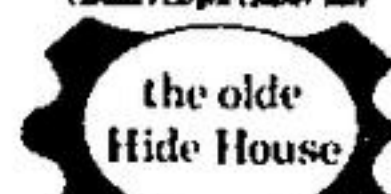


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Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Established 1866
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1987

OPEN 10-10, 7 DAYS A WEEK



15 EASTERN AVE., WILTON, ONT. L9R 0A3-0B1
It's Worth the Drive to Acton!

In the hills

U2 giveaways

Music lovers are in for a bargain this Friday. MCA Records of Canada has donated a number of records from the rock group U2's latest, entitled Joshua Tree. The records will be handed out as door prizes at the Georgetown Fairgrounds during the evenings of entertainment which features the bands 357 Dwyer and St. Xavier.

Dance offer

Get Acquainted with modern square dancing. The Pine Valley Square Dance Club presents two free nights Wednesday, Sept. 16 and 23 from 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Dancing is at Pineview Public School on Trafalgar Road and Sideroad 5.

Babies are welcome

LaLeche League of Acton invites all women interested in breast feeding information to its series of monthly meetings. Discussions include the latest medical research as well as personal experiences. Other services include telephone counselling and a lending library of books on pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, childcare and nutrition. The advantages of breastfeeding will be discussed at the next meeting Sept. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at 79 Churchill Road South. Babies are always welcome.

Fashion show

Petals ladies fashions is holding a fashion show at the Terra Cotta Inn Sept. 17. The fashion consultant is Betty Burgoyne. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are available at Petals located in the Northview Plaza in Georgetown.

Campaign begins

Sept. 7th the Georgetown Knights of Columbus will launch its annual campaign to solicit funds in support of Arthritis. This is the 20th year that the Knights have organized a door to door campaign assisted by many volunteer canvassers. The month of September has been recognized as Arthritis month and your generous donation will be appreciated when a canvasser calls at your door. For those who wish to donate by mail please address to: P.O. Box 71, Georgetown, Ont. and an official receipt will be forwarded to you.

Guide registration

Brownie, Guide and Pathfinder registration for Georgetown West District will take place at Knox Presbyterian Church in Georgetown on Tuesday, Sept. 15 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. If you are a young lady between the ages of six and 15, and enjoy nature, fun in the outdoors, helping your community and various other activities, then come on out and be a part of Guiding.

Women's Club meeting

Are you interested in community, educational and social affairs? Are you a university graduate? If so, you are cordially invited to the Georgetown University Women's Club first meeting of the year. It's a wine and cheese evening at St. Alban's Church Hall, Glen Williams, on Tuesday September 15th 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Come out to see our high school scholarship award winners, learn about our interest groups and hear this year's lineup of meetings topics and speakers. If interested contact Lee Everett at 877-1547 or Diane Hallett at 877-9341 for more information.

Lupus speaker

The Lupus Society of Hamilton is holding a meeting Sept. 13 with Dr. Gary Craig, a Rheumatologist, as guest speaker. The location is All Saints Anglican Church Parish Hall in Hamilton. The topic is "Lupus from a Rheumatologist's Point of View." The meeting begins at 2 p.m. For more information call 527-2252.

\$10,000 fire

Firefighters responded to a grease fire at an Acton home Friday night. The fire, which was extinguished by the time the fire department arrived, caused about \$10,000 damage to the home. A resident at the house at 161 Kingham Rd. said all of the drapes and furniture throughout the home are covered with soot.

Resident Stewart Bartels 18, extinguished the kitchen fire, which started at about 10 p.m. Friday. His parents were away for the weekend. No one was injured in the fire.

Hide House blaze

Smouldering in the kitchen of the Olde Hide House restaurant in Acton Saturday caused about \$5,000 damage. Firefighters said the smoke was caused by water leaking into a downstairs switch panel from a cooling unit. There was no fire, although smoke was extensive.

School lobby wants more provincial money

By MARY-LIZ SHAW
Herald Staff

School trustees, teachers and parents have polled every candidate in Halton Region to try to make education a focal point for this election. The group known as the Ontario Public Education Network is concerned that education issues have fallen behind in the past few years, said Board of Education chairman Arlene Bruce.

In a press conference Wednesday, Board members released a package of answers by every Halton candidate to three questions. The questions covered general education funding in Ontario, capital allocation and funding to private

schools, issues which OPEN feels are the most important facing the education system today. Arlene Bruce said, "We were looking for a concern and an understanding of the issues." Mrs. Bruce said, "But, for the most part, we found the answers to be very general and wary. The Board is hoping for provincial funding in Halton to increase to 60 per cent of the cost with the remaining 40 per cent coming from local property taxes, said Vice Chair Pat Hillhouse. Currently the government pays for 37 per cent of the costs in Halton. That amount puts Halton behind the provincial average of 45 per cent per year. But, both figures are down

