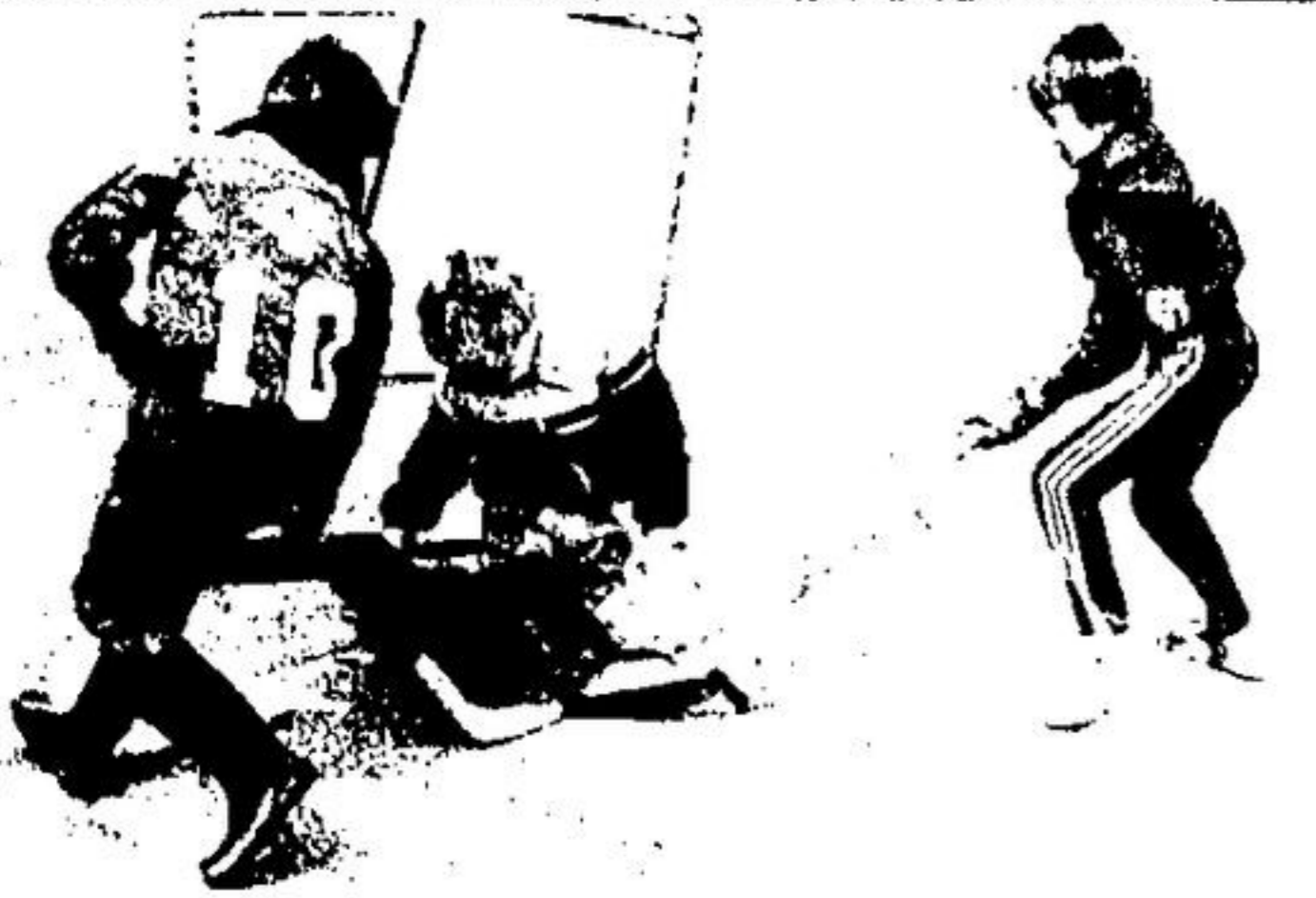


### Herald picture parade



The George Street Islanders were playing the George Street Oilers in Acton on the weekend. The boys play all year, but they prefer the spring weather. Playing goal for the Islanders is Jamie Irwin. (Herald photo)



Seen here distributing the information are Richard Spears from the works department and Assistant Works Superintendent Alf Duby (right). Herald photo.



