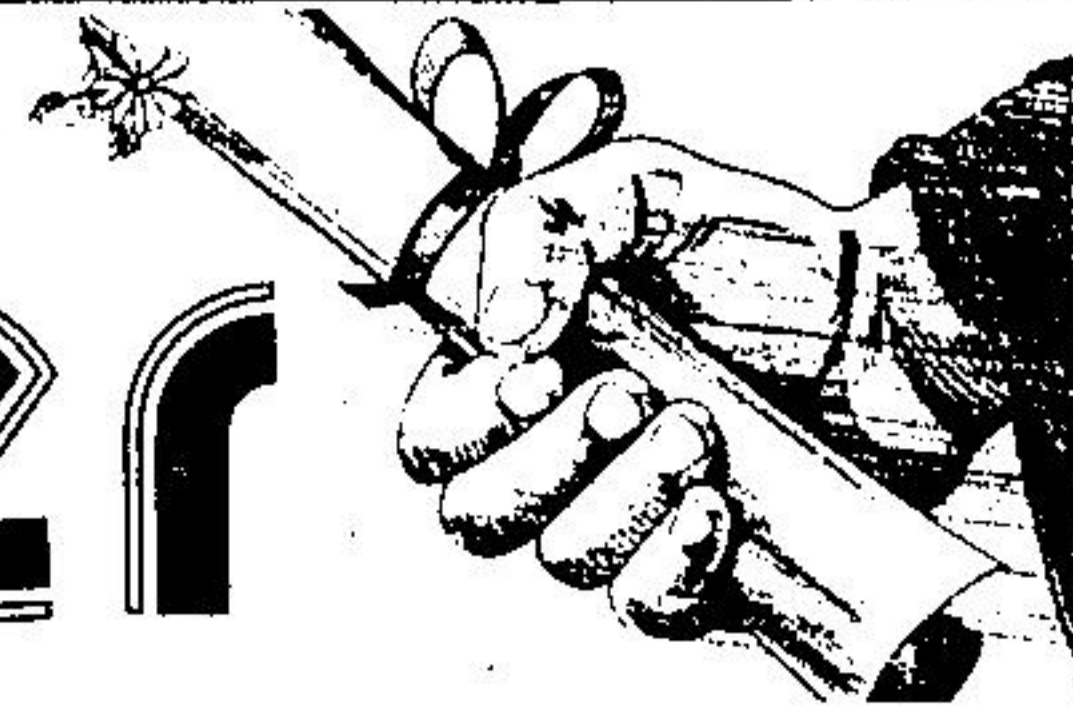


GEORGETOWN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Leader



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Our Students need a lift

By SUSAN BLACKMORE
Leader Staff

Aggie Kavanaugh has had cerebral palsy all of her life. She will graduate from high school this year and, although she won't be able to take advantage of the lift herself, Aggie is relieved a lift is finally being installed.

It is no exaggeration when Aggie says that trying to get around the school on her crutches is exhausting. The absence of a lift has had a definite effect on Aggie's grades. After a long day at school, Aggie feels drained and she rarely has enough energy to attack homework.

Aggie believes she instigated the movement to get a lift four years ago. After a few months, she demanded that something be done to help her. In her first year at the school, Aggie was late for her classes several times.

One of her teachers requested that Aggie leave her previous class early to be on time for that class. When she was late yet again, the teacher became upset. Frustrated, Aggie asked, "What can I do, fly?" Now she would reply, "I'll get there when I get there."

In September, Aggie will be attending Sheridan College in Oakville. She is glad that that institution is fully equipped. Aggie also thinks that the lift will solve many of the problems she is faced with, such as having a locker on the ground floor and classes upstairs.

JOYRIDE

As a result of the lift, Aggie believes that many of her handicapped friends will be able to attend Georgetown High School.

She thinks this will be more convenient for them, instead of their having to leave town to go to school. Even though she won't have much use of the lift herself (she plans to come back for a joyride, however), Aggie Kavanaugh has the satisfaction of knowing the lift will be there for others.

