

# No true mandate

Acclaimed candidates face a disadvantage right from their first day of taking political office. They don't have a true mandate from the people.

The way our Nov. 12 municipal elections are shaping up, Halton Hills may have a number of acclamations. With 11 days left until candidates may register, it is not too late to nominate a challenger for the Wards still looking for opponents.

An acclaimed candidate can be unfairly criticized for any political decision he or she makes. Opponents can always mention that a councillor wasn't chosen by the people.

As it stands now, there are no challengers for two regional seats.

In Ward 4 two newcomers are poised ready to take their town council seats without any opposition.

The one bright light seems to be in Acton's Ward 1 where five candidates have emerged for two town council seats. Three of them are newcomers to politics.

Our 1985-88 town council will only be as good as the competition makes it. If you're not satisfied with a one-candidate race, now is the time to act.

# Help the arts

We've gone to all that trouble to build a public gallery for local artists at the Halton Hills Library-Cultural Centre.

But its operating hours are limited because the library staff don't have people to keep an eye on the room at all times. With limited access, the art gallery isn't reaching the numbers everyone hoped it would.

It's not the library's fault. The library hasn't been budgeted for a staff member to look after the gallery. It's just not their responsibility.

Co-ordinator of the Here and Now wall art exhibit, John Sommer, made a plea last Tuesday for volunteers to come forward to help with security for the gallery.

By virtue of its location, the gallery benefits by all the traffic coming to see a play or to check out a book.

If the gallery can't stay open on a regular basis, these "captive audiences" are lost.

A local public gallery is one way to promote our area artists and their work. But as any good businessmen knows, you've got to provide accommodating hours or you'll lose out on a good thing.

If you want to volunteer to help call Walter Lewis at the Georgetown Library 877-2881.

# Happy birthday

It really is something to cheer about. The Halton Hills Library-Cultural Centre is celebrating its fourth anniversary next week.

Over the years, we've seen a wonderful variety of talent perform at the John Elliot Theatre. The gallery has provided a much-needed area for the public to view the arts, from a local perspective.

Thanks to the town staff, particularly Hank Huhtanen the community can help celebrate the birthday of our modern library, theatre and gallery.

There's a talent show Wednesday, a series of concerts by the schools Thursday and the comic antics of Second City Touring Company Friday evening.

Come out and enjoy - and don't forget to say happy birthday.

# A rare treat



## Clergy Comment

By DR. JOHN M. DRICKAMER  
Immanuel Lutheran Church

Some time ago I was out of town for a convention. I experienced a rare and wonderful treat. But I also had a genuine sense that I was missing something.

The convention itself was not the treat. But during the convention I had occasion to attend a worship service. For me it was a real treat.

You might object: but you go to church all the time because you're a pastor. That is correct. But as a pastor I have a lot on my mind on Sunday morning. There are a thousand details to remember in conducting the service and delivering the sermon. Then I have to remember to tell this person that and ask that person this and give something else to someone else.

It was a rare treat for me to sit in church and concentrate, to have my mind free of doing and leading, to have no need to think of anything but the Word of God, prayer, and praise. It was so sweet, I found myself asking: how could anyone who could go to church choose to stay away?

It was wonderful to hear the old familiar music, to sing and say the old familiar words, to contemplate in the presence of fellow Christians the wonder and glory of God's love for us in Christ.

There is nothing sweeter than to dwell on the love of God's own Son, sacrificing Himself in our place for our

salvation. There is nothing more restful, more peaceful than the message of complete, perfect, and total forgiveness of sins for Jesus' sake.

I have to be honest. Before going to the service, I was thinking about some work sitting on my desk in the residence. I had other things to do. Important things. I admit that I considered skipping the worship service. But during it and after it, I was glad that I had gone.

This experience is not unique. Many people have told me that they always feel better on a Sunday when they have gone to church. The problem is to remember that at 8:00 or 9:00 on Sunday morning, a time when sloth, sin, and Satan bid fair to make sleepers of us all.

But I also said that I was missing something. What I missed was being with my fellow members of my own church, my church home, the specific family of believers with which I worship weekly.

Even though there were various worship opportunities scheduled at the convention, even though I was glad to be with those other believers in Christ, yet I missed being with the Christians to whom I am so close in my own specific, local, Christian congregation.

When people stop coming to church, those who are still there do miss them. They may not always say so. They may be too shy to mention it. But they feel it, and I have often been told about it.

The Word of God, the worship of God, the wonder of God, the wealth of God freely given to the people of God: how could any believer in Christ stay away from church?



Type-casting

# Puzzling AIDS reaction



## Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Queen's Park Bureau of The Herald

TORONTO—There is a disease called Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or ALS.

It is incurable. It kills somewhere between 200 and 2,000 Ontarians a year. Anyone who contracts it is dead within three to five years.

There is no known cause. Famous people like New York Yankees baseball player Lou Gehrig (ALS is sometimes called Gehrig's Disease) and actor David Niven have been among its victims.

Yet, there is no Ontario government money going into research on the origins of ALS.

