



THREE'S COMPANY

The Bennett Health Care Centre opened the nursing home section of their building Monday. Mrs. Edith Smith, 84 of RR2 Acton and Miss Elsie Weaver, 85 (right) of Georgetown are seen here with Miss Fanny Weaver, 82 (centre). Fanny will be able to visit her sister Elsie because she will be moving into the self-care wing when it opens shortly. To lessen the shock of new surroundings and to simplify the moving procedures, residents will be admitted on a gradual basis, says Mary Anne Marling, director of nursing for the Bennett Centre. (Herald photo)

Guest speaker on Georgetown churches

By J.M. ROWE
Herald Special
The churches of Georgetown reflect the people and culture of the town throughout its history. The history of these institutions will be the topic of presentation by the Rev. Richard Ruggle, rector of St. Paul's, Norval at the Annual General Meeting of the Esqueving Historical Society.



REV. RUGGLE
The meeting will convene at 7:30 with the dissolution of the 1984 executive and the election of the 1985 executive.

The annual general meeting will also be marked by the announcement of the winners of our second bicentennial essay contest. The guest speaker will follow the business portion of the meeting. The general public is invited to attend and Society members are encouraged to bring a friend. Annual membership fees can be paid at the meeting to membership secretary Jean Ruddle. The March meeting also promises to be very interesting. The Esqueving Historical Society will join with the Georgetown Public Library to present Emily Cain who will speak on the shipwrecks of the "Hamilton" and "Scourge" in Lake Ontario. Do consider joining us for another interesting and informative year of speakers, excursions, and projects.

\$10 million loan

The region is looking for a \$10 million loan these days. Regional treasurer Joe Rinaldo was granted permission to place a debenture issue of \$10 million in Canadian or U.S. dollars. During the first half of 1985, the region anticipated the need for long term capital financing, of which \$3,600 is for the region's projects and \$6,400 for its area municipalities. The \$3,600 the region needs is primarily for sewer and water work. Oakville needs \$400,000 for Oakville Hydro and Burlington needs the remaining \$6 million. A second debenture issue is expected in the fall to meet school board and area municipalities needs. Borrowing in U.S. dollars would only be considered in circumstances where there is significant protection against a dropping in the Canadian dollar over the repayment period of the debenture.

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Does social afternoon count as conflict?

Herald Staff
Is an invitation to an afternoon social held by land developers considered a "conflict of interest" for regional and town staff and councillors? Chief administrative officer Dennis Perlin isn't sure.

"The regional purchasing by-law provides that regional staff are not to accept gifts and the attendance of a function such as a social is open to interpretation as to whether same is in fact a gift or not," he reported last week to members of the

region's finance and administration committee.

Thirteen regional employees including chairman Peter Pomeroy, treasurer Joe Rinaldo, director of planning and development Raj Mohammed, solicitor Ken Anderson, business development officer Brent Keurse and Mr. Perlin have received invitations to attend this social.

Ten guests from Halton Hills were invited: Mayor Russ Miller, Councillors Mike Armstrong, Jake Kuiken, John McDonald and Dave Whit-

ing, town clerk Ken Richardson, treasurer Ray King, planning director Ian Keith, parks and recreation director Tom Shepard and town engineer Bob Austin.

The social was held in the Country Squire Restaurant in Oakville. Frances MacCusworth of the Institute said "a good 70" people had indicated they were to attend the cocktail party, including many Halton Hills guests.

Mr. Perlin said he wasn't going to be at the social because he had other regional matters to attend to.

"Regional staff are not concerned one way or the other as to whether they attend any such functions. Knowing the

Masters in Public Administration course he's currently taking. The paper is due in April.

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Special programs for gifted children

By SUZANNE BROWN
Herald Special
Special education in Halton was the topic of Monday night's meeting of the Association for Bright Children (ABC). Under Ontario's Education Act school boards must provide appropriate special education programs for exceptional children.

Principal Ron Chatten of Robert Little School in Acton explained to the group of parents how Halton's schools go about identifying exceptional children.

Exceptional children are those with special education needs that can't be met in the regular classroom. Some of these needs may be the result of behavioral problems, physical handicaps, learning disabilities and intellectual differences (including giftedness).

Mr. Chatten said Halton children are given a series of tests in grade four. These tests determine a child's IQ, cog-

native skills and level of creativity. Based on your child's performance, he or she may be referred to an Identification Placement and Review Committee (IPRC).

The committee then identifies the special needs of your child so that he can be placed in an appropriate special education program.

Approximately 12 per cent of Grade 4s are identified as having special needs, said Ann Geh, a teacher for the gifted children's program (two or three per cent of these are gifted children).

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Budget for March

It's still under wraps, but not for long. The town's busy working on both capital and operating budgets for Halton Hills.

Feb. 20, the details of the capital budget will be worked out, in a meeting closed to the press and public.

Budget recommendations are to come to council in March.

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