

# Flautist Melanie tuned to music future

By ANI PEDIERIAN  
Herald Staff

Right now, music takes up a big chunk of Melanie Bray's life. The 17-year-old Acton High School student spends at least a couple of hours a day practising the flute and piano.

An ardent flautist and pianist, the young woman has won several ribbons at the Kiwanis Music Festival, and medallions at the Canadian National Exhibition competitions.

Last year, she won two firsts in the "16 and under" and the "18 and under" senior categories for flute. Because she won both categories, Melanie was also given a trophy and a small scholarship which goes toward her music lessons.

Awards are nothing new for the young woman with auburn hair. Since she came to Acton High, Melanie has consistently earned the school's music and art awards each year. This year she also won the English award.

This top student is currently taking a Grade 13 music course along with her slate of Grade 12 subjects.

"I like the program here at the school with Mr. Sale. I like his style of teaching. He has a very thorough course and he's covered everything, really; we have to do seminars and some major solo work and a major project," Melanie said. She's one of the three students in the class.

The young woman plays piano with the stage band, and flute with the high school band. Outside of school, she's involved with the Acton Citizens Band and the Meadowvale Band.

Once a week, she goes to Guelph, for her flute and piano lessons from Allison McNeill. Melanie has been studying with her since she started in music. A concert pianist, Ms. McNeill accompanies Melanie at her flute exams.

Last January, Melanie earned first class honors at her Grade 8 exams for the flute. She's working on her Grade 8 for piano now, and her Grade 8 history and harmony.

"I try to spend an hour on each instrument every day," Melanie said. "Sometimes it isn't possible, if I

have to work or I have schoolwork."

The young woman is a lifeguard and swimming instructor at the Acton pool. She's currently working on her award of merit each Sunday morning at the pool. Although she says she likes swimming, Melanie says she's not involved in it competitively.

As well, the teenager takes karate lessons, and earned her yellow belt just last week.

"I find it difficult to keep up my music with the schoolwork and other things I do," Melanie confessed. Nevertheless, music is her biggest love and especially the flute.

"I've always considered the flute as my main instrument. I started with the flute first when I was around eight. I thought it would be a neat instrument," Melanie said.

"I would like to be part of a symphony or orchestra one day," she said. The bands she's involved with now are more involved with marching and popular music, rather than the classical music in which she has trained.

Best of all, Melanie likes to play

baroque music, and to listen to jazz flute player Moe Kauffman.

Last year, the teenager auditioned for the 1984 provincial honor band and was one of the 55 high school students picked from across Ontario to put on a concert at Toronto's Massey Hall.

"I thought that was a lot of fun, to play with people who are thinking seriously about music and can play pretty well," Melanie said.

In the meantime, Melanie is going down to M.Z. Bennett Public School to help the music students learn how to play the recorder.

Next year will be the year of difficult decisions for Melanie, as she decides which path to follow after high school.

"I think I want to continue it (music) in some form. It's kind of hard, because I also have good marks in the sciences also..." Melanie said. "If I go strictly into performing, sometimes you just can't find work, like my older brother Paul...but if I have something to fall back onto, with my sciences..."



The winner of several Kiwanis Music Festival ribbons, Melanie Bray of Acton, not only plays the flute but also the piano. An eager music student, the 17-year-old Acton High School pupil has consistently earned the school's music and art awards each year. This year she also won the English award.

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## THREE CORD HARMONY

The Teramoto triplets earned their all round cord in guiding recently. The Huttonville girls (left to right) Kim, Kerri, Kelly, 13, belong to the 11th Brampton Guides, and earned several badges to get their blue and white shoulder cord. They said they'll be going into the 4-H club next to learn sewing and cooking. (Herald photo)

## Kinks to iron out 911 problems

# Curiosity seekers keep phones clean

There have probably never been so many clean phones in Halton.

Since the region gave us a 911 emergency phone service, people have been testing the new number.

The police are warning the public against doing this, however, because the callers can easily be traced. The excuse that people are cleaning their phones is wearing a little thin.

The 911 number came to Halton Hills Nov. 15.

There have been a few problems with 911 which are mostly caused because the number is new to people. One concern is that the public are testing it out of curiosity. They are not aware that operators have the capability to keep any line open, even if the caller hangs up.

This feature is a precaution, in case a caller cannot finish the call. The 911 operator calls the number back. If there is no response, emergency services are sent out. Crank calls can also be traced this way.

People testing the system who are called by the 911 operator usually say, "I was cleaning the phone," said Al Duffin, assistant manager of the dispatch centre of the Mississauga Central Ambulance Communications Centre. "There are a lot of clean phones in Halton now," he joked. Halton Hills Fire Chief Bill Cunningham was asked if he thought Halton might find that all three emergency departments (ambulance, firefighters, police) would be sent out on calls instead of just one.

Chief Cunningham said it could happen, but that good judgement on the part of the operator should prevent more than one department from being sent out.

When you call 911, the operator puts you in touch with the right emergency service. The operator stays on the line (listening) and calls any other services that might be needed. "Nine out of ten times the police will arrive first and they can decide if anyone else should come or not," said Staff-Sgt. Patterson.

The fire department volunteers have made an effort to make certain everyone knows about 911. A public awareness program has taken them into schools and businesses where they put 911 stickers on phones.

They have also visited senior citizens, and Halton residents on a



Fire Chief Bill Cunningham

Those on a Brampton exchange who call Toronto frequently can't use the 911 number and they may try to call 911 in an emergency. Chief Cunningham said the fire department is trying to get a list of those numbers so the people can be informed by the fire department. These people will, like those southeast of Halton Hills, have to use a seven digit number to get 911 service.