By June of this year a lift for the handicapped will have been installed at Georgetown District High School. Last year, a committee led by Bob Rumsey was formed in order to find aid for the disabled students at the high school. The lift was

their decision for improvement.

The Optimists have also become involved in the lift campaign. They had wanted to find a project which the youth of Georgetown would benefit from, and found the lift program a most worthy one. Jim Broughton of the high school is chairman of the committee to raise funds for the lift.



The Optimists approached Georgetown's young people to ask them to get involved and canvassed the community as well. The high school has also sponsored activities on which they raised money for the campaign.

Recently, Acton High School donated some of the money they received from their Chum F.M. Roadshow to the lift program.

The balance of the money to go along with the \$21,000 that has already been raised is coming from the Ministry of Labour and the local school board with the majority of this money coming from the Ministry of Education. Construction work on the lift is being done by McNally Construction of Georgetown.

Along with the building of the lift, the installment of automatic doors and the modification of washrooms is being planned.

Those temporarily disabled will also have use of the lift. Mr. Broughton hopes that these improvements will bring more handicapped students to the school. He would like to thank the students of Georgetown High School and the business community of Georgetown for all their assistance.

Youth living on their own

By SUSAN BLACKMORE
Leader Staff

Unfortunately, in our community today, we find that many young people can no longer live at home

and have had to make it on their own. Peggy Balkind of Acton Community Services says the reasons are many. The causes range from physical or emotional abuse to exercising independence.

Once a child reaches the age of sixteen, he is legally allowed to move out on his own. It can't be said that only good or bad kids leave home as it depends on the circumstances which cause them to do so.

"Jane" is an eighteen-year-old girl who has been living on her own for a year. Her situation at home became so unbearable that it was a mutual decision by her and her parents that she leave.

Although Jane feels leaving was the best choice for her, she has been confronted by many problems in the last twelve months.

MOVED OUT

Since she moved out on her own, Jane has had difficulty making ends meet. She has always had the support of her father but living on \$150 a month is difficult.

She was rejected by Student Welfare originally, but then, a few months later, her claim was accepted and she now has that aid as well. However, this is still not a lot to cover the expenses of rent, utilities, food and clothing. Jane babysits to have a little spending money on the side.

Jane misses her family but she knows that she is better off on her own. Living on her own, Jane has no one to push her to go to school. "It's difficult without having someone to harp at you."

When she finishes high school, Jane would like to attend Sheridan College in social work. Her dad will pay for it but she also wants to support herself.

Jane once enjoyed the party scene but says that living on your own causes you to grow up very quickly.

At this point in her life Jane doesn't know if she would ever move back home. Although she has the difficulty of paying bills and can't be a child anymore, Jane enjoys her independence.

She believes that, if situations are very uncomfortable, kids don't have to live at home. There are other alternatives!

TOLERANCE

Peggy Balkind says that different people have different tolerance levels.

Both child and parent have to be flexible. If they can't be, problems arise. Kids from all economic classes have left home.

In fact, the middle- to upper-classes can be the most rigid and conservative in their expectations.

Student Welfare is open to these people. They will only cover a person's needs if they are unable to live at home under any circumstances and they have to show regular attendance at school.

Often kids are able to stay with the family of friends or can find a boarding situation. Most students have to make it on their own, however.

It is a difficult time emotionally as well as economically. Young people need to mature quickly to be able to live in an adult's world.

Veterans Retiring

By DANNEY RUSSELL
Leader Editor

In June of this year, we will be losing two long-time teachers at G.D.H.S., Mr. Emerson and Mr. Long, both of whom have worked here for twenty years.

Mr. Emerson, who teaches Mathematics and works in the library, began teaching at G.D.H.S. in 1963. After getting a Bachelor of Arts degree, Mr. Emerson enrolled in a summerschool course in teaching.

He then taught at a public school for 11 years before arriving at Georgetown High. Mr. Emerson says he will miss a lot of the students and teachers but he is looking forward to retiring.

