

# Pupils return to smoking area

By BRIAN MacLEOD  
Herald Staff

Students at Georgetown District High School will soon have their smoking area back.

Smoking in GDHS was banned for students in February and their smoking area in the centre courtyard was taken away by the school.

Teachers, however, were allowed to smoke in the school in a designated area.

About 300 students protested the ban Oct. 16 when they organized a sit-in on Highway 7 closing the road for over an hour.

The protest broke up when Principal Barb Singleton agreed to temporary lift smoking suspensions and set up a review of the school's smoking policy.

The new policy is a result of weeks of meetings following the "proper" process, Ms. Singleton said in a letter to The Herald.

"It is our sincere hope that the actions of the students involved in the protest will not be seen by our students and community as having been rewarded by the decision to reinstate the smoking area," Ms. Singleton said in the letter.

Only students who are at least 16 years old will be allowed to smoke in the central courtyard area and only if their parents sign a contract allowing the student to smoke.

The school has now set up a smoking committee consisting of several students and four advisory teachers, said Ms. Singleton.

That committee produced a "student expectations" report which was circulated around the school Dec. 14, said Susan Orchard, a teacher on the advisory committee.

The teachers met four times with a group of students to set rules and regulations of the reinstated smoking area, said Ms. Orchard.

Students will help monitor the smoking area, said Ms. Singleton.

The students followed the process of re-examining the smoking issue very well, she said.

Ms. Orchard thinks the students are anxious to help do their part to keep the smoking area.

The students didn't balk at the

idea of having their parents sign a smoking contract, she said.

"The students thought it was a feasible way of controlling students that are under 16," she said.

The new smoking area will likely open Jan. 4, said Ms. Orchard.

Student Council President Lisa Walters, who sat on the two committees which reviewed smoking policy thinks the contracts are a good idea.

"The school, we are told, is responsible for the students," she said.

Only students who are 16 or 17 years old have to have their parents sign the contract, she said.

The student responsibilities contract circulated around the school Dec. 14 must be signed by everyone in the school, she said.

Anyone caught in the courtyard smoking area who has not signed the student responsibilities contract will be violating the school's rules.

Lisa admitted the student protest "did get the school's attention but they could have gotten their attention in another way."

## Personnel group

The Georgetown Personnel Group would like to extend an invitation to all businesses to attend meetings. It meets the fourth Thursday of every month from 12-2 p.m. at the North Halton Golf Club, lower level banquet room.

Yearly membership is \$10 per company and any size of Corporation may join. Discussed are mutual problems such as hiring policies and wage structures. At most meetings it has speakers covering topics such as human rights, workers compensation, government wage subsidies, the Employment Standards Act, safety programs, high school co-op programs, employee morale, absenteeism prevention and a host of other personnel related items.

It is a very informal group with no executive or minute taking. The members are made up of personnel managers from large corporations and general managers from smaller ones. If your company is interested in joining, call Lois Fraser, Elliott Custom Brokers Limited 877-5293.

## Wins contract

A Georgetown company has won a federal contract worth \$371,029. Supply and Services Canada has announced.

Corigan Instrumentation Services Ltd. will supply Scanray Linecan systems to the Transport Department.

—Ottawa Bureau

## Holiday hours

The Canadian Red Cross Society, Georgetown chapter, will be closed to the public during the holiday season.

The Red Cross office is closed from Dec. 24 until Jan. 5. For more information call 877-5253.

## Immunizations

An immunization clinic is held the second Thursday of each month from 1:30 - 4 p.m. at the health department, 93 Main Street South in Georgetown.

For an appointment call 827-2238.

## Whimsy's wins

The storefronts were judged Saturday and Whimsy's was announced the winner of the annual contest for the best decorated window in downtown Georgetown.

The runner-ups were Oxbow Books, tied with Georgetown's General Store. All BIA (Business Improvement Area) members were eligible to enter the contest. The past winners were: 1986 Whimsy's, 1985 Barber's Jewellers, 1984 Carol's Hair and Beauty Salon.

## New Year's Levee

Are you proud of your town? Come on out then for an old style New Year's Day Levee at the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre.