Residents not connected to 911 can still use the old emergency numbers. Police and fire departments plan to keep those lines working for a long time, said Chief Cunningham.

Halton's emergency response number, makes dealing with emergencies easier for citizens and therefore easier for emergency services. Officials from the ambulance, fire, and police departments agree the service was designed with the public in mind.

"People only have to remember a three digit number. Before they had to know 21 numbers for the three different departments."

## IN THE HILLS

### Last conflict?

Perhaps best known for his "conflict of interest" declarations, Burlington Coun. Steven Toth declared his last "conflict of interest" last week.

The 58-year-old retiring councillor is an Ontario Hydro employee, a position he intends to also resign from this month.

On a humorous note, Burlington Coun. Pat McLaughlin suggested regional staff prepare a paper on conflicts of interest for Coun. Toth's benefit, on Ontario Hydro letterhead, last week.

### Chicken best float

The 'best service club' award in the Georgetown Santa Claus parade went to the Optimist Club of Georgetown. The Club's float featured their fluffy feathered friend, the Chicken.

### 6 draw winners

There were six winners in Downtown Georgetown's Christmas shopping spree draw, held Nov. 23. Bernadette Lantigne of Acton and

Doug Norton, Winnifred Stewart, Olga King, Alice Nicholson and Marilyn Baxter of Georgetown all won \$50 gift certificates.

The next draw will be held Dec. 7 and eight gift certificates worth \$50 will be presented to the winners.

### Fire calls up

Although calls for help from the fire department were up this October, compared to calls in last October, damages from fires were down.

The monthly report from fire chief Bill Cunningham showed there were 24 calls for fire department help this October compared to 19 in October, 1984.

Damages caused by fire were about \$3,500 this October compared to \$8,050 in October 1984.

### Support UNICEF

There are millions of reasons to buy UNICEF cards and gifts - and all of them are about children. The Georgetown and Acton YMCAs have a good variety of UNICEF Christmas cards and other holiday gift items. To order your cards call 877-6163 (Georgetown) or 853-1070 (Acton).

## Obituary

# Dr. Ward a Sheridan teacher

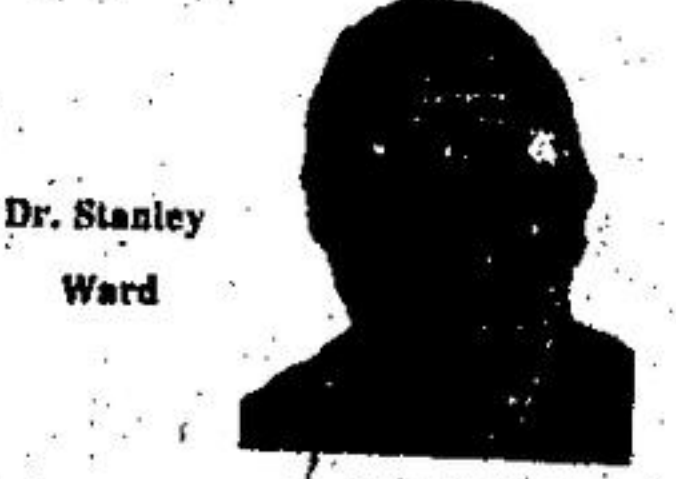
Dr. Stanley Norris Ward D.V.M., D.V.P.H. of Glen Williams, died suddenly at Georgetown Hospital Monday Nov. 25.

Doc Ward was a very popular instructor at Sheridan College, currently teaching Biology in the faculty of Applied Arts and Communications.

He joined Sheridan College as a teaching master in 1974 and co-ordinated the Animal Care Program for eight years.

Dr. Ward graduated from Harbord C.I. in Toronto and the Ontario Veterinary College in Guelph in 1936. He remained active in the Alumni Association assisting with the organization of their 50th anniversary celebrations to be held next year.

From 1936 to 1947 Dr. Ward was in private practice in Agincourt and worked with thoroughbred horses for Beasley Racing Stables. He also operated a breeding and boarding kennel for Springer Spaniels, not for showing, for hunting. In 1958 one of his



Dr. Stanley Ward

dogs came second in the U.S. National Field Trials, and he continued breeding until 1961.

In 1947 Doc Ward became the Manager of the Feed and Cereal Division of Dominion Ginned Oil, and worked on the development of nutritionally balanced complete feeds for animals. He also lectured at the School of Hygiene, Nursing, Toronto Western Hospital for ten years. In 1969 he joined Western Technology Commerce School in Toronto and taught microbiology and nutrition. He kept in touch with many of his former students over the years.

Dr. Ward was also the Assistant Director of Food Control for the City of Toronto 1949 to 1959, and a guest lecturer at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute and Humber College.

From 1964 S.N. Ward Associates consulted to the food industry in nutrition and preparation and Dr. Ward assisted with the grading and inspection of seeds and nuts for the Edible Nut Association.

Doc Ward was devoted to his students, thoroughly enjoyed the learning process and will be sadly missed. He was known also as a gourmet cook and began most days at 5:30 a.m. baking for his own enjoyment.

Dr. Ward was the husband of Nan (Anna Van Nostrand) and the father of Peter N. Ward and his wife Beth of Toronto, and Lisa Lindsay of Concord.

A private family service was held at St. Alban's Anglican Church in Glen Williams. Memorial Donations to the University of Guelph Arboretum Fund or the Salvation Army would be appreciated by the family.

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