

Outlook on Halton Hills

Hospice forum

Are we meeting the needs of the aged in our community? This was the topic for the recent Fall Forum, in Milton, sponsored by North Halton Hospice.

A panel of representatives from community agencies included Rae Putlock, co-ordinator of Home Care Services; Valerie Cook, supervisor of Red Cross Homemakers; May Vavoz from Mental Health, and Lorena Smith co-ordinator of Milton Place, a day care program for seniors. Moderator was Nancy King, co-ordinator of North Halton Hospice.

Each panel member outlined the services provided by her organization. Ms. Putlock described Home Care as a program under O.H.I.P. which is able to provide a limited amount of respite care for families caring for aging relatives. Under Home Care services such as Homemaking, Nursing, Speech and Physiotherapy are provided, but she stressed "there has to be family involvement".

If it becomes apparent that families are having difficulty coping because too much care is required, then alternatives have to be found. Valerie Cook informed the audience that more funding has recently been made available from the Government for support of families dealing with Alzheimers. For a minimal charge homemaking can be purchased for extra support over and above what Home Care provides.

May Vavoz explained how an assessment by the mental health team, which includes the services of a psychiatrist can determine whether a patient's mental deterioration is due to depression or organic causes. In many cases, with the proper medication and counselling a patient's depression can be lifted so that they can function more effectively.

Another important service in the community is Milton Place, a day care program for socialization and recreation of seniors. Lorena Smith stated that the program which began in Jan., 1987 and operates from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Mon. to Fri. is currently operating below capacity. The reason for this has been identified as lack of transportation from Halton Hills to Milton.

This is soon to be remedied and if there are enough people interested, transportation will be provided in the near future. Seniors may take part in this program 1 - 5 days a week and for \$9/day, are provided with a hot lunch and nap time as well as many planned activities. More information regarding Milton Place can be obtained by calling 878-4141.

It was concluded that while there are still gaps in services for the aged, there are indeed more being offered than in the past, and ongoing attempts being made by community agencies to identify needs and plan programs to meet them. For those who were unable to attend this forum more information can be obtained from Public Health offices, Halton Seniors directory, local contact centres.

Royal Winter Fair



Georgetown holstein breeder Dave Thompson brushes down his cattle after entering them in competitions at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. A few ribbons and a possible sale made participation in this year's Royal worthwhile for Elm lawn Farms, owned by the Thompson family.

4-H competes

Dairy calves took over centre ring at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair coliseum Monday, as 4-H members from across the country competed in the Contact Hays Classic.

When it was over, Quebec West exhibitors were named best in the show, with the grand champion calf being a holstein shown by Jaqueen Rankin of Langley, B.C.

Grand Champion showman during the two-day event was Brampton junior showman Donna Roundtree, representing Peel County.

Halton County competitors fared well, named second-best exhibiting county out of 51 overall.

The Halton squad, which included Erika Kuboka of Georgetown, won top honors for their group of three cattle.

Winning the herdsmen competition were competitors from Haldimand County.

McNabb winner

The McNabb Guernsey cattle breeders of Georgetown took home their share of prizes during final competitions at the 59th Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

The McNabbs came first and second with their entries in the female junior heifer class and went on to win the junior champion female and junior herd banners.

The McNabbs also came second in the group of four Guernseys.

They were among the thousands of competitors who descended on the Royal during 12 days of competitions. The fair, which ended Sunday, is the largest indoor agricultural exhibition in the world.

Railway Fiesta

By JULIE HOLMES
Herald Special

Are you longing for an old-fashioned Christmas this year? What could be more appropriate than the Ladies' Annual Christmas Fiesta at Halton County Radial Railway Museum?

The festivities will begin at 11 a.m. on Sunday, December 6, and end at about 4 p.m. The ladies of the Association will be displaying handicrafts, gifts and books, a baked goods table, a penny table, and numerous gift suggestions for "those who have everything."

Santa Claus will arrive at 12 noon, and greet youngsters from his very own room aboard old car 107, and electric railway car. The children can enjoy a ride over the Museum's mile of scenic track, and talk to Santa along the way.

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