from 1975 when the provincial government paid 61 per cent of local school board budgets. The Board attributes the drop to a shift in population. Close to 60 per cent of taxpayers in Ontario are not using the school system, Arlene Bruce said. "I guess priorities change," she said. "We, perhaps have slipped, by not keeping the issue up front. We haven't been as forceful as we could have been," Pat Hillhouse added. "Perhaps we haven't done enough to make non-parents realize that they need a good school system; we all need a better educated public." But, OPEN members stressed the questionnaire is a first step in making

people realize where the candidates stand. Once they are in office, local boards will continue to monitor their performance to make sure education promises are met. Director of Education Wally Beever said the Board is confused about the way money is handed out to different boards. "We are told it is a completely rational process, it is not supposed to be political at all," he said. "But, (former north Halton M.P.P.) Don Knight said that if we had gone to him, we would have done much better." It's difficult to know whether the playing field is level Mr. Beever added, which makes the Board's role in deciding what is needed harder.

The trustees, parents and teachers said they were pleased, however, that education is being discussed more this election than during the 1985 provincial election. The board's biggest concern now is former Ontario Institute for Studies in Education director Bernard Shapiro's study recommending government funding to private schools and other religious schools. "The Premier and candidates of that party tell us the issue is still under study," Wally Beever said. "Well, I get nervous when things are under study." Mr. Beever could not say whether the funding will go through but he stressed that if it does, it will erode the public education system further.

Plans for Peace Peal

By JANET DUVAL

Wherever you are, whatever you're doing next Tuesday, September 15, plan to pause for peace at noon hour. On this, the United Nations International Day of Peace, you are invited to join with people across Canada, the delegates of the UN General Assembly, and people in more than 50 countries to share a minute of silent contemplation to reaffirm our commitment to world peace. The Minute of Silence will be followed by the pealing of church bells and other joyous sounds that celebrate our hope for peace. A Peal for Peace is a symbolic focus for the hope that each one of us has for global cooperation, supported by the power and energy of millions of others around the world. The struggle for peace is the most critical social issue of our world today. Without its achievement, no other cause will matter. Many people, especially young people, feel they cannot make a difference in shaping history. It is important to help each person realize that is the collective force of voices together that makes change.

Last year, all of Expo 86 in Vancouver was silent for the minute at noon, including the pavilions of Western governments, the USSR, and China. On Parliament Hill the Peace Tower Carillon rang. More than 70 cities and towns across Canada observed the Day, including Georgetown and Acton; thousands of school children paused in the midst of their school day to think about peace, and hundreds of hospital patients woke to see the A Peal for Peace message on their breakfast trays.



Bicyclist hit

Ambulance attendants help Christian M. Schmidt, 16, of Guelph St., Norval after he was struck by a car while riding his bicycle Thursday. A car coming out of a parking lot on Guelph St. struck Christian as he was travelling west on Guelph Street. The accident occurred at about 2:30 p.m. The Norval youth was taken to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital with minor injuries. (by Mary-Liz Shaw)

Rabid animal?

Sick rat spotted has mom worried

By DAVE ROWNEY
Herald Staff

Rats discovered acting in a strange way will be tested for rabies if there is a request to do so, said an official from Halton Region. Henry Garcia, an area supervisor for the environmental health branch of the Halton Health Department said normally wild animals that are killed aren't tested for rabies. But if they are reported to be acting strange and come in contact with humans, the health department will send them to the Ministry of Agriculture for testing. Mr. Garcia was responding to concerns from a Sims Gate mother in Georgetown last week. Robin Everingham said she discovered a sick rat in front of her home. The rat was subsequently killed, but the mother wants the rodent checked for rabies. She said she was told by the animal control officer who picked up the dead animal that it couldn't be tested for rabies. The reason given was that the rat had not bitten anyone. However, he agreed to keep the animal frozen for a period of time before disposing of it as a precaution. Mr. Garcia said the animal control officer should have phoned the Halton Health Department. The department is the one who carries out an investigation, he said, "it's not up to him to decide if there's human involvement."

been "human involvement." The rabies virus can't go through the skin and there have to be open cuts for the disease to spread, he said. It's usually better to see a doctor first and then decided from there whether testing is necessary, he said. However, Halton Region will do the investigation if someone calls about an animal that acts as if it is rabid. If the doctor and the person involved feels there is a need, the dead animal will be tested, said Mr. Garcia. "We supply the vaccine, we deliver the carcass and the Ministry of Agriculture does the testing. We'll know the results within 24 hours." Mrs. Everingham said she was concerned because there could possibly be more rats nearby and they could be rabid. The area supervisor said statistically speaking there is a low incidence of rats becoming rabid. But because they are warm-blooded, there is that possibility, he said. "But it's true - where there are people there are rats," said Mr. Garcia. Rats stay close to human activity and they prefer older sections of a town and farm areas - anywhere where there is a ready supply of food and shelter, he said. He said the rodent could have been poisoned and perhaps that's why it was acting strangely. Normally a rat will shy away from people. If it jumps out and bites someone without provocation, then there is cause for concern, he said. Normal procedures are to keep the dead animal for at least a week to see if anyone comes forward to request testing, he said.

