

Sizing up our new United Way

Playing devil's advocate isn't a very glory-seeking job. Veteran charity campaigner Vic Bristow tried to temper the positive feelings of the Halton Hills United Way board of directors.

His criticism at an information night last week was constructive and timely.

Mr. Bristow said there will be problems in implementing a United Way - they can't be avoided. But we feel the solutions depend on having full support of the town and a ready line-up of volunteers to help.

The argument for supporting a United Way is persuasive.

Why can we make it work in Halton Hills? A United Way for this town would be run by local people for local social service and health agencies. The money collected is handed out to participating agencies, based on the decisions of local volunteers who review budgets and submissions.

Because of its size, Halton Hills does not have the same quantity of social service help that is available to our larger neighbors to the south. A strong United Way campaign will help bring services closer to people in town. Money may be available to open more offices in Halton Hills.

Because it is so difficult travelling from our community to places such as Oakville and Burlington, locating more health and social services closer to town makes sense to us.

Three more points: 1) United way is a charity drive where agencies have the choice to opt in or out - it's democratic. 2) Payroll deductions supported by United Way have the potential to raise substantial amounts of money in the community without people missing the dollar or two that can be deducted from every paycheck. 3) United Way transfer payments received from our large commuter population make United Way attractive. Now they can support United Way services that will benefit the town in which they live.

Yes, there will be problems. But a concerted effort to find solutions will make the '86 United Way a success in our community.

Well deserved win

Peter Pomeroy's re-election as regional chairman last week was well deserved.

The former Mayor of Halton Hills has served with distinction at the region since he was elected by council members over two years ago.

Largely because of his experience and leadership, the Norval native gathered enough support to beat challenger Ann Mulvale from Oakville.

His victory is good for Halton Hills. Mr. Pomeroy's job puts him in an influential position that can help our town councillors when they feel their views are being ignored.

Coming from a smaller community, away from "superpowers" Oakville and Burlington, Mr. Pomeroy is more likely to be perceived as a neutral arbitrator rather than a biased antagonist.

Had Mrs. Mulvale won the chairman's job, she might have been accused, periodically, of favoring her home riding.

This may be the last time it will be so easy for a Halton Hills representative to become regional chairman.

Premier David Peterson has promised to make the process of choosing a regional chairman totally democratic.

If a full election by the public is held, it will be difficult for candidates in Halton Hills to compete against Oakville and Burlington opponents, who are more well-known to their constituency, which consists of a larger bloc of voters.

In the meantime, Mr. Pomeroy has the experience to assure us that Halton Region will be well served for the next three years.

Takes patience, humor

'Foster children are like any children'

NOTE: The following interview with a foster family identifies some of the rewards and challenges of fostering children and adolescents. The next training session for foster parents begins Nov. 28. For more information call the Halton Children's Aid Society, at 878-2375. This article was written by Karen Haver, a staff member of the Halton CAS.

What attracts a couple to become foster parents in today's society? What type of person does it take and how do they cope with separating from a child, difficult behaviour and discipline?

Responses to these questions were recently revealed through an interview with Burlington foster parents Delaine and Bill Everett.

It began for the young couple four or five years ago, when Delaine attended a basketball game where her husband was coaching and happened to sit beside a foster parent. Delaine said fostering was a "completely new concept to her" and, "I thought it sounded really neat."

At that time, the Everetts were parents of one small child, and wanted to have a second before starting fostering. They now have four natural

children, aged nine, six, eighteen months and four months, and foster a sixteen-year-old and a ten-year-old.

In the years since they began fostering, they have seen many children come and go from their home. "We've never had a problem separating from kids because the goal of fostering is to have them return home," said Delaine.

"We usually say the (foster) kids are like any kids - some are difficult, others are not."

The Everetts said they have found fair and just disciplines for most behaviour. "We use natural consequences for discipline," said Delaine, and Bill used the example that if a child is 15 minutes late for something, they may have to stay behind for 15 minutes. As teenagers sometimes overlook keeping their foster parents informed of their whereabouts, Bill said they must give 24 hours notice before they are allowed to go somewhere.