His Worship Mayor Russ Miller and members of the Halton Hills Town Council invite all citizens to a special gathering from 2-4 p.m. at the Halton Hills cultural centre.

## Photo winners

Photos submitted for the Halton Hills Tourism Committee's photography contest will be on display at the town's library-cultural centre Dec. 22-Jan. 21.

The winners will be presented with their prizes Dec. 21 at 8 p.m. The photos will be used to promote tourism in Halton Hills. The theme of the photo contest was Autumn in Halton Hills.

## Yule services

Special Christmas services will be held at Holy Cross Parish on Maple Avenue throughout the holidays. On Christmas Eve, a Family Mass will begin at 7 p.m., which features the Children's Pageant, and 12 Midnight Mass will begin at 11:30 p.m. with Christmas carols.

There will be no 8 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day. The first Mass, with the Children's Pageant will be at 10 a.m. There will also be a Mass at 12 noon.

Confessions are scheduled for these times, on Saturday the 19th, from 9:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., and following the 7 p.m. Mass until 9 p.m.

Confession is also scheduled after the 7:30 p.m. Mass until 9 p.m. on Wednesday, December 23 and on Thursday, December 24, from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.

## Stop smoking

Is your New Year's resolution to stop smoking?

The Halton Lung Association's Countdown program can help. Countdown is a 5-week course designed to help you understand your habit and stop smoking forever.

Courses start on January 5 and January 18, 1988. Daytime courses are also available. For further information, call the Halton Lung Association at 832-8499.



## Fashionable display

Elizabeth's Fashions put on a fashion show for men only at the North Halton Golf and Country Club Dec. 10. The show featured various types of gifts for men to give for Christmas including ladies shoes, handbags and fashions. One Step Ahead also displayed their new wares at the fashion show. Looking on in anticipation was Elizabeth McNelly opens a Christmas surprise is, left to right, Margaret Vint, Jessie Jacobs, Pauline McNelly and Heather Burke. (Herald photo)

## Help the Christmas needy

Good Neighbors Service is in need of strong men, cars and trucks and Christmas food for the needy.

The annual Georgetown Christmas charity drive is well underway, says co-ordinator Siena van Hoekelen.

Sorting this year will be done at 360 Guelph Street, Unit 37 near the Re/Max building.

Volunteers are needed Dec. 18 to help sort goods, Dec. 22 to help pack gift baskets and Dec. 23 to deliver the gifts. For more information call 877-3235.

Donations for Good Neighbors can be dropped off at 20 Cleveholme Drive in Georgetown.

To help Acton families in need of a hearty meal Christmas, drop off your canned goods, money, clothing or toys to 114 Mill Street in Acton.

## Santa manages calls to 550 local pupils

With the new technological advancements in telephone systems the Georgetown Optimist Club and the Halton Hills Recreation Department have pooled their resources to hook up a special telephone cable again this year to the North Pole.

Santa Claus himself has been calling over 550 students in Halton Hills in kindergarten and Grade 1 yesterday and today to let them know they're on his special Christmas list.

With elves working feverishly in the background Santa sometimes has to strain to hear what the children are saying, but he already knows names of family pets and what the kids want for Christmas thanks to a special information sheet filled out by the students' parents at the various schools throughout Halton Hills, said Debbie Powell, the Town's supervisor of youth services.

Eight volunteers from the Optimist Club gathered together last night (Tuesday) and they will do it again tonight (Dec. 16) to ensure each student whose parents have

filled out the form has a clear and direct line to the North Pole.

And some of the kids even get a chance to talk to the elves and Mrs. Claus, said Ms. Powell.

The idea was first brought to Halton Hills three years ago by Alan Hay, the Town's Superintendent of Facilities. He had seen the program work well in Cambridge so he gave the information to Town staff in Georgetown and Santa's personal calls have become more popular every year since then, said Ms. Powell.

"You can just tell some of the kids are shocked and surprised," she said.

But some of them take a little convincing before they believe the call is coming directly from the North Pole, she said.

Those busy elves banging and clanging in the background working hard in the toyshop help prove to the kids that Santa is really making the call, she said.

## Tonight's the night for parade of lights

Tonight's the night for the parade of lights.

