

EAS needs survey for customer okay

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Bell Canada would need to add more equipment to their switching centre to handle the anticipated increase in calls if EAS were implemented, Mrs. Gray said.

The long distance lines are sufficient for the current volume in Georgetown, but the number of lines in the 'trunks' or main lines would have to be increased, she said.

If the CRTC accepts the applicati-

on, Georgetown and other communities will be given an in-depth survey, asking respondents if they want EAS, along with a higher monthly phone rate. At least 50 per cent of the population must want the extended service before it is implemented, Mrs. Gray said.

An area representative for the region north and west of Toronto, Mrs. Gray said, "frankly, I'm not sure the majority (in Georgetown) would want

it." Businessmen from Campbellville and Milton have asked her about EAS, she said, but she's had no calls from Georgetown businesses.

"In some communities the MP has taken up the cause," she said.

The first of the communities to receive EAS will have the service by 1987. From that date, it will be phased-in over a six-year period. Ms. Gray estimates Georgetown's calling rate to Toronto puts the town in about the middle of the priority list for 159 Ontario communities eligible. That means our town might have an EAS line by 1990 if residents vote yes, she said.

The exchanges with the highest per centage of calls to Toronto will have EAS phased-in first, she said.

Business might benefit

An extended area telephone service (EAS) might be a good idea, said Georgetown Chamber of Commerce president Dave Keatner. "I think the Chamber would look favorably on it," he said.

EAS means residents wouldn't have to pay long distance fees for calling Toronto, but they would pay a higher monthly phone rate.

The Chamber has made no formal application to Bell Canada to ask about the service, but in the past Chamber members have talked to the telephone company about rates, he said.

A small manufacturer or business in Georgetown will benefit and it may result in a more complete and faster service for customer orders, he said. Georgetown businesses pay lower rents in town compared to Toronto, but their phone bills are much higher, the Chamber president said.

Businesses won't go ahead and support the proposed telephone service if local residences are against it, he said.

Mr. Keatner also is concerned that Acton won't be included in the service, seeing the move as another "divisive wedge" between the two communities.

It could mean that some Acton businesses will move to Georgetown to take advantage of free calling to Toronto, he said.

John McDermid (PC - Brampton-Georgetown) said EAS is up to the individual. Residents will have to pay extra fees in order to get into the Toronto market, he said. "I know some businesses will like it," he said.

For seniors

Turn on your lights for Kinsmen tour

The bright lights of Georgetown will be in the spotlight tonight as the Kinsmen take senior citizens on a tour of the Christmas lights.

Kinsmen have been touring the town for the past seven years and plan to keep it an annual event. "They (senior citizens) just love going out. Everyone always has a good word," Ted Savage, last year's Kinsmen publicist, said.

Kinsmen pick up seniors in buses, give them a tour and take them to St. Andrew's United Church where they are fed snacks and are entertained. This year the Halton Regional Police Choir will sing and conduct a sing-along.

Pick ups of seniors are between 7 and 7:30 p.m. Pick up points are at the Armstrong residence, the Sargent residence, the Legion Hall, Moore Park Plaza, the Centennial Building, Silver Creek Towers, the Delrex Smoke Shop, the Preston Store and the Bennett Health Care Centre.

Anyone unable to make it to those points can arrange transportation by calling Doug Gregory, the chairman of

the Kinsmen tour of Christmas lights, at 877-0706. The place and time of departure is the Delrex Smoke Shop at 7:30 p.m. The tour will last about one hour, Mr. Gregory said.

"In the past it has been quite successful. We always have around 150 seniors come out and they always want to come back," Mr. Gregory said. This year Santa Claus will be along for the ride. He will be travelling from bus to bus during stops and giving out little gifts. The merchants of Georgetown have been helpful every year, Mr. Gregory said. Food, drinks and prizes given out after the tour are mostly donated.

Travelways school buses are donated for the night. The Kinsmen pay for the gas and drivers. Kinettes also contribute by helping serve food and baking goodies.

Doug Gregory plans to make the event bigger next year if he is still chairman. Perhaps there will be a Christmas light contest judged by seniors, he said. But next year is a long time from now and things may change, he added.

The good neighbors

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Money is also needed by the Good Neighbor Service. All donations should be made out to the Good Neighbor Service and sent to: Mrs. Siena Van Hoekelen, 20 Cleavholm Drive, Georgetown, Ontario, L7G 3E1.

Some Georgetown churches will have special collections for the Good Neighbor Service, Mrs. Van Hoekelen said. Any and all contributions will be accepted as late as Dec. 21, and that includes toys collected by the Kinettes.

Joanne Stiles is chairman of the Kinettes toy drive. She expects they will deliver new and almost new toys to about 100 children this year. That includes teenagers for whom there is a shortage of toys.

"More toys are needed for teenagers. Books, records, games and whatever else might interest older kids are needed," she said. Drop-off points are: Johnson Real Estate, The Herald, the Georgetown Post Office or at the home of Joanne Stiles (25 Heather Court). For more information call 877-0722.

