

Citizens' forum

French immersion language workshop

Dear Sir,
I am writing to you about the Language Workshop of Toronto which I think may be of interest to your readers.

In recent years, because of the unsettled state of the world, many students who traditionally would have gone to England to learn English are coming to Canada instead.

The Language Workshop teaches English to over a thousand students a year who come from such diverse places as Switzerland, Quebec, Greece, Spain, Colombia, Germany, Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan during the day time, and in the evening teaches French and other languages to Canadian and American students.

In addition to language training the Workshop arranges for a great many of its students to be housed with Toronto families so that they can become thoroughly immersed in English and in the life of Canadians.

Marylou Heenan, the founder and director of the Language Workshop put herself through University by

coaching French and decided when she graduated that there was a real interest by foreign students in coming to Canada to learn English. She started sending out letters and pamphlets and began to get pupils through Canadian embassies abroad, and The Language Workshop was born and has flourished ever since.

Amongst Ms. Heenan's students have been ambassadors, M.P.s, executives and government officials. She now sends out teachers to company offices on request.

This year for the first time the Language Workshop is setting up a new French Immersion Course to be held in Quebec at Le College Jean-de-Brebeuf (Pierre Trudeau's old school). This course is for students between the ages of 13 and 19. The course will become a regular part of the Language Workshop curriculum.

Yours truly,
Isobel A.M. Thompson,
p.p. Marylou Heenan,
(416) 968-1405

A man of vision



Against the odds
PAT WOODS

Samuel Baker lost his sight over 40 years ago but he is still a man of vision.

At the age of 83, Mr. Baker makes a daily visit to the Samuel Harris Baker Foundation to work on modifications and mounts for visual aids. The Foundation and the Baker Low Vision Rehabilitation Centre in Toronto are the result of this one man's determined effort to help others see again.

For years Mr. Baker was told by experts that there was nothing more that could be done for him. Then one day an old pair of binoculars changed his life. With them, he could see television. A heavier pair allowed him to read two letters at a time and a telescope permitted to see a play at Stratford.

Working together with machinists, Mr. Baker began adjusting the size of devices and modifying them until his "gadgets" were easy to hold and use. His first experience in sharing his knowledge resulted in the formation of the Samuel Harris Baker Foundation.

Ruth Baker works hand in hand with her father to bring sight back to those who may not have seen for years. The Baker Low Vision

Rehabilitation Centre specializes in what she describes as "low tech" aids. These high quality low-cost optical aids include magnifying glasses and telescopes which help the person read, play cards, look along library or grocery shelves and pursue many activities that they enjoy.

Ruth Baker sees about 20 people each week, the majority of them over 65, although the Vocational Rehabilitation Services are now referring younger clients.

Enquiries about the Foundation or the Low Vision Centre should be directed to Ruth Baker, 500 University Avenue, Suite 900, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1V7, (416) 598-2559.

A metabolic disorder, called Phenylketonuria is this month's topic of discussion on Halton Cable, 4 "Against the Odds". Mary Carmel, a Georgetown resident, is my guest on the show which will be aired at 7 p.m. tonight and Thursday, Feb. 19.



The same people who bring you the Kiwanis Annual Lobster Feast now bring you their first annual

"QUEEN OF HEARTS"

DANCE

February 14th - 8 p.m.
at Holy Cross Church

For tickets please call:
Alex Trenton 877-2359
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or contact any Kiwanis member.



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Who'll take dirty laundry

Georgetown Memorial Hospital needs someone to do its dirty laundry.

Halton Centennial Manor won't do it anymore. As of March 31, the Georgetown and Milton hospitals will be without a laundry service.

The administrator of the Manor wants the Manor to stick to doing its own laundry, or laundry for smaller organizations like Halton Recovery House, E.C. Drury and Family Place. These organizations can generate about \$10,000 annually for the Manor with negligible effect on the laundry operation.

That was the problem in doing laundry for the two hospitals — the increase in equipment breakdowns because equipment was working above capacity.

Doing away with laundry service for the hospitals will mean layoffs for five full-time and seven part-time staff. However, Regional Social Services Director Bonnie Ewart says every effort will be made to place the staff in other positions at the Manor as vacancies come up.

The hospitals got a real bargain in laundry service over the past year, according to Manor figures. It cost the Manor an extra 4 cents for each pound of laundry they did for the

hospitals. In other words, 4 cents more per pound than they charged the hospitals.

This increase was due mainly to retroactive wage increases, more laundry staff being required and higher utility and maintenance costs because the equipment was working above capacity.

The Manor has been doing hospital laundry since January 1985. If they were to continue with the service to the hospitals, rates would have to increase to a level both hospital administrators say is too high.

The Manor laundry service is primarily to serve the residents at the Manor.

Late report

It's two months late, but Recreation Director Tom Shepard told councillors the report on the Halton Hills Arts Council Needs Study will be before them in two weeks.

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KIDS!
TREAT MOM & DAD TO DINNER IN THE HERALD
AT **Belamys** WHO DO YOU LOVE CONTEST

RULES & REGULATIONS
VALENTINE'S DAY POETRY CONTEST

- Children participating must be between the ages of 8-12. The poems will be judged taking into consideration the age of the poet and the quality of the entry.
- The winner will be announced in the Outlook newspaper, Feb. 12 edition. A selection of submissions will also be featured the same week.
- Entries must be received by 12 noon Wednesday, February 11th. Decision of the judges is final.
- The poems should be no shorter than 8 lines and no longer than 30 lines.
- The poems must be on a Valentine's Day theme — about their mom or dad or both parents.
- Send in your entry marked Poetry Contest, with your age, name, phone number and address.
- The winning entry will win a dinner for three at "Belamys" restaurant.
- Open to children in the Halton Hills area only.

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265 Guelph St., Georgetown
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\$1 BILLION SPECIAL CANADIAN GRAINS PROGRAM.

A Helping Hand for Grain Farmers

The Special Canadian Grains Program is assisting farmers with \$1 billion. This initiative, announced by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, is the largest of its kind ever undertaken by any Canadian government on behalf of farmers.

It is a national program that responds to a national need. It will help offset low grain and oilseed prices resulting from the subsidy war between the European Community and the

United States. The first \$300 million will be in the hands of grain and oilseed farmers this winter. Another \$700 million will be paid out in the spring.

The details of this historic program are as follows:

1. You will benefit if, in 1986, you grew wheat, barley, oats, rye, mixed grains, corn, soybeans, canola, sunflower seeds for crushing or flax.

Pedigreed seed, high moisture corn, high moisture barley and farm fed grain are also covered.

2. The first cheques are being mailed directly to Western farmers based on Canadian Wheat Board permit book data.

3. If your crops are not included in permit book data, or if you are a qualifying producer who doesn't receive a cheque, you can pick up an application at the following places:

- Offices of Members of Parliament
- Grain elevators
- Grain producer organizations
- Agriculture Canada offices and research stations
- Farm Credit Corporation Offices.

You can also have forms mailed to you by contacting the Administrator, Special Canadian Grains Program, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa K1A 1J3, Phone (613) 957-7078.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 31st, 1987.

The Government of Canada is committed to ensuring that agriculture remains a strong and vibrant part of our country's economy. The Special Canadian Grains Program is a part of that commitment.