Golden Helmets back for fall fair show

Take a ride in a whirlybird, place a Bossy Bingo bet or cheer on an olympic farm competitor. The Georgetown fairgrounds will be alive with music, exhibits and competitions for the 141st fall fair this weekend.

A number of new attractions at the Georgetown fair are bound to excite residents. A helicopter will be available to take people for an aerial view of the sights below. Also new this year is a game called Bossy Bingo. You place a bet where you think "Bossy" will drop her cow chips.

At the farm olympics, competitors will tackle a variety of events, such as a nail-driving contest, a hand-milking race and sheep coralling. Back by popular demand are the talented, precision drivers of the OPP Golden Helmets performing both Saturday and Sunday.

A parade has been organized for Saturday and it will wind its way down to the Fairgrounds at noon. Friday at the fair has been designated youth night and a rock concert is planned, featuring bands 357 Dwyer and St. Xavier.

Sports fans can watch the skills of girl softball players as the Kinsmen league holds its playoffs at the Fairgrounds Saturday morning.

Also Saturday, there is the Canadian/American saddle horse show, the western horse show and beef and dairy cattle competitions. From noon until 6 p.m. listen to Sound Investment and Tiger Sharks or watch the sheep dog competitions.

After the Opp Golden Helmets perform the Canadian Mini-Tractor Pull is scheduled for around 6 p.m.

Sunday is children's day and the youngster set will be entertained by Otto the Magician, Chris and Ken Whiteley and The Junior Jug Band. There is the ever-popular pet show, farm olympics, sheep dog demonstrations and exhibits of light and heavy horses.

Ongoing events throughout the weekend include midway rides, the petting zoo called Old MacDonald's Farm, Rotary Bingo, arts and crafts exhibits and the Kids' Fambulous Fun Tent.

Weekend passes are available at such places as Georgetown Fabrics, Guelph Street Stationery and The Herald until Sept. 11. Admission for adults daily is \$3 and students over 7 are \$2. Seniors also pay \$2 while children under age 7 are free.

Gates open Friday 6-11 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Literacy Week

Group reaches out to those who can't read

The North Halton Literacy Guild is hoping to reach out to people in the community who want to learn to read or to increase their reading proficiency, according to Guild Director Maureen McCallum. "It's important that people realize that (illiteracy) could happen to anyone," Ms. McCallum said. "It is not because they are stupid; certain events happen in people's lives that affect them for a very long time."

The North Halton guild is based on guilds already established in areas such as Oakville, Burlington and Peel. North Halton Literacy Guild volunteers will be using a student-centred method of teaching, unlike the Oakville or Burlington groups, which use a phonics system. "Whatever the student wants to learn, we will help them to do that," Maureen McCallum said.

Many students approach literacy groups to learn or to achieve a specific goal, such as getting a driver's licence, she said. "In that case, we might start with basic ABC's and then build up vocabulary based on words in the driving manual."

Another student has been in touch with the guild to upgrade her basic reading skills. The tutor will likely start her with simple words and build up her vocabulary from there, Ms. McCallum said.

The North Halton group was established in June. Since then at least four students have approached the guild to upgrade their reading skills. A Board of Directors manages the group and consists of 11 volunteers. Eight trained tutors are waiting to receive students and 10 more volunteers are waiting for training, Ms. McCallum said.

A grade 12 student contacted Maureen McCallum to upgrade his writing skills, she said. He is planning to take a course at a community college that will involve report writing. "We have to remember that many of these people have been functioning in the world for the last 20 or 40 years," the Director said. "Just because they don't know how to read, doesn't mean they don't have other interests. That idea is a fallacy." Literacy guilds began primarily

as a result of a Toronto program made up of three ex-convicts, who approached street people and offered them reading programs. In its first years of operation the Beat-the-Street program discovered that many people who couldn't read had become very shrewd in their use of others to find out information, Ms. McCallum said.

Literacy in Ontario is now a large financial commitment of the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture (MCC), Maureen McCallum noted. "In Halton, the timing seemed right," she added. Statistics from the 1981 census indicated that close to half of the functionally illiterate adults in Canada are unemployed. Of those who are employed, many are passed over for promotions or refuse to take on new responsibilities because they are self-

conscious of their reading and writing skills, Ms. McCallum noted. Maureen McCallum attended a MCC seminar Friday which attracted over 500 people from service clubs, small businesses, educational institutions and media in Ontario. The business people showed a strong concern for literacy rates among employees, she said.

Halton Hills council has proclaimed Literacy Week for the week of September 7. Ms. McCallum has just received a plaque from the Region of Halton proclaiming the Region's support of the newly formed Literacy Guild. The province is setting aside September 8 as Literacy Day in Ontario. Literacy guilds are busy contacting businesses and service groups to spread information on literacy training in their communities.

