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In Halton Hills

Tele-touch gives seniors a friend

If you are interested in helping seniors, the handicapped and those who live alone, now is your chance. Volunteers are needed for the service called Tele-Touch.

All you have to do is call a senior several times a week at an arranged time. The purpose of the program is to give friendship, security and assistance.

Tele-Touch has been operating in southern Halton for 14½ years and

finally came to Halton Hills in October of 1985. Clients and volunteers are needed in Halton Hills.

"To have a friend is to be a friend" is the motto of Tele-Touch. If you want to be a volunteer, it helps if you are understanding, friendly and patient. Call Bob Carroll at 632-8000 and reverse the charges if you are calling long distance. The address of the Burlington headquarters, run by Mr.

Carroll, is Tele-Touch, 2096 Paisley Ave., Burlington, Ontario, L7R 1V9.

Bob Carroll is the executive director of the agency. He is blind and is assisted by a secretary; they are the only paid employees of Tele-Touch which has over 1,000 clients and 800 volunteers in Halton and Hamilton-Wentworth.

Tele-Touch is sponsored by the provincial government's Community and Social Services Ministry. The United Way, several churches and private donations also help Tele-Touch. A membership with the agency costs \$10 to \$25. There is no cost to clients for the service.

Tele-Touch has saved 10 lives in 14 years. No one can tally all the good the service has provided for clients. "I just want some one to call me. Two of my friends were found dead in bed. I got terribly upset when I go to bed." According to Mrs. Carroll, Bob Carroll's mother, the above statement is how one senior described her need before becoming a Tele-Touch client. After receiving regular calls the 80-year-old said, "I am feeling just great," Mrs. Carroll said.

Whether it is an emergency or not, Tele-Touch is dedicated to finding out why a client is not answering their phone. First the hospital is called. Emergency, patient information and admitting desks are contacted. Next, neighbors, next of kin and superintendents are called.

If nothing turns up, the VON or other nursing agencies, the Halton Health Unit and the doctor are called. Finally, if all of these avenues turn up nothing, Bob Carroll is called. He decides what should be done, whether or not the 911 emergency service is needed.

If you want to be a volunteer call Bob Carroll at 632-8000. You must be over 18.

More firefighters injured on the job

Nobody died in a fire in 1985, however, there were more firefighters injured on the job compared to the year before.

This was the good and bad news delivered Monday night by council by Fire Chief Bill Cunningham in his year-end report.

Nine firefighters got hurt fighting fires in 1985, compared to only three the year before. However, in 1984 there were two citizens who died because of fires.

In terms of injuries to the public, six people were hurt in 1985 compared to 11 in 1984.

Along with causing fatalities and injuries, fires damage property. This year's fire damages were considerably higher than the previous year's.

Last year, fires caused an estimated \$753,734 in damage. In 1984, the figure was \$463,935.

For the month of December, fire damage was down this year to less than a third of damages caused in December 1984.

Member shocked by drug stories

The Drug Abuse Committee (DAC) needs more people like Texas Greer and more service clubs like the Lions, says committee member Marcella Neely.

Mr. Greer is a member of the DAC and chairman of the Lions Club drug abuse committee. He moved to Georgetown a year ago and wanted to become involved in his new community.

"I was so shocked by my lack of



Just like dad

Give it to Mitchell's Dad - he'll love it. It was hard to tell who was having more fun - the children or their dad. Saturday it was Father's Day at the

Maple Avenue Nursery School. Here, Mitchell, 1, shows his father, Wayne Van Hinte, one of his creations. (Herald photo)

Government uses Woode's expertise for committee work

A Chappel Street, Georgetown, woman has been appointed to a provincial committee by Halton-Burlington MPP Don Knight.

Pat Woode, a newspaper columnist on handicapped affairs and a cable television co-host of the program Against The Odds, is well-known for her support of the handicapped.

It was while Mr. Knight was a guest on Against The Odds that he asked her to participate in the provincial committee.