Delaine stressed that "we don't do things any different with the foster kids than our own - every kid does something wrong at some point. We

praise positive behaviour."

She added that their own children accept their role as a foster family very well, even talking proudly about it to their friends at school.

"I don't think Michael (6) remembers a time when we didn't have kids," said Bill. The couple added that through fostering their own children have gained a widened perspective on life and have an appreciation for what they have.

Bill noted that as a parent, there is a "tendency to spend time with the one who is misbehaving," and emphasized the importance of recognizing the children for good behaviour as well.

The Everetts said that to cope with the heavy demands of being a foster family, it is important that they spend time alone as a family and as a couple. This summer, the couple spent 5 days alone in the west, and sometimes plan family outings for weekends when the foster children are on home visits.

Since in many cases, the foster children maintain a relationship with their natural families and ultimately return there, it is important for the natural family to be reinforced. The Everetts recognize the importance of a

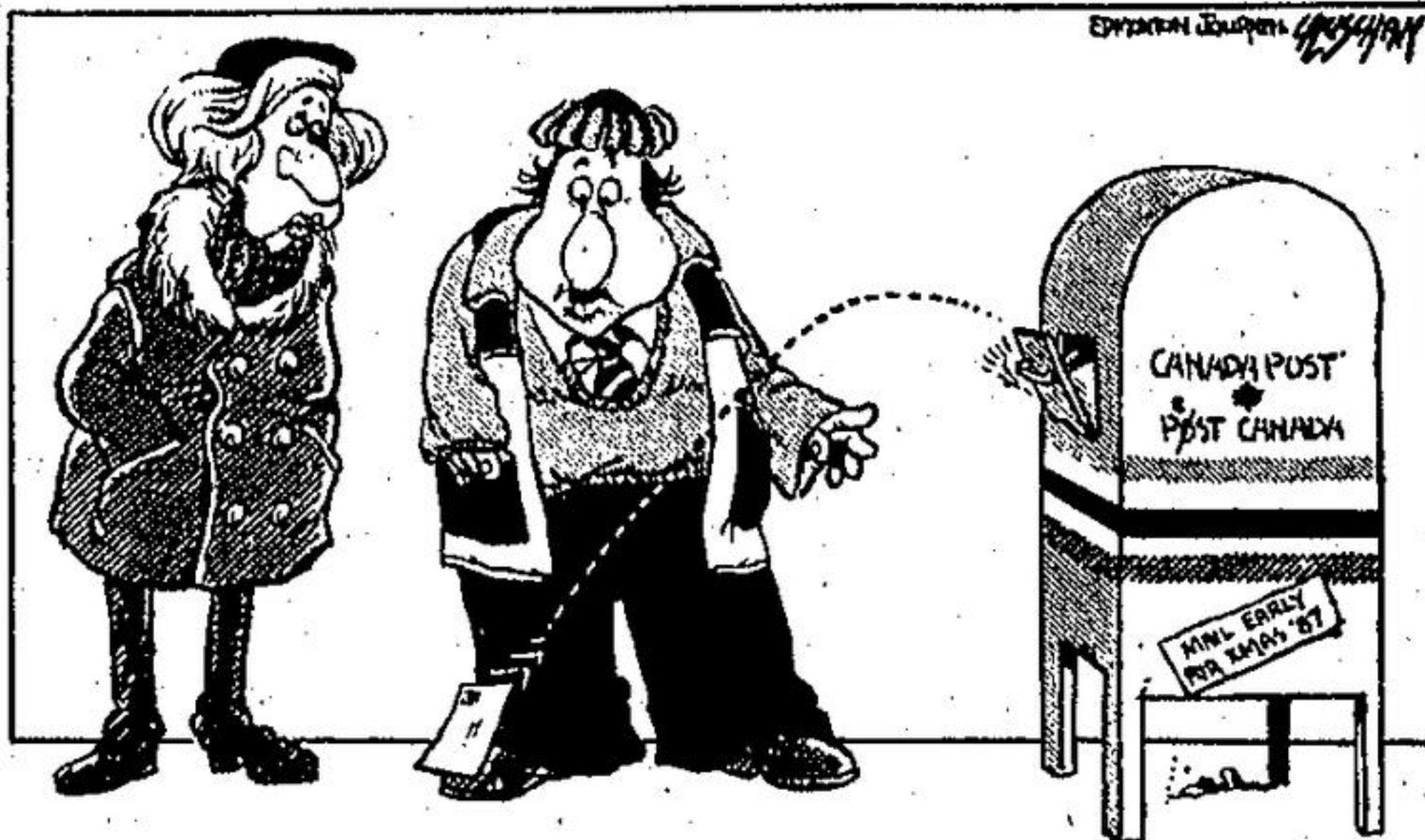
child's roots to his or her self concept and development.

