

IN YOUR OPINION:

By NITA MILLESSE

Question: What do you think is the purpose of the exams, and are they necessary.



MRS. PENNY RIDLEY, Fine Arts Department: "I think exams are necessary. It makes them become more organized, by studying the sections and putting them together."



MRS. WENDY MENLOW, French Department: "Exams are definitely a valid test of the student's ability. However, in French, exams only test half of their ability. They test their written skills, not their oral skills."



MR. TOM BEER, Science Department: "Yes, I think they are necessary. Exams make you study the whole course which is needed for further studies, and they give you practice in writing them, which is necessary all your life."



MRS. SHEENA KEWLEY, Mathematics Department: "The review and preparation for exams helps the student interrelate all the concepts through the year, and it gives them a full foundation for further studies."

Pay-as-you-go

Compared to other similarly sized Southern Ontario communities, Halton Hills has very low debts for town purposes, according to the chairman of the budget committee.

"Pay-as-you-go" financing is the style popular with local councillors for capital projects, chairman Ross Knechtel said. He noted the town's spending per capita is lower than the average, as is its taxation per capita is \$39.26 whereas the average of 11 comparable municipalities is \$121.29.

Spending for town purposes is \$243 per capita by Halton Hills and \$288 on the average for the others.

Car in flames

Firefighters were called to five chimney fires over the past week in the Halton Hills area. Only one of the fires resulted in any damage which amounted to about \$200.00.

Smokey chimneys

A fire which caused approximately \$1,000 in damages to a 1973 Chevrolet Impala was believed to have started as the result of a new stereo which was installed in the vehicle a week earlier. Firemen were called to Mountainview Road North in Georgetown at 1:54 a.m. to deal with the problem, Jan. 18.

Firehall savings

Russ Blades spent time studying the Acton firehall and estimates for \$4,495, the firehall can save at least \$3,494 in energy bills a year. He noted one of the walls is 10 inches thick concrete. Although that may sound thick enough to keep the cold out, it has an R Value, in insulation terms, of two. That means it isn't efficient at keeping out the cold.

So, Mr. Blades recommends the wall be insulated and the doors be weather stripped and caulked.

The 12 feet by 12 feet fire doors are 1/2 inch plywood, and he says they could do with some insulation as well.

U-haul theft

A U-haul, with Nova Scotia plates, which was stolen from Norm's Auto Repair, Guelph Street, at approximately the same time as the theft occurred is believed to be the vehicle used in the theft. It is valued at approximately \$8,000.

Missing extinguishers

An employee at St. George's Anglican Church discovered three missing fire extinguishers from the church. It is unknown when the extinguishers were taken which have a combined value of about \$150.

Bad cheques

An Acton teenager has been charged with fraud after passing a bad cheque for \$147 at Willow Lane Natural Foods.

The charge stems from an incident on Aug. 21. The system, which was taken sometime between Wednesday and Thursday has a total value of about \$300.

Cassette stolen

An AM, FM cassette car radio and two door speakers were taken from a vehicle in the underground parking lot at 60 Park Ave.

The system, which was taken sometime between Wednesday and Thursday has a total value of about \$300.

Coat, wallet stolen

A parka containing a wallet and set of keys were taken from a gymnasium closet at Georgetown District High School while the owner played badminton.

The coat was recovered on Jan. 19, the next day, in the gymnasium but \$120 was missing from the wallet.

\$14,400 tools stolen

An estimated total of \$14,400 in assorted tools were stolen from Georgetown Coach Works sometime between Jan. 19 and 20.

Entry was gained by breaking a window after which the workshop area to the body shop business was entered.

Non-smoking week

Once again the Halton Council on Smoking and Health is urging all Canadians to "Kick the Habit", stop smoking and lead longer, healthier lives. This year's honorary chairman of the National Non-Smoking Week Campaign is Larry Cain. Larry is the first Canadian to win a canoeing gold in 48 years.

A reception was held on Jan. 14, at the Halton Regional Building to introduce Larry and launch National Non-Smoking Week activities which runs from January 17, 1985 to Weedless Wednesday on Jan. 23.

For those who feel able to accept the challenge the Halton Lung Association is offering a Cold Turkey Smoking Withdrawal Clinic at Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital in Burlington from Jan. 21 to Jan 25, 1985. Contact is J. Armour 632-8499.

