The first group of qualified family support workers received their certification last week from the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded training program. Among those who

are now able to offer respite care to

client families registered with the Association are: (above) Bunny Russell, Dawn Boyd, Rosemarle Thompson, Iris Delorey, Janet Cummings, Tammy Gower, Pat Mitchell, Sandra Kloosterman, Kippy Grieg.

Colleen Connelly, Barb Kachmar, Doreen Hepburn, Jeanette Fiddler, Donna Gumulak, Margo McVittle and Chris Telfer, Missing are Scott Goodwin and Kathleen Lleder. (Herald photo)



Thirty-three teens were the recipients of the annual youth appreciation awards given by the Optimist Club of Georgetown, Candy stripers picking up . their certificates at a special dinner held for them by the Optimists were (above) Janine Boomsma, Kelly Brown, Brenda Hamilton, Kim

Howalt, Tanya Hancock, Vanessa Jowett, Kirsty Kermack, Barbara Lovegrove, Lori Mara, Maryanne Molfatt, Toni McClements, Donna McLean, Diana Rosset, Lynn Shleid, Cherie Snow, Raymond Tsul, Kathy Tyrrell, Tina Van Hinte and Jennifer Stewart. Missing are Lisa Brading,

Shannon Burrell, Jodi Dixon, Jennifer French, Jennifer Farrugan, Beth Gage, Whitney Grieg, Shella Hoffman, Dee Dec Haynes, Melissa Handy, Rhonda Lennie, Jennifer Ramsey, Jana Steele, Jennifer Wands and co-ordinator Phyllis Dowling. (Herald

## Youth centre seeks funding

Three months after their arrival in' Oakville, child psychiatrist Dr. Alan Brown and adolescent psychiatrist Dr. Robbie Campbell had a six to eight month waiting list and were working 70 hours weeks.

For the last two years they have continued that pace "and they can't continue to do that," Tim Patterson sald.

Mr. Patterson is helping organize an effort to get Halton a treatment centre for children and adolescents in distress. The project, called the Halton Youth Centre was originally an Oakville project but grew as the needs of Halton were uncovered.

A 1961 study shows that 13,306 children between 5 and 19 had problems and needed help, Mr. Patterson said. In Halton Hills the number of children requiring help was estimated to be 1,962. "All kids don't need psychiatric treatment, but we don't know how many do," he added.

Some of the problems children are suffering from include: complex emotlonal handicaps, depression, anxiety, drug or alcohol abuse, physical or sexual buse, anorexia or bulimia, autism, hyderactivity, family breakdown, schizophrenia, Mr. Patterson

Today there are only eight mental health beds in Halton, Mr. Patterson said. There are 70 Children's Aid Society beds," but you must have a really bad problem to get one," he

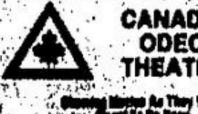
The Halton Youth Centre is expected to cost \$3 million. It will have 24 beds and an out-patient department. It





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is estimated that over \$1 million will be needed every year to run the facility and pay the staff.

The location of the project has not been picked. Mr. Patterson believes it will be somewhere between Oakville and Milton. He hopes building begins next year. The number of children going through the centre every year is expected to be between 2,000 and 2,500.

"Politically, Oakville is the best place to be. The people of the north have got to support it strongly for serve to get to the north," Mr. Patterson

The long range goal is to have beds for children at hospitals across the region. The Halton Youth Centre would be the base for treatment and some help would come from there.

Until now the project has been completely funded by the public. Mr. Patterson has been making speeches to groups and service clubs all over the region. Response to their first fundral-

ser, Casino Night, on Nov. 5 was good and it continues to be good, he said.

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## Elderly have service planner

Christmas Night While you lie snug and warm Between your soft white sheets, A worthier one than you May have to walk the streets.

Under a freezing sky. Or through the sleet and snow, A worthfer one than you May wander to and fro.

Do you deserve to be Well-housed, well-clothed, well-fed? A worthler one than you May search dustbins for bread.

While you lie snug and warm, While you forget the poor, Christ, in His mother's arms, May be outside your door.

Recently, Halton Region appointed Mrs. Valerie O'Hara, formerly coordinator for Halton Helping Hands, as Co-ordinator of Services to the Elderly.

Her duties will be to assist the community implement the recommendations in the recent regional study on the needs of the elderly. The focus will be in the areas of information availability, housing and accommodation and transportation. Sub-committees have been formed to deal with each of these three concerns.

The co-ordinate information on the existing services to the elderly, a central data base is planned and will be available to all agencies who serve the community. There will be complete information on the work done by the various agencies and the number of

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people served, which will prevent duplication of services.

To promote public awareness of the services available, information booths will be set up in such places as shopping malis. A public awareness video will be prepared for use of groups or conferences.

A semi-annual planning committee will meet the elderly once a year in each of the five areas to hear their problems and suggestions for soluti-

The sub-committee on Housing and Accommodation is presently faced with the problem of up-grading the facilities of the Halton Centennial Manor. Since transportation is a problem for relatives to visit the Manor, the advisability of designating it for Milton residents only is being

The Region would then purchase services in private facilities in other areas, rather than move the elderly from their own locality.

Foster Homes for Adults may solve the problem for those elderly who have no family to see that they are adequately cared for.

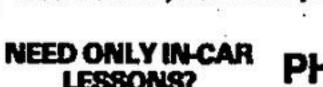
A housing registry or accommodation available to the elderly will be formed as well as a list of those seniors willing to share their home with another.

The committee on Community Support and Transportation has a mammoth task, especially in the northern areas of the region.

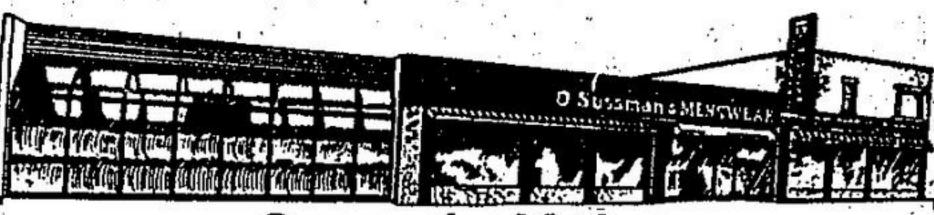
Mrs. O'Hara is anxious to speak to any seniors' club to assess problems and find solutions. Call her at 878-8113.

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