This Mount St. Helens II is a scientific eruption, controlled and completely safe. But when it erupts it does create quite a commotion in the Centennial Public School gymnasium. Peter Weismann (left) and Paul Smith made the volcano for the Centennial Public School Science Fair. Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 made over 300 projects, half of which were on display in the school. (Herald photo)

## Jeff is Bitton by a sports bug

By Monique Tobin  
Herald Special

Jeff Bitton never tires of sports. In fact, even when he sits down to his desk every day at work, he thinks about sports and recreation -- that's because it's his job.

Since about age 7, Jeff Bitton, a supervisor for the Georgetown Recreation Department, has been involved in playing, organizing, coaching, umpiring and refereeing sports activities. Now, at the age of 28, Mr. Bitton is still organizing and participating in sports and recreation activities -- and still enjoying it.

After high school, Mr. Bitton achieved a Recreation Degree at Conestoga College, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. He went on to work for the public service in Kitchener, where he was living at the time, also working for Kitchener-Wilmont Hydro. Mr. Bitton has worked with the Hanover Recreation Department in their senior programs, and held the position of program supervisor for the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. He was also a convener for Minor Hockey in Kitchener.

"The town is a nice change from the city," he says. "The people are nice and it's a nice place to live."

Mr. Bitton has enjoyed his work, as supervisor of adult services and park bookings. His job consists of organizing programs, fitness and instruction, hiring staff, along with advertising the programs and events hosted by the Recreation Department.

"Basically, my job is to work as a 'liaison' with the community and the different groups within the community," Mr. Bitton explains. "I enjoy all of my job, especially dealing with the public."

Besides scheduling fairs, picnics, sports and special events, allocating park hours, organizing tournaments and providing permits for all of Halton Hills, Mr. Bitton has assisted with a variety of projects, as well. The recent Community Open House



Jeff Bitton

was organized by Mr. Bitton, who found the project "fun and interesting to get different groups to come together to accomplish one goal."

"I enjoy it when groups come together, co-operate and push to make it work, despite their differences," Mr. Bitton said. "My goals are to try to improve the scheduling process and develop more co-operation among leisure groups in the area, and to improve the services available."

"I'm interested in being involved in the growth of Halton Hills and help to expand the services. Georgetown is an energetic town."

Leisure time has been limited for Mr. Bitton, because of his busy job schedule, but when he does get some free time, he says he enjoys trying new things.

Mr. Bitton is very sports-oriented, but he also likes to do a lot of camping, and take long walks or hikes. Also a pet lover, Mr. Bitton owns a dog and two rabbits. He married his childhood sweetheart whom he began "dating" when he was 6 years of age. His wife, Robin, works at a car dealership in town.

Mr. Bitton says his first year here is basically a learning experience, to see mistakes from past years, and see where improvements are needed. "I would like everybody to get involved in some way in some social interaction in the community. We all need an outlet, a release, an opportunity to be physically involved."

"And," Mr. Bitton says "the key word is 'fun'."

## CAS booklet for children's rights

Coming into the care of a Children's Aid Society can be a frightening, heart-wrenching experience.

"The child is often confused about why he's being removed from home and frets about what will happen next."

The Halton CAS has long been concerned about this difficult transitional period in a child's life, and hopes to minimize the trauma and confusion in future with the help of a bright yellow booklet entitled Rights and Responsibilities While in the Care of the Halton Children's Aid Society.

Written by the Manager of Residential Services Margaret Morrison and illustrated by social worker Eva Sansom, the 12-page booklet strives to make children feel more secure when they come into the society's care.

The first 500 copies of the booklet arrived at the Halton CAS on February 1. There are presently about 200 children in the society's care, and Morrison, expects all of them will have a copy of the booklet by the end of March.

Work on the book began last November after the Child and Family Services Act (Bill 77) was passed, stating that children must be informed upon admission to care of their rights and responsibilities while in care.

Upon entering the program, a client is first assessed to determine the extent of his or her particular needs.

### IN THE HILLS

#### Maxwell's teeth

NORVAL - Members of the Norval Women's Institute and friends were invited to the home of Hardy and Ruby Barnhill March 21 at 1:30 p.m. Tape recordings of the March 6 Historical meeting were enjoyed with many chuckles and laughs.

