

SPRING SWEETS



The Sikora family of Georgetown couldn't resist the sweet smells of sap running at Mountbrett Wildlife Centre Sunday. They made the drive to the Campbellville site and had a chance to sample fresh maple syrup made by staff. Seen here are Dan, Liz, Terence, 1 and Mikey, 8 Sikora.

(Herald photo)

Arts Council, Oldakers win town honor awards

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff

For generous contributions to the arts in Halton Hills, Ian and Yvonne Oldaker and the Halton Hills Arts Council are being recognized as arts winners by the town's honors and recognition awards committee.

Nominated by Georgetown District High School teacher Ralph Ursel, the Oldakers' work over the past five years with GDHS theatre and music students was highly commended.

"Yvonne has contributed her professional talent as a choreographer and artistic director for the last three productions of the GDHS music theatre club - Guys and Dolls, Grease and Camelot," Mr. Ursel noted.

Her husband Ian has provided the technical expertise in lighting design and general stagecraft to these productions.

"The Oldakers have not only been generous with their time but have opened their home to the high school cast and crews for workshop meetings and parties," Mr. Ursel wrote on his nomination form.

Performance skills by

students have perceptibly improved thanks to the "gentle but firm guiding touch which has earned them (Oldakers) the respect and devotion of the students."

Also appreciated by the committee was the contribution of the Halton Hills Arts Council.

"The vast amount of work accomplished through the arts council has been the result of the efforts of dedicated, hard-working volunteers," wrote nominator Gretchen Day.

"Its work has made a

direct impact on community awareness of the arts and on the regional and provincial perception of the town's cultural standing," she added.

The arts council has been responsible for putting on Summerfest over the past seven years. The annual event features activities in the arts, crafts and drama.

As well, they've organized concert series featuring outstanding Canadian artists, and lecture series in the gallery on topics of

interest. The community has had the opportunity to attend workshops held by the arts council on public relations and communications.

Thanks to the arts council, the library keeps a current catalogue of artists and writers available for lectures, counselling and other reasons.

To keep members informed, the arts council puts out a quarterly art magazine featuring local artists, writers, crafters, group events and council activities. It's called Focus.

As well, the community is able to keep abreast of arts happenings through a weekly column in The Herald written by arts council member Pat Hretchka. She highlights art events in her column.

The arts council has also been active in fund raising managing to contribute \$20,000 along with other local art groups, towards the building of the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre.

The awards will be given out in April, at a special ceremony. Arts council president Wendy Buyles will be accepting the arts council award.

Department seminars

Pre-budget approved was requested of town councillors by the engineering and public works department for courses, seminars and annual meetings.

The 1985 operating budget is still under review and some of these activities take place early in the year.

Town engineer Bob Austin asked for \$80 for himself and the deputy engineer to attend the Municipal Engineers' Association annual meeting in Toronto. The one day meeting takes place in February.

The traffic technician

would like to attend a Ministry of Transportation and Communications municipal traffic course in Rexdale for five days in March, at a cost of \$50 for lunches; and a three day conference in Kitchener on Ontario Traffic that costs \$140 for registration.

There's a one day Municipal Equipment Operators Association annual meeting in Cambridge in April for the public works superintendent. It costs \$35.

There's an Ontario Parks seminar in Downsview for two days

Garnet Cowsill directs Herald as publisher

Garnet Cowsill has been appointed publisher and general manager of The Halton Hills Herald, effective March 18.

He succeeds Paul Taylor, who has been named publisher and general manager of The Sentinel-Review in Woodstock.



PAUL TAYLOR

GARNET COWSILL

Mr. Cowsill, 35, comes to Georgetown from St. Thomas where he has served as managing editor for the past eight years. He previously worked as a reporter and desk editor at newspapers in Port Colborne, Oshawa and Welland.

"I'm most pleased with the opportunity to take up residence in Georgetown," Mr. Cowsill said today during a visit to The Herald office. "It's a lively community with a solid history and a promising future. The Herald, since 1866, has played a leading role in keeping residents of the Georgetown-Acton area informed about their community. We have a top-notch staff at The Herald and we'll all continue to do our very best to produce the best newspaper possible."

Mr. Cowsill, his wife Barbara and their two children, will be moving to Halton Hills in the near future.

Police budget 7.4% higher than 1984

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff

You paid \$66.75 each for Halton regional police protection last year.

According to the 1985 police budget approved last week by regional councillors, you're now going to pay \$70.43.

The \$19,206,060 police budget is 7.4 per cent higher than last year's.

There are two main reasons for the increase: the implementation of the new HEART computer system, and the new emergency 911 telephone system.

The police budget traditionally makes up 8 per cent of your tax bill. The rest of the tax levy goes to the town (32.7 per cent), the region (7.1 per cent) and to education (52.2 per cent).

Regional councillors cut \$28,000 from the police budget before approving it. That amount was a reduction in premiums paid for workmen's compensation. Workmen's compensation is a self-administered program by the region.

The new budget gives Chief Harding three additional police officers and six civilian staff. The officers will increase the uniformed strength in Oakville where two new residential developments - Glen Abbey and River Oakes - need patrol service.

The new computer system is intended to help police obtain fast and accurate information from their records.