What is also very important to the Everetts is the support they provide each other, consulting before making even small decisions. They also have experienced very good relationships with their social workers at the Halton Children's Aid Society. "We feel this is very important, that you have someone you know will back you up."

There are situations where foster parents feel it is in the best interest of everyone that a child be moved to another foster home or outside placement. When this happened to the Everetts, Bill said he felt a lot of guilt. "It was like a failure." But with the support of his family and the agency, he came to terms with the move.

Asked the qualities needed to foster, the Everetts cited patience and a sense of humour!

In summary Delaine said they feel that fostering gives them, "a good feeling to think you've done something - if anything were to happen to Bill and I, I'd like to feel our kids would be looked after by a caring family) be happy and have a good life."



"It keeps spitting out my letter to the editor agreeing with the report on Canada Post."

Pay equity is coming



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

TORONTO—Pay equity is coming to Ontario. The Liberals promised it in the last provincial election campaign and now they say they intend to deliver.

Pay equity, which is also called "equal pay for work of equal value" or comparable worth, is the motherhood issue of our day.

It is a scheme for paying men and women in the same firm who do different jobs the same wages - not, note, the same or similar jobs (which is already law) but different jobs.

It will be the "law of the land", a "fundamental goal of this government," Attorney-General Ian Scott said.

Of course, as befits a party that does everything in the context of when it might call the next election, he was vague on details and timing.

And in the process he left the NDP high and dry. The New Democrats signed an accord with the Liberals to

bring the pay equity bill in this sitting, something unlikely to happen now.

But it is coming. The discussion paper released by Scott makes plain the only debate allowed will be about the details of implementation.

Different job categories where one sex or the other predominates within the same firm would be compared on the basis of skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions.

If the person doing the comparison - a bureaucrat or academic from outside - found the jobs of equal value then female wages would be adjusted upwards to match the male jobs. (Male wages, interestingly, are never adjusted downwards under this system. This presumably means that men are never overpaid, only that women are underpaid.)

As Scott's discussion paper notes, other jurisdictions have long since legislated pay equity. What he doesn't do is give examples of what that has meant in practice.

For example, the paper doesn't record the Julie Hayward saga in the United Kingdom, where the Equal Opportunity Commission found her assistant cook's job to be of equal value to a carpenter working 20 ft. up on a

natural gas rig in the North Sea.

Hayward worked in a shipyard canteen. The men she was compared with worked at various skilled trades in the same company.

The physical and environmental demands upon her, the planning and decision-making she did, and the skill, knowledge and responsibility required from her (according to Ralph Harris in the London Daily Telegraph) was seen as equal to the men's.

For instance, the craftsman might have to judge their material, face fumes, noise and dust and risk hazards from saws, chisels and falling from heights - but the cook had the mental effort required in menu planning, plus constant standing and periodic awkward postures and hazards from boiling fat, steam and hot ovens.

Besides, she had to exercise care if she wasn't to give everyone food poisoning.

