

## Drop-In Centre receives MOH funds

The Ministry of Health will give \$50,000 towards a drop-in centre to improve the health of low-income residents in Oakville.

The Elm Street Centre will stress good nutrition, reducing communicable diseases in children and promoting self-esteem.

Organizers hope it will become a major centre for promoting good health in the community.

The Halton Regional Health Unit has been working with residents on plans for the centre which was

recommended for funding by the Halton District Health Council.

A project coordinator will be hired to coordinate activities and residents will be encouraged to identify and find solutions to local health problems. Staff will train residents to take over the centre's operation when ministry funding ends after two years.

The grant is one of 29 announced by the Ministry recently to help community groups promote good health. The groups will use everything from peer counselling to martial arts training, native culture and English-as-a-second-language classes to get people involved. The 29 programs will cost \$1,123,500 over two years. They range from a \$3,000 Nipigon workshop for teenagers on stress and depression to a \$91,000 province-wide project to help prevent hearing problems in Italian and Chinese Canadians.

"Programs on the risks of smoking, on coping with stress, on good nutrition, must become as important to the health system as immunization against communicable diseases," Mrs. Caplan, Health Minister, said.

"Good health is much more than the treatment of illness," said Mrs. Caplan. "It has much to do with social, physical and economic factors. It is no good pumping money into hospitals, health clinics and doctors' services if we don't also give people the tools to help them make healthy lifestyle choices."

"The Oakville drop-in is an excellent example of health care workers and residents working together," Barbara Sullivan, MPP for Halton Centre, said.

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## CO OP GAS BAR



The Canadian football season is just around the corner and Argonaut Sunshine Girls were in town on May 26-27 to practise their cheers. Allison (left) and Gloria received some bouquets from passing motorists as they visited the Co-Op gas bar on Guelph Street. (Herald photo)

## Researchers look for link: Nuclear power plants - leukemia

From the Ottawa Bureau of Thomson News Service  
The Atomic Energy Control Board has ordered a two-year study of the incidence of leukemia among children born in the vicinity of four nuclear facilities in Ontario.

The nuclear regulatory agency decided recently to proceed with the project after learning earlier in the year of a British study that reported an increase in the number of leukemia deaths in children born near the Sellafield nuclear fuel reprocessing plant at Seascale, West Cumbria.

The AECB study will involve children up to 14 years of age and born within .5 kilometres of reactors at Pickering, Chalk River and Rolphton, and the uranium fuel refinery at Port Hope. The previously measured radiation doses of parents employed at the facilities will also be reviewed.

Any firm evidence of concentrations of leukemia among the children will result in a detailed study and examinations of populations around other nuclear operations, the board decided.

Studies in both the U.S. and Britain have found concentrations of childhood leukemia near some nuclear facilities. But they are regarded as inconclusive because higher concentrations have also been found in areas remote from nuclear plants and other nuclear operations are free of the problem.