Each person also displayed and told about an article of yester year. Included in the show and tell was a plate of teeth set in silver that Mary Maxwell's father plowed up many years ago.

Also featured were beautiful sleigh bells, old pictures of the 60 member choral society in the Norval Presbyterian Church and the month-long "short course" for both young men and women. Both were held in 1934 and '35 and taught household and animal husbandry skills. Lunch was served by the hostess and Noreen Van Leeuwen thanked the Barnhills for the lovely afternoon.

#### Study in jeopardy

A study of the gaps in service in both Halton Hills and Burlington has been put in jeopardy by Halton Region.

Last week, regional councillors voted a request for \$3,000 by the Halton Social Planning Council to undertake a community needs assessment in the two municipalities.

The Planning Council wanted the money to hire a community planner on a nine month contract. The job would entail obtaining current statistics on use of service, analyzing data, comparing results with other municipalities in the region and preparing final reports.

For Halton Hills, this data would identify gaps in social services and what needs there are for the new United Way to try and meet.

#### 'Meals' donation

Lucie Rens, president, opened the Catholic Women's League March meeting with a prayer. Secretary Pat McCarthy read the minutes of the February meeting.

A donation was made to Meals-on-Wheels. We received an invitation to an open house, from the Board of the Brothers of the Good Shepherd, regarding the addition to their building in Hamilton. Thank you note was received from Winston Robinson for a gift received at a recent appreciation night.

A thank you letter was read from a family in Southern India, for support through Save-a-Family program. Also a thank you note from Development and Peace for money raised from our recent high-poor meal. Report of expenses was given by treasurer Barb Lavioie. Spiritual reading was given by Georgette Milliere. Meeting was closed with a prayer and coffee and dessert was served.

## Adapt goes beyond just the drinker in rehabilitation

By BRIAN MacLEOD  
Herald Special

Adapt is an alcohol and drug addiction program that offers an alternative to people in Halton who feel reluctant to admit themselves as a resident of a rehabilitation program.

The program, which operates out of the Public Health Unit on Main St. in Georgetown and the Acton Town Hall, offers assessment, counselling and group therapy to people with a drug addiction or drinking problem. But Adapt goes beyond direct contact with the abuser. "Alcohol affects not only the drinker but also the person close to the problem in an equal way," said Ian Stewart, director of the Adapt program.

Counsellors at Adapt often work with wives and husbands of abusers. In a hypothetical case where a wife of an alcoholic reports to Adapt, Mr. Stewart described the type of help she would receive. "We would not want her to take responsibility for the actions of her husband. We would explain the do's and don'ts to her," Mr. Stewart said.

He explained that counsellors would help the person to establish healthy relationships outside of the tense environment.

Adapt has qualified counsellors from a variety of backgrounds, Mr. Stewart said. Most have degrees in social work but counsellors are available with occupational therapy and criminology backgrounds.

Upon entering the program, a client is first assessed to determine the extent of his or her particular needs.

Assessment is then followed by different types of counselling which may include group therapy. "Sharing one's feelings with people who have the same problems is extremely therapeutic," Mr. Stewart said. The director explained that confrontation sessions help to "talk about problems that are being created as opposed to the head in the sand approach."

"All that's needed for the drinker is to stop for a minute and look objectively about their drinking. It is not uncommon for a drinker to arrange an appointment with us after a confrontation," Mr. Stewart said.

Clients often remain with Adapt for six to nine months. But counsellors always follow up with an 18 month check up program. "It takes a long time to make all the lifestyle changes to minimize the chance of relapse," he said.

About ten per cent of Adapt's 700 clients are from the Halton area. Mr. Stewart said that about "two thirds of the clients show some improvement" upon completion of the program.

There is no evidence that residential programs are any better, explained Mr. Stewart. Currently there are no group sessions in the Georgetown-Acton area but Mr. Stewart hopes to provide that service soon.

There will also be a new youth group therapy program opening soon in the Halton area, but Mr. Stewart is not yet sure where it will be located. "A large percentage of our clients are youths. Wherever it is it will be open to youths from Georgetown and Acton," he said.

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