Until now, it's been difficult to retrieve information in police files because it is done manually and the amounts of information stored in those files is massive.

The Halton system connects with the Canadian Police Information Centre system which gives access to nationwide information.

Officers will have terminals in each cruiser, which will allow them to call up information.

Officers in Hamilton Hills will be able to access it in their station. There'll be terminals in Georgetown and Milton, police administrator Robin

Hale said.

The computer system will also aid in the operation of 911, an emergency number to come into effect this November.

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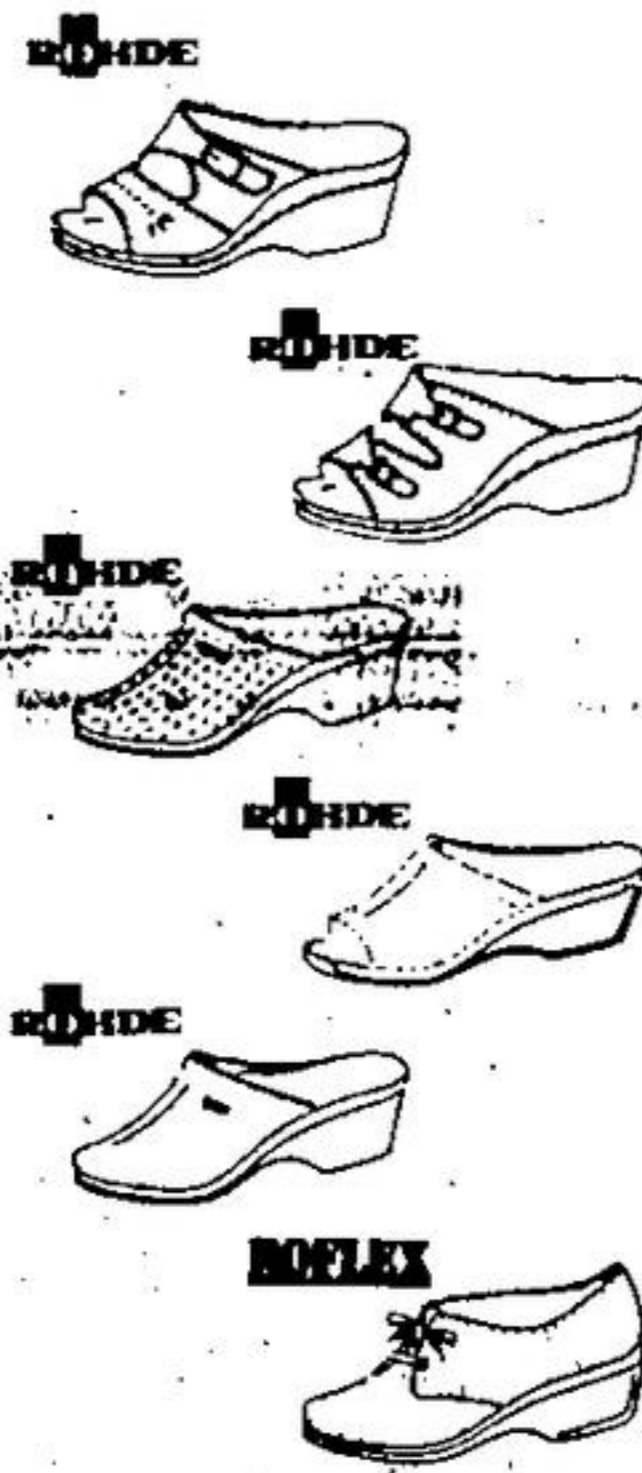
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Here's lookin' at YOU!



Chuck Lavigne is an emergency technical technician with the Brampton District Ambulance Service.

A Georgetown resident for 14 years and former owner of the Cedar Spring Motel, Mr. Lavigne has worked out of the Georgetown ambulance depot for the past seven years.

The Ministry of Health employee helps operate the ambulance service in the daytime while the Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service takes over in the evening.

After always being interested with helping people Mr. Lavigne has been involved with ambulance work for the past 26 years in Thunder Bay, Hamilton, Brampton and Georgetown.

Favorite Magazine: Popular Science, electrical and mechanical magazines.

Favorite Movie: "Not one in particular but I enjoy science movies and outdoor movies. I also like a good Mexican movie."

Favorite T.V. Show: What Will They Think of Next?

Favorite Vacation Place: Gogama, Ontario because I was raised in that area.

Favorite Restaurant: Fong's Restaurant and Tavern.

Favorite Music: Country and Western

Hobbies: Fishing, hunting, electronics, guitar and banjo.

Favorite Year: "They've all been just about the same to me but I enjoyed the early 1940's when I was in the army and able to travel on my own."

What do you hope to be doing in ten years from now?
"I hope to be retired and set up an electronics shop to keep myself occupied."

First inventory step

A purge is in the wind for the Acton branch of the Halton Hills Public Libraries.

The library has a "library apprentice" for 12 weeks thanks to a Youth Corps grant, who will help staff determine what is missing off the shelves.

The purge is the essential step in an inventory, and is the first one being undertaken since the library went to the computer system.

A similar project is underway in Georgetown.

Baby sitter course

St. John Ambulance offers a course called What Every Baby Sitter Should Know to teach young baby sitters responsibility and safety. It is three hours of child care, safety and emergency response.

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