There is no taxpayer cash going to a support and counselling program for ALS sufferers.

There is no government-sponsored public information and educational program on ALS.

In short, deadly disease though it is, it is ignored.

Queen's Park Bureau Thomson News Service

TORONTO—There are three common arguments against nuclear power. The first is that we don't yet know what we are going to do with the high-level waste produced by nuclear generating stations.

Second is that we have no idea how to de-commission a nuclear plant after its 40-year life cycle.

The third is that nuclear energy uses a non-renewable resource, uranium, and we really should be preparing for an energy future using renewable resources.

All three arguments are myths. Or at least that's what is indicated by the on-going testimony here before the Legislature's committee on energy.

True, the committee has heard the usual vague scare tales from professional activists like Ralph Nader and Amory Lovins, neither of whom have particularly impressive credentials in the nuclear energy fields.

REAL EXPERTS

## AIDS CONTRAST

Now, contrast that record with the Ontario government's near-panic reaction to immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS.

It is a viral infection that suppresses the immune systems of those who catch it, with the result victims become vulnerable to a host of other infections.

In the summer of 1983, when Ontario was reporting only 10 cases of AIDS, then Conservative Health Minister Keith Norton allocated \$500,000 for AIDS research.

It was partly done under pressure from Toronto's homosexual lobby, the group most devastated by AIDS. Partly, too, it was a justifiable fear of the unknown. The cause of AIDS and how communicable it was were unknown.

Since then the AIDS bill has climbed to where it is now \$2.4 million, with new spending being added all the time.

## MORE CASH

Liberal Health Minister Murray Elston announced formation of a panel to battle the "myths and misconceptions" (his words) about AIDS. He's also providing \$100,000 to support and counsel victims of AIDS.

All this is going for a disease that produced only 45 new cases in Ontario last year, 30 of whom has since died, a fraction of the casualties lost to ALS.

True, the number stricken by AIDS is increasing annually, but — if the health authorities are to be believed — that can't possibly continue.

Health officials, articles in the media, and presumably this new panel formed by Elston, all stress that, with one exception, AIDS is not a highly communicable disease among people in general.

## BLOOD CHANGE

The exception is through transfusions of infected blood. After Nov. 1 that danger will end, when blood donations will be screened and infected blood discarded. Ontario spent up to \$1 million on achieving that worthwhile aim.

But the other methods of transmission (mainly condom-free anal intercourse and use of dirty needles) aren't exactly the type that will produce epidemics.

If, as suggested, body fluids other than blood and semen (tears and saliva, for instance) can't transmit the disease, why the heightened anxiety in government and the media?

It is very puzzling.

# Arguments against nuclear

With the real experts, on the other hand, it is another matter. Dr. Bob Andrews and Dr. Malcolm Harvey, both nuclear physicists, demolished each of the three myths during a presentation.

On nuclear waste disposal: "We would like to have on record that from a technical point of view it is not a problem. It is essentially solved".

First, there isn't a lot of it. Four reactors at Pickering running for 30 years produce only a 10-foot cube of high-level waste.

A bit of it is long-living (the "so-called actinides, the uranium 235s and the plutoniums." In Harvey's words), which can be separated from the rest and put back into the reactor to form new fuel and be burnt off.

RENEWABLE ENERGY This, incidentally, answers point three as well. "Nuclear power should be seen as a renewable energy source in a de facto sense," Andrews said. Spent fuel can be reprocessed.

A portion of the spent fuel, however, remains waste. It will be incorporated into glass

blocks, much as some test waste was done 30 years ago at Chalk River. Leaching of radioactive material from these blocks was negligible, Andrews said. (And, I was once told elsewhere, they were put in highly water permeable sand for the test).

MORE DEFENCES Just to be sure, it will then be put in steel canisters in a clay bed inside stable granite formations called plutons.

"We need to do that for 200 years to bring the (radioactivity) down to the familiar level of a uranium mine", Andrews said.

The longer-living actinides would be used again and again. And that brings one to the question of "de-commissioning" a nuclear plant after its life of 40 years. The answer is that it isn't so.

The 40-year figure has to do with economics and financing, not the real life of a reactor. Like any machine, a reactor's parts wear out and need replacing "take out the innards and put in new innards" as Harvey said.

There may be no need to ever de-commission a power reactor.

Over the coming months there will be several conference meetings and shows relating to disabilities. TV Ontario, channel 19, began a eight-part series on the brain Sept. 23. The view the remaining shows, tune in at 10 p.m. Mondays.

Commencing November 19 at 10 p.m., they will feature a 12 part learning series exploring the education of special children. The programs relate to assessment, learning disabilities, behavior problems, and integration. This series should be of special interest to parents and teachers.

For those who were unable to hear Barb Halsall discussing the subject of lupus on "Against the Odds", Halton Cable 4, tune in Oct. 17 at 5:30 p.m. when this presentation will be shown again.

The National Institute of Retardation is sponsoring a series of day long conferences on integration, at the Kinsmen Building, York University, between 9 and 4 p.m. Oct. 17, focuses on the home. Oct. 30, they will discuss the work place, and Nov. 12 and 13 deals with the school setting.