The committee is called the Ontario Building Code Review Assembly Study Group. A report of their recommendations will be sent to the Minister of Housing, Alvin Curling.

The committee consists of about 15 members, some of them are architects, town planners, fire marshals or representing the building community. Six individuals represent the physically handicapped group called PUSH (Persons United for Self Help), a provincial organization for the disabled.

The committee will be looking at building code standards, to see how it can be improved to provide greater accessibility to the handicapped.

Section 10 of the building code only describes how to build a ramp, said Mrs. Woode. It doesn't deal with washroom door widths or other important details, she said.

The committee meets every second week until the end of February. Not only will they be looking at the building codes in Ontario, but also other provinces and the United States, she said.

The committee welcomes input from the public. If you want to contact Pat Woode, call her at 877-1436.

Building permits up

New residential building permits are up substantially over the last two years. According to the town's building department report, there were 128 permits in 1985 compared to 75 in 1984 and 57 in 1983.

In terms of value, these new homes were worth \$9.4 million in 1985 compared to \$4.4 in 1984 and \$5.5 in 1983.

Residential alterations, additions, garages and swimming pools stayed much the same over the three-year period, with values under \$2 million each year.

Principal says his good-byes

After 19 years of being a principal in Halton Hills Ron Chatten is being transferred to a new public school in Oakville. Feb. 3 Mr. Chatten will begin his first day as the principal of Glen Abbey Public School. He will be replaced by Karen Erskine who will be the acting principal of the Robert Little School until the end of June. She is currently the vice-principal of McKenzie-Smith Middle School.

Today at 1 p.m. students of Robert Little are honoring their principal with a presentation. Tomorrow (Thursday) the community will have their chance to say goodbye to Mr. Chatten. Everyone is invited to an informal drop-in for coffee and desserts at the school between 4-6 p.m., and 7:30-9 p.m.



RON CHATTEN

Ron Chatten's first job as principal in Halton Hills was in 1967 when he joined the staff of Stewarttown Senior Public School. After that he was principal of Centennial Public School and he is ending his career in Halton Hills after being principal of Robert Little Public School for seven years.

Legion salutes Robbie Burns

By BRIAN MacLEOD
Herald Special

Sounds of the pipes and the smell of haggis will fill the air of the Acton Royal Canadian Legion Jan. 25 as Branch 197 celebrates its Diamond Jubilee with a Robbie Burns night.

"It's our Diamond Jubilee and we've never had a Burns night before so we thought we would give it a whack," said Dave Capperault, one of the organizers of the event.

"These dinners are held all over the world. You might even see the Russians celebrating it. They are great admirers of Robbie Burns."

The haggis will be piped in by George Grieg of Georgetown. The main speaker, Lt. Col. (Jack) Anderson, will toast to the immortal memory of Robbie Burns, and Dr. MacIntosh of Georgetown will give the address to the haggis.

The Legion has hired highland dancers for the occasion and disc jockey John Kerr will mix traditional Scottish songs with modern dance music throughout the evening.

It all gets underway at 6 p.m. Saturday January 25. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 per couple and can be purchased from the Acton Legion.

10 Days speaker knows hunger well

Why are people hungry? Is it drought, ignorance, too many children, uncaring governments, military spending, foreign aid gone wrong, multinationals - or what? Theresa Chalmombe, a University of Zimbabwe lecturer will speak tomorrow, Jan. 23 at 11:30 a.m. at The Open Door, and 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Church, a guest of the 10 churches in the local "10 Days for World Development" group.

Butt out

Butt out. Jan. 16 to '22 is non-smoking week across Canada.

That's the work from the Halton Council on Smoking and Health. This year's focus is on school-aged children and their parents, with the council supplying them with literature emphasizing the dangers of smoking.



TITLE HIT-Using music as a theme, about 10 dedicated students Foster, left, is the editor while Norbert from Acton High School are putting Axtmann is the staff advisor.

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