Ballinafad wedding

By WINFRED SMITH
Herald Special

BALLINAFAD - A wedding of interest took place at the church Jan. 19 when Darlene McEnery daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dave McEnery and Ric Starret, son of Mrs. and Mrs. Douglas Starret exchanged vows.

Rev. Dr. Tom Bandy was the officiating clergyman and Mrs. Eileen McEnery played the wedding music.

Both families of the wedding principals are well known as they were former residents here.

Stewarttown news

By JUNE ROSS
Herald Special

STEWARTTOWN - The annual meeting of St. John's was held Sunday after the church service. Minutes of the meeting was taken by the new secretary Mrs. D. Harris. Other offices filled were: Rector's Warden, J. Ross, People's Warden, B. Tripp; Treasurer P. Bridgen.

Appointed to the parish council were B. Gracey and M. Barclay. J. Hayes was nominated to represent the Guild and B. Harris was also nominated for the Parish Council.

Sympathy is extended to Mrs. June Durrent of the village in the passing of her sister-in-law Ruth Evans.

Region has stats

The region's treasury department has come a long way in a decade.

"You haven't been here to remember the days that have gone before," Burlington Coun. James Grieve told reporters last week in a press conference at which the region's improved credit rating was revealed.

"Our treasury department now can give statistics. That wasn't always the way," Coun. Grieve said.

Back in 1977, there were only 24 treasury staff to do budget and financial analyses for the region and its various departments.

Top credit rating for Halton

Halton region has joined the likes of Peel and Metropolitan Toronto. Last week, it was granted an AAA rating by the Canadian Bond Rating Service.

The triple A is the highest credit rating that the Service can give.

The rating means Halton has been assessed to be a financially and economically strong region.

The good news came in a letter from the Service this month, informing the region that its debentures (bonds) are considered to be of "excellent quality."

It makes Halton the third region in the province to have such a rating.

The upgrade in rating took the region from its AA (High) status, assessed in February 1984, up two grades, bypassing AAA (Low.).

GUIDE

The credit ratings are used by corporations, government and individuals as a guide for investing and indicate the level of security an organization offers. The higher the rating, the lower the risk of the municipality defaulting on bond payments.

Triple A is the highest rating, providing maximum safety. Double A rating also offers high grade security, differing only slightly from the triple A rating.

The region's growth in its taxation, population and economic base were noted by the rating service as adding to the margin of protection available to bondholders.

Burlington Coun. James Grieve, chairman of the region's administration and finance committee, said this upgrading gives a greater confidence to lending institutions in Halton.

He attributed the change in credit rating to the strong fiscal management policies which have been developed by the region in the past years.

The rating is important to Halton because it affects the interest rate the region must pay to investors. As the rating increases, the interest rate decreases.

SAVINGS

Put into dollar terms, on a \$10 million debenture issue with a term of 10 years, the region would save approximately \$250,000 over the life of the issue. The new rating spells a saving of 1/4 per cent on interest paid out.

"As a result, Halton will now be looked upon more favorably in the capital markets, resulting in easier access to funds and a lowering of the cost of new debt to finance various development activities in the region," regional chairman Peter Pomeroy said in announcing the good news last week.

He said Halton has a strong and diversified economy demonstrated by the fact that the region's 10 largest companies constitute only five per cent of the municipal tax revenues.

The Bond Rating Service noted Halton was able to withstand the 1982 recession with comparative ease, continuing to grow and expand. Although new construction in the residential and industrial sectors slowed down during this period, it has recovered rapidly since.

Actual construction for 1984 has surpassed Halton's highest year ever

with \$184 million worth of new construction, the regional chairman noted.

The credit rating pro-

cess provides an independent and objective review of the financial position, policy development.

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Driver needed

There is a desperate need for a driver who can help with transporting a Georgetown man down to St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto.

Because of a kidney problem, the patient requires use of a dialysis machine every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The trip may be ideal for a commuter who works near St. Michael's. Drivers are reimbursed 25 cents a mile. For more information call 877-5027.

Trail riding awards

Acton's Shirley Laprade won four year-end awards from the Ontario Competitive Trail Ride Association. Having logged 1,000 miles Mrs. Laprade received a pin from the association.