The Kinsmen's annual tour of lights for senior citizens is ready to roll through the streets of Georgetown.

The service club members want to remind citizens to turn on your yule lights for the busloads of elderly who will participate in the event.

The seniors will be picked up in Travelways buses and the ActVan at designated pick-up points. At approximately 7:30 p.m. the buses will meet at the Georgetown Marketplace.

The bus convoy will be escorted by the Halton Regional Police along as many streets as possible, says project chairman Dave Bradbury. Afterwards, the seniors will be

brought to St. Andrew's United Church for a reception.

The entertainment is being provided by Terry Champ and members of the Georgetown Choral Society. Refreshments are being provided and Santa Claus will be on hand to present door prizes to lucky individuals.

After sing songs and conversation, buses will take the seniors back to the pick-up points.

The Kinsmen club appreciates the help of local merchants who provide gifts and refreshments year after year, said Mr. Bradbury.

## Ski program

A Jack Rabbit cross country ski program is being held for boys and girls ages 6-13 at Cedarvale Park Jan. 17 from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. and the cost is \$12. The course consists of six lessons each Sunday from January 17 until February 21. You can sign up for the program at the Town of Halton Hills Recreation Department or call 877-5185.

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## Curwood workers vote to strike

Workers at Curwood Packaging Ltd. in Georgetown have voted in favor of strike action.

A spokesman for the Graphics Communications International Union Local 500 said the workers voted to turn down a contract offer by the company Dec. 10. They followed that with a vote to give the union a mandate to call a strike.

The union, which represents about 115 workers at the plant, is negotiating its first contract since gaining certification in April.

The two sides have been bargaining since mid-June and a Dec. 3 meeting with a conciliator resulted in the contract offer. The workers voted on Thursday.

The conciliator has called for another meeting between the two sides on Dec. 21, said Curwood President Barry Kedwell.

Mr. Kedwell said the fact that a contract offer came out of the Dec. 3 talks means there is some progress being made.

He is still optimistic that a settlement can be reached without a strike.

No date has yet been set for a strike, a union spokesman said.

The union is reported to be asking for more money, no mandatory overtime, no continental shifts and better benefits.

## Fire calls

Dec. 5: 12:29 p.m. - A motor accident was reported at Highways 25 and 24. The people had been removed from the car by the time the fire department arrived.

Dec. 6: 7:50 p.m. - A resuscitation call at 6th Line North of 25 Sideroad, Nassagaweya. A man with a self-inflicted gunshot wound was given oxygen and the wound was covered until the ambulance arrived.

Dec. 7: 11:23 a.m. - A false alarm was set off at the Bennett Centre by soldering repairs.

Dec. 8: 11:47 p.m. - A false alarm at the ambulance station at 17 Guelph St.

Dec. 10: 3:47 a.m. - A resuscitation call at 25 Sideroad east of the 1st Line. Ambulance and firemen arrived simultaneously to find a woman in labor. A baby boy was delivered and mother and son were taken to Milton hospital.

Dec. 10: 10:32 p.m. - A resuscitation call to a woman having chest pains at 52 Willow St.

Dec. 11: 8:34 a.m. - Smoke in the basement was reported at 7 Casa St. and a smouldering rag covered in linseed oil was discovered in a cupboard.

Dec. 11: 6:35 p.m. - A motor accident at 61 Church St. W. in Acton. The fire department washed down a gas spill.

Dec. 11: 8:30 p.m. - A chimney fire at 2 Cameron St. in Acton. No damage was caused.

Dec. 12: 10:09 a.m. - A false alarm was reported at the Labelmasters building at 2 Rosetta St.

Dec. 14: 5:58 p.m. - A false alarm was reported at Holy Cross School on Maple St.

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Sargent Residence - Central Building  
Bennett Health Care Centre - Silver Creek Towers  
Armstrong Residence

Legion Hall 7:15 p.m.  
Moore Park Plaza 7:15 p.m.  
Delora Smoke Shop 7:15 p.m.  
Vestron's Store 7:15 p.m.

Kinsmen Contact:  
For Special Arrangements  
Joan Gregory • 877 0105  
Dave Bradley • 877 6758