No doubt Scott would approve.

That the real solution to so-called pay inequity is to get more women into the trades and more men as assistant cooks never seems to have crossed anyone's mind.

But that is the age we live in.

Letters

Kilometre of coins raise \$992.

Dear Sir,
On behalf of the Georgetown Lionsess Club, I would like to thank all who donated to our "Kilometre of Coins" and everyone who helped in any way.

Although we did not complete the kilometre we were able to turn \$992.95 over to the Dorset Dialysis Holiday Camp because of your generosity.

Thanks to Snell Packaging for cellophane tape and to Norm Tretton for gathering literature for us from the Kidney Foundation.

The Dorset Camp flyers were provided by Lions Camp Dorset Chairman.

Little's Trailer World obligingly supplied the warmth and comfort of one of their fine trailers for our use and Zellers kept shoppers informed of our project with regular P.A. announcements.

Your newspaper helped us with informative coverage both before and after.

To each and everyone of you who helped out, through donations and assistance, "We couldn't have done it without you".

Sincerely,
Lioness Marcella Neely,
(Chairperson)

Pull strings for puppets

Dear Sir,
The "Kids on the Block" are looking for people who can bring them to life.

Mark Riley, who has cerebral palsy and is in a wheel chair and some of his friends who are blind, deaf or retarded cannot tell other children about their disabilities without your help. They are all puppets who are in need of a puppeteer.

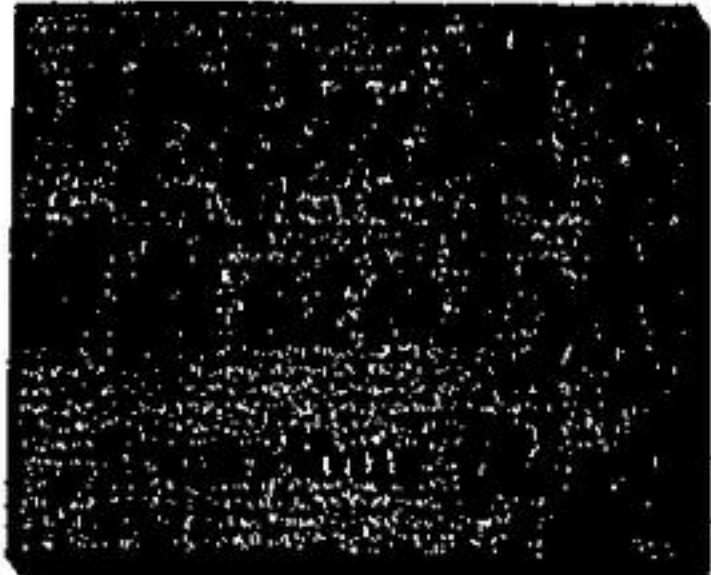
The "Kids" were the creation of a special education teacher from the United States who recognized that puppets were an effective way to remove the stereotypes often associated with disability. Since their beginnings in 1977, the Kids on the Block program is now being used in nine countries throughout the world. The North Halton committee would like to see it implemented in our community.

The target group for presentation will be school children in grades 3 and 4 with the volunteers being asked to commit one or two half days per week for presentations. Training is provided with special kits and programs that aim to okay prejudice and fears about disabled people and help handicapped and non-handicapped children interact, play and work together.

You do not require a background in acting to volunteer just a desire to learn and teach others to be sensitive to the needs of these special "Kids".

If you wish to enquire about this unique and exciting program please call Benny MacLeod, 877-7188 or Darian Balsillie, 877-3419.

Yours sincerely,
Pat Woode



THIRTY YEARS AGO-Ray Whitney, councillor candidate, asked voters not to vote for him even though his name will be on the ballot. He made the decision because of personal and business affairs needing his time.

"Judd" Davidson became the leader in two divisions of the industrial bowling league and he boosted the firemen team to seventh place. He bowled a 354 single and a 902 triple.