The Good Neighbor Service will collect and sort food and toys with the Kinettes at their base on 265 Guelph Street after Dec. 16.

If you would like to help put packages together or deliver them for Good Neighbor Service, call Mrs. Van Hoekelen at 877-3235 or Joanne Stiles at 877-0722. Food and toys can also be dropped-off at 265 Guelph Street after Dec. 16. Call either of the chairmen to make certain someone will be there before making a delivery.

Octopus lurks

"Ozzie" the octopus is going to be at the Georgetown Indoor Pool Dec. 27: 1:30 - 3:30, Dec. 28: 1 - 2:30, Dec. 29: 1 - 2:30, Dec. 30: 1:30 - 3:30 for free public swims.

"Ozzie" is going to be at the Acton Indoor Pool for free public swims Jan. 2: 1:30 - 3:30, Jan. 3: 1:30 - 3:30, Jan. 4: 1 - 2:30, Jan. 5: 1 - 2:30.

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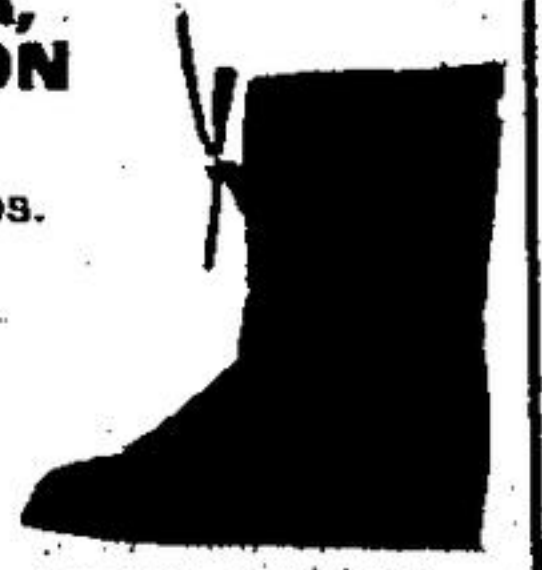
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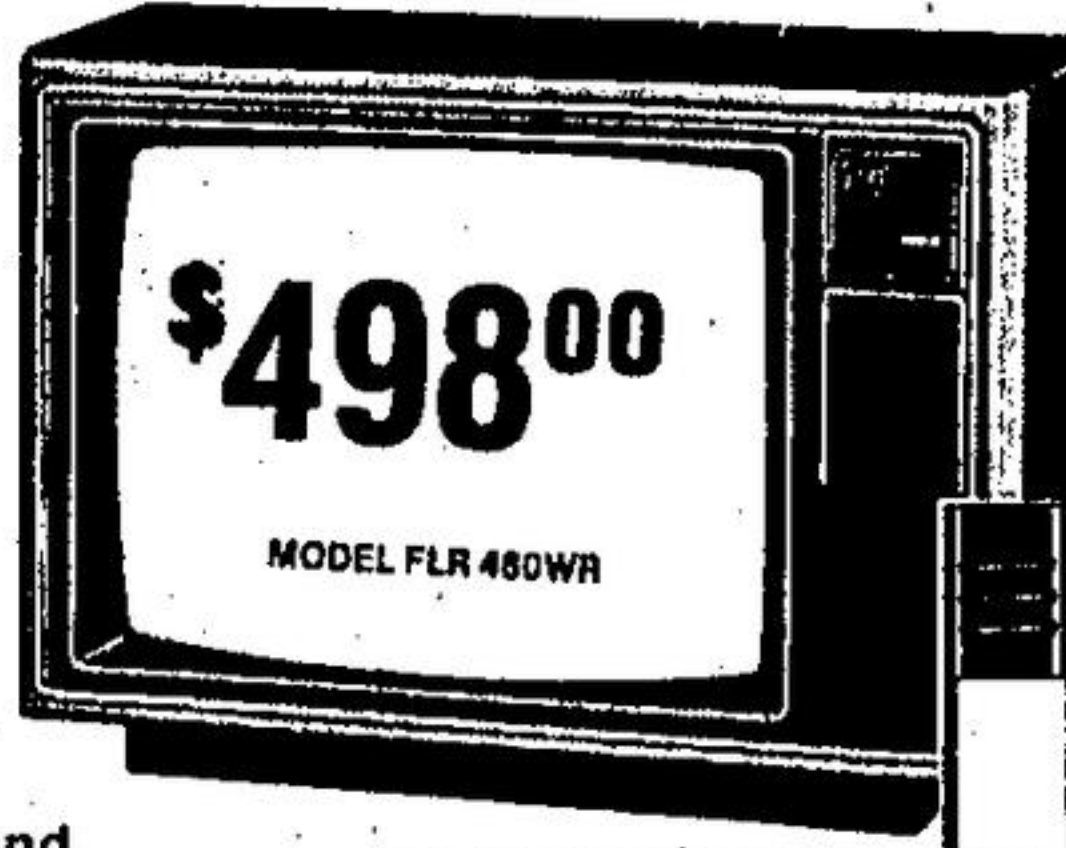
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