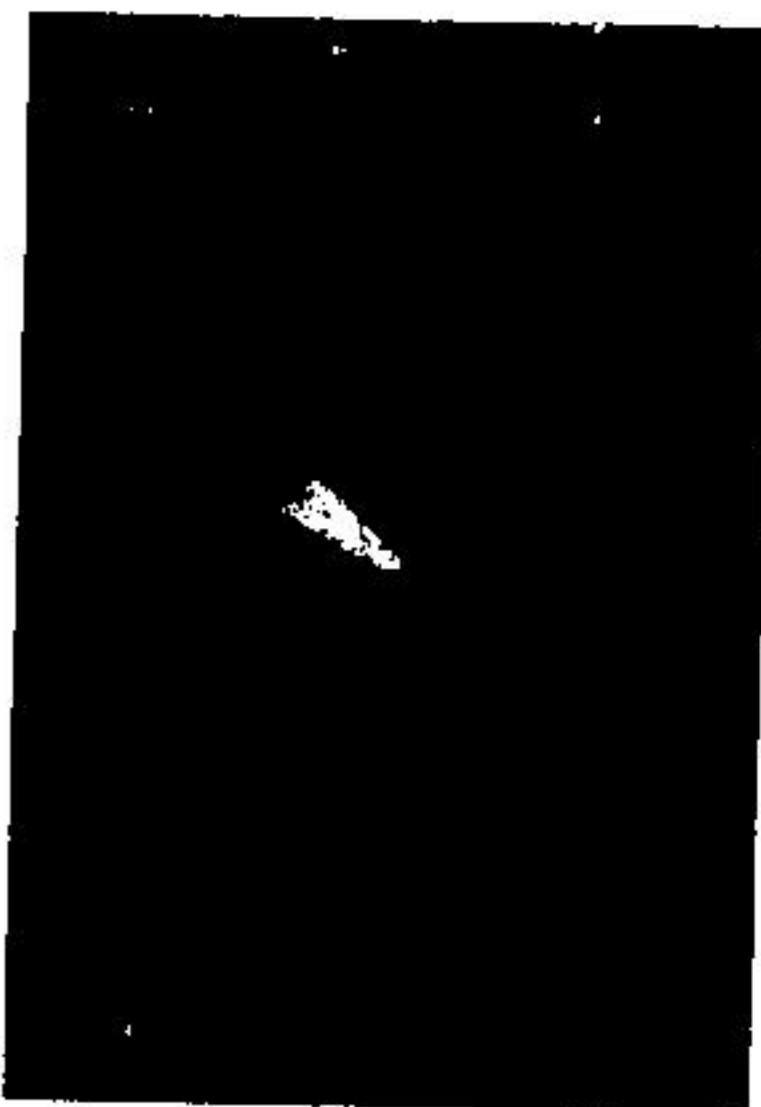
Other British studies suggest pollution and biological factors may have an impact on the higher rates of leukemia in some districts.

Nevertheless, the AECB considered it prudent to proceed with its own study and committed \$110,000

over the next three years to finance the project.

A project manager on the AECB staff will be named to oversee the operation and a panel of health and medical experts will be appointed to establish guidelines and review the findings of the study. A contract agency or consultant will conduct the study.

The study is to be completed by May 31, 1990.



Tracy English graduated from the University of Guelph June 1 with a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Tracy is a graduate of Milton District High School. She is now training to be a manager at Michel Baguette's cafe-restaurant in Toronto.

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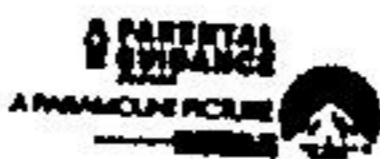
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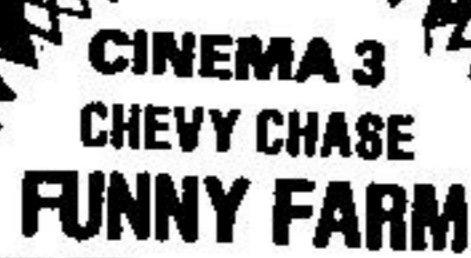
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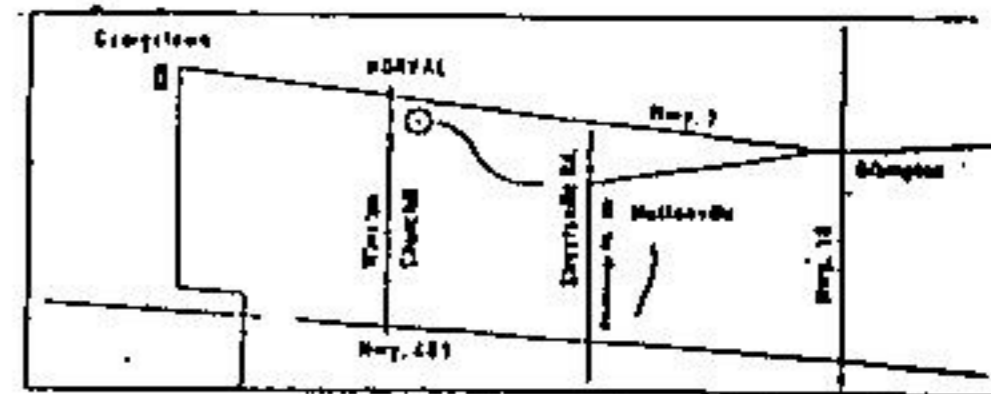
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