Jack Armstrong will return as Mayor of Georgetown after being the only candidate. It will be his fifth term as mayor.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Harris celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at their Ontario Street home. MP Sybil Bennett and MPP Stan Hall visited the Harris home.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO-The Georgetown Rebels collected six of ten firsts at their wrestling tournament on their way to the Ontario games. First places went to Joe Fobert, Norm Ferguson, Dave Hall, Vinces Graham, Jon Toet and Jim Breckenridge.

"The grant shall follow the child" is the slogan of the Christian Reform Church petition asking for all schools to have equal grants. Over 2,500 people signed the petition to be delivered to Premier John Robarts.

After 44 years in township politics George Currie retired as reeve of Esqueping. Mr. Currie, 80, was only out of politics for four years since 1926.

District commissioner of scouting Gordon Douglas has the difficult job of choosing one scout to go to the World Jamboree in Japan this year. The trip will cost \$1,000; half will be provided by the Georgetown District.

TEN YEARS AGO-Enrico Caruso was named a lifetime member of the Ontario Lacrosse Association at their annual meeting. He was also elected to the O.L.A.'s Board of Governors.

Clive Liewellyn finished second in the 167 pound class of the Ryerson Open Wrestling Tournament. He was defeated by Stan Dziedzic of the United States, assistant coach of Michigan Tech and the 1975 World Champion.

Tim Rogers of 57 Eleanor Crescent enlisted last Wednesday in the Canadian Armed Forces. The swearing in took place at the Canada Manpower Office in Georgetown.

Four staff members of local schools resigned. They are Miss Cherie Robinson of Georgetown District High School, Mrs. Dorothy Larsen of Park School, and Mrs. Marion Radford and Mrs. Susan Gilmour of Speyside Public School.

FIVE YEARS AGO-The Georgetown Choral Society's tenth season Christmas feature is called "Festival Noel". Soloists are bass Bill Brush, soprano Anna Burke and Mary Jane McGuinn, alto Carolyn Simmons, and tenors Martin Veitman and Simon Edwards.

The Raiders are less hopeful of acquiring former Boston Bruin Derek Sanderson. The decision is Sanderson's and he has not contacted Dave Kentner.

George Lema is one of 23 Canadians to win a Skidoo Citation 4500. He entered Build-All's draw and picked up the Skidoo at Murt Allison Equipment on Highway 7.



By PAT WOODE
Herald Columnist

In the summer of 1984, an attendant care study was conducted by the Ontario March of Dimes. As a result, a need was proven for an outreach program in the Halton Region.

As Oakville revealed the greatest demand for the program, funding was provided by the government to implement the service this past summer. Now the co-ordinator has informed me there is sufficient funding to offer attendant care to residents of north Halton who require one and one half to three hours of personal care per day (washing, eating, dressing, toileting, etc.). Priority has been given to those who completed the questionnaire and the co-ordinator has made an effort to contact each participant.

At this time, we would like to hear from others that were not involved. If you feel that you might require this free service and are interested in applying please call me at 877-1436. Demand from the community will help determine whether there will be ongoing funding after March 1986.

Dec. 4 is the first meeting date for the committee reviewing section 10 (accessibility) of the Ontario Building Code. Hon. Alvin Curling, Minister of Housing, has requested a report with the committee's recommendations for early in the new year. Therefore it is important that I hear from you regarding any changes that you would like implemented.

As I have been requested to be a member of that committee, I will be able to give direct input into the decision making process. To date, several citizens have responded to my requests and their suggestions have been appreciated.

Halton Cable 4's Against the Odds, co-hosted by Barry Page and myself, will have a change of time in December. It will be shown at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month and repeated at 7 p.m. the third Thursday. Our guest this month is Fred Morris, Administrator of the Georgetown and District Hospital.

The Physically Handicapped Citizens Association will be holding their annual general meeting Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m., at Park Public School in Georgetown. This is your opportunity to become involved in an organization where your participation and contribution can help create opportunities for you now and in the future. All are welcome to attend.