When asked what it was like working at Georgetown District High School, Mr. Emerson replies, "It was satisfying, I enjoyed it."

Also retiring is Mr. Long, who teaches Grade 9 Personal Typing, and Grade 11 Office Practice. Mr. Long, however, isn't going to take retirement "lying down". He plans to get another job when he finishes at the High School.

He feels that it would be dull staying around the house. What does Mr. Long think it was like working at Georgetown District High School? He says, "It had its good times and its bad times," and felt that G.D.H.S. was, "a good,

average school."

The teachers and students of Georgetown District High School want to wish Mr. Emerson and Mr. Long good luck in their retirement.



Teen Trillium

By NITA MILLESSE
Leader Editor

On May 2, students from Georgetown District High School were featured in a television commercial to be shown throughout Southern Ontario beginning in mid-May.

305 students filling 7 buses travelled to a conservation area at the Forks of the Credit in Caledon. There they were part of "Teen Trillium", a promotional commercial to encourage hiring students for summer jobs.

In late April, the Youth Secretariat hired the Fisher Ad Agency to make the T.V. commercial. Mr. Baker, principal of G.D.H.S., was contacted by the agency who felt it would be easier to get the number of students required because of the size of our high school's student population. G.D.H.S. was also chosen for this job because it was close to the shooting location.

Mr. Leeking, an English teacher at G.D.H.S., was given the job of choosing which classes were to get involved in the production.

Instead of having a stampede of volunteers, certain clubs, teams, and classes were contacted, chosen on the basis of what groups would be more agreeable and which would benefit the most.

At 12:30, on a cold and windy afternoon, 305 students arrived in Caledon ready to do a commercial. First they were given a box lunch and later white track suits were handed out for the students to wear.

All of them were then escorted to a field where a taped outline of a giant trillium was laid out. The students' job was to fill in the trillium for an aerial shot of the field.

For approximately 3 tedious hours, students stood inside the taped trillium, looked happy, healthy, and waved, while a helicopter filmed them from many different angles.

Students involved in the production got to keep the track suits used for the commercial. I asked several students what they thought about doing the commercial.

Many complained about colds, while others said they enjoyed the filming. "I think it was extremely interesting to find out how a commercial is made," one girl replied.

Another, who had a close-up taken, later said, "It was a good experience, but I wouldn't want to do it for a living."

Georgetown District High School received a substantial amount of money for its participation in the commercial. The Financial Steering Committee, Students Council and the S.A.A., are deciding how to disperse the money.

Items under consideration are the Lift Program, bleachers for the gym, and an event sign to be put up outside the school.

The "Teen Trillium" commercial will be seen starting May 17 beginning a 6-week promotion on all Ontario channels.



SCIENCE FAIR

Cloning around

By MICHELLE AMOS
Leader Staff

My project is about reproducing animal and human babies from embryo transplants. Embryos are fertilized cells in animals and can be fertile or non-fertile whichever is best (for a test-tube baby it has to be non-fertile so the future father can use his own sperm to fertilize it).

The embryos for animals, especially cows, are taken from superior females who have mated to world class bulls. The offspring will be superior too, but the most important part is that the cells can be divided to make up to 12 super calves.

They can be implanted in any healthy cow of any type. The calves will still be a result of the superior breeding of its parents.

After the embryos are collected they are stored in liquid nitrogen to freeze them. They are then divided and can now be stored for up to 12 months or until needed.

The problem with splitting cells leads to cloning, (this is identical babies), but this is an advantage because everybody can have top cows.

For people the non-fertile egg cell is split to avoid cloning by using different fathers.

If the embryo was split it would mean there could be up to 12 identical babies. Imagine the confusion in the world and how a wicked leader could create a superior army by selective breeding of the bravest and strongest people.

In conclusion, I feel embryo transplants are incredible, and so are test-tube babies to help families who cannot make their own babies, but I don't like the thought of having 12 identical people. I don't think cloning is really necessary for the future.