The Association for the Neurologically Disabled of Canada (AND) is offering, for the first time, a general information night. All families are welcome to attend Nov. 1 at 8 p.m., Ramada Hotel - Airport West, Mississauga, in the Oak room.

Nov. 19, Dr. J. VanLoon, University of Toronto, will address the subject of the learning disabled adult. His speech is entitled "My Learning Disability Advantage". Anyone interested may make further enquiries to (416) 634-0686. The meeting will be at Lord Elgin High School, resource centre, room 119.

In last week's column on agropobis an important reference was left out. The fear - adrenalin cycle, of which I spoke, was discussed fully by Dr. Claire Wekes of Australia in her book Hope and Help for your Nerves.

It is a very informative book and one that I would recommend for anyone suffering from a nervous ailment.

# Letters to the Editor

## Sharing hands made craft sale easy

Dear Sir: Thank you for giving publicity to our 'Sharing Hands' Lawn-Craft sale in last week's issue. Our sale was very successful and we would like to thank

your readers for their patronage and announce the winners of the raffle.

1st prize Donald Giles of Brampton, quilted baby cover 2nd prize Nancy Moon of Brampton, quilted cushion.

Thank you again. Vivian Hunter Terra Cotta

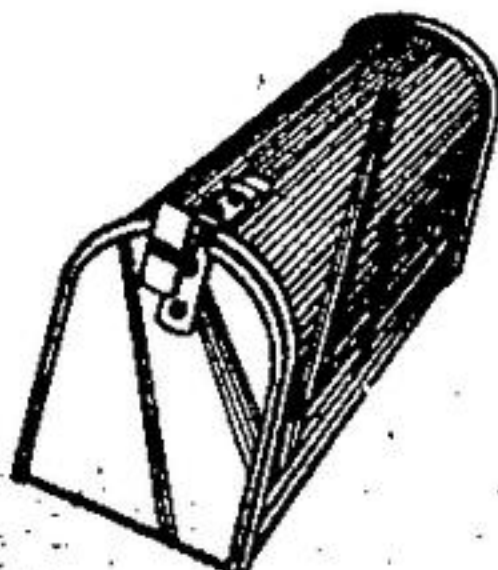
## Homefest Oct. 12

Dear Sir, Homefest once again opens its doors at Brookville Hall, Guelph Line, Oct. 12, at 10 a.m. This all day event of crafts, demonstrations by local artisans, baked goods and refreshments has become a popular stop for visitors over the Thanksgiving weekend.

The Nassagaweya Women's Institute are very pleased to invite you to drop in on Homefest on Oct. 12.

Yours sincerely, Katharine Garwood, Nassagaweya Women's Institute (854-2470)

## Send us a letter



Got a gripe, or a reason to praise? Then send The Herald a letter to the editor. All letters must be signed and include your address and phone number because we need to verify them.

The Herald reserves the right to edit, condense or reject letters. We have found the most effective letters are those that are concise and to the point, no more than 250 words.

Send letters to: The Herald, 45 Guelph Street, Georgetown, Ont. L7G 3Z6.

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

touching you reminds me always that you placed me on this plane

By MARLOWE C. DICKSON, RR2, Beeton

Thoughts dart back and forth like sparrows in a thorny Malberry bush. Quick as a wink.

they leap landing too briefly to be soothed too anxious to be calmed

By MARLOWE C. DICKSON, RR2, Beeton

# THANKSGIVING

## What does it mean to you?



LENA BURTON



BRUCE CURRIE



L. PARROTT



CINDY LEDWITH



MAISIE LASBY



ROSS KNECHTEL

Question: What does Thanksgiving mean to you?

For Lena Burton of Cheltenham, Thanksgiving is a reminder of the pioneers and their way of life. "It makes me think about how it was like for them back when they came," Lena said.

Bruce Currie of Georgetown said Thanksgiving is a lovely time. "It's a time to be thankful for all the beautiful things that we have, our whole country and our way of life. So many people don't have very much to be thankful for," Mr. Currie said. "It's a nice family time."

Lorelei Parrott of Stouffville said the first thing that came to her mind was a family dinner with turkey. "It's for us, as many of our family together at one time for a big, big harvest dinner, and then a hike," she laughed.

Cindy Ledwith of Kilbride said it's important to get together with the family at Thanksgiving. "We have quite a large family and Thanksgiving is seeing everybody and enjoying their company," the young mother said. "We usually have a nice meal at my mum and dad's place." As well, Thanksgiving weekend is extra special, because that's when she was married.

Maisie Lasby of Rockwood said it makes her feel thankful she's got a home and a family with no problems. "Everybody likes to come home and have a good time together. It's kind of sad when you see broken homes. It's the kids who suffer," the district president of the Halton Women's Institute said.

For Russ Knechtel of Acton, Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on one's good fortune and put aside complaints.

"It's also a time to consider whether one's responsibility to others is being given enough consideration," he said.