Miss Coffee Doll, a Grade horse, ridden by Mrs. Laprade placed in the top ten competitive horses and top ten endurance horses.

Mrs. Laprade also helped ride Trija's Whipperpopper, a Morgan, to a top ten finish as an endurance horse.

ATTENTION:

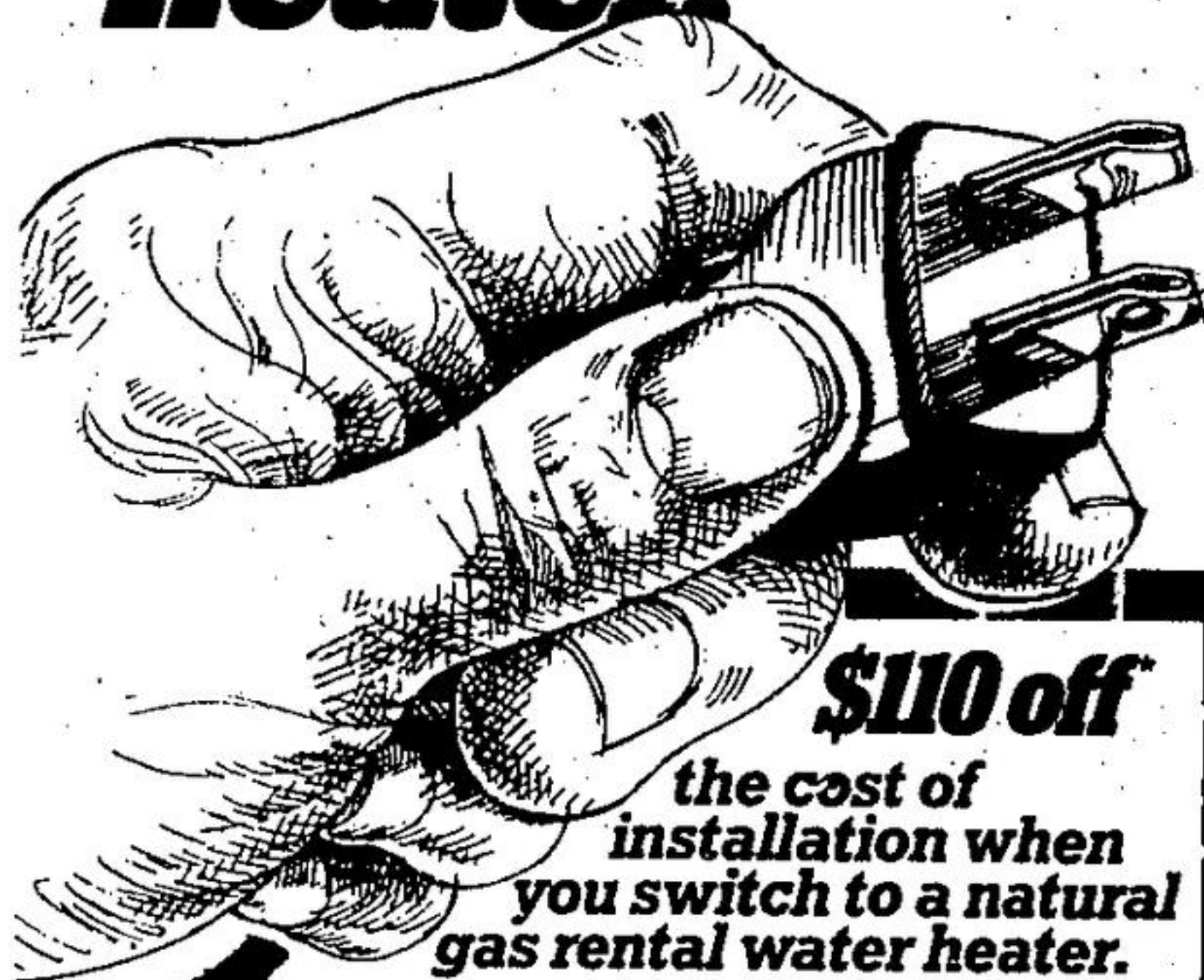
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Highlights

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- | | |
|----------|--------------------|
| Jan. 29 | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC |
| Feb. 26 | CRUISING |
| March 26 | BERMUDA |
| April 30 | EUROPE |
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