

New programs helps young mothers

Group concept offers support

By CHERYL MOODER
Herald Staff

If you are pregnant or a young parent between 15 and 24, the Young Parents' Program is looking for you. The program, which is sponsored by the Georgetown Open Door Youth Program, started through work being done with the Halton Young Mother's Resource Group.

Outreach worker Star McGuire was hired last April once the program received funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Being a new program a great deal of development was needed, she said. Mrs. McGuire had to make contact with the community and forge a bond with area doctors and social agencies.

If they have clients, who would benefit from the program, Mrs. McGuire said, the young mothers can be referred to the parents program. Once she gets the names of women, who may be interested in the program, the outreach worker personally gets in touch with them and makes a home visit.

She explains what her role in the program is, and goes over what the program does.

The program has recruited two regular mothers since opening May 9.

The mother's group, which runs from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mondays, provides a support system for moms and a forum for them to air their concerns and problems.

An early childhood education teacher takes care of the children, while the young women meet with



Star McGuire is the outreach worker for the Young Parent's Program.

What is done and discussed in the groups is flexible, Mrs. McGuire said, to meet the needs of the women.

Topics revolve around the mothers' interests. "It is designed to provide a support group," the outreach worker said. And to help reduce the isolation felt by the young parents and provide information.

The mothers have supper with their children and all transportation to and from St. Andrew's Church, where the program is held, is free. One of the big issues most young

women with babies face is housing, Mrs. McGuire said. Most end up living with their parents.

Although this could be a good situation, the outreach worker said, it would be nice if they had a choice.

The second group for mothers and children runs Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. "It is a time for us all to be together and have fun," Mrs. McGuire said. Outings are planned, which both mom and child can participate in.

Sometimes there is so much stress involved in raising a child that hopefully it gives them a break so they can enjoy the kids and company of other mothers, Mrs. McGuire said.

It is slowly getting through the community that the program is available.

One problem the outreach worker finds is she is not sure if the women are feeling inundated by all these workers. "It is sometimes hard to set up an appointment," Mrs. McGuire said.

"The girls she has met with have been open and responded well."

"Everyone has visions and their mind set on what a worker is," Mrs. McGuire said. Once she meets with them, the outreach worker is able to

set her own tone, and she is happy with the tone she has been able to set.

On her home visits, Mrs. McGuire does more than just explain what her program is all about.

She listens to the women's personal problems and tries to be of assistance in getting them in touch with the right agency.

"We tend to refer a lot," she said. Mrs. McGuire, who recently graduated from the University of Guelph with a Bachelor of Applied Sciences degree, majoring in family studies, feels she was hired first, for her academic background, and secondly for her personal history.

Mrs. McGuire has done volunteer work before and has been a single parent, raising two boys on her own.

"I have a little empathy with the girls," she said. "I find when we meet we get along fine."

The atmosphere is more relaxed than professional. The program is still looking for support from the community in the form of donations of baby supplies, such as clothing, toys and crib sheets.

Anyone wanting more information on the program can reach Mrs. McGuire at 873-2966.

Firefighters busy

The fire department put out car fires, a grass fire and removed a woman trapped in an elevator last week.

A truck fire June 7 at 11:30 on Mountainview Road South caused \$5,000 damage. Suspected cause of the fire, which was in the engine area, was an electrical malfunction in or under the dash.

June 8 at 9:03 p.m. at 141 Confederation St. the transmission line of a car caught fire. There was no

damage. Firefighters rushed to Lot 30, Concession 9 June 10 at 1:37 p.m. to put out a grass fire. Someone was burning garbage, and the flames went out of control.

June 10 at 2:56 p.m., firefighters rescued a woman trapped in an elevator at 115 John St.

Firefighters investigated an alarm activation June 10 at 5:51 p.m. at 60 Park Ave. They discovered a false alarm.

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Newest citizen welcomed

By BETTY SOJKA
Herald Special

BALLINAFAD-The village has a lovely new addition with the birth of a baby girl named Abbey. Proud parents are Jack and B.J. Woods.

The Ballinafad Ladies baseball team pulled off a win in a recent game that was most exciting for the spectators. The score was always close and the lead was exchanged between the two teams frequently.

Thanks to a hit by Vivian Bremner which brought in two runs, the game went to Ballinafad by an 18-16 score.

The tickets to the Art Auction on June 25 are now available at the store. Turnout is expected to be heavy, so it is advisable to purchase your tickets in advance.

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Legion Auxiliary

By MID BRUNSKI
Herald Special

The Plymouth Group once again had a very successful steak dinner and dance recently. Their committee is to be congratulated.

Now we can all look forward to entertaining our friends from Plymouth when they once again visit with us to march in the Warriors Day Parade at the Exhibition.

Don't forget your meeting this Thursday, June 16. It will be your last this summer. The branch is holding their appreciation night for the ladies on Friday, June 17 at 8 p.m. See you all there.

Ethel Anthony is in the Brampton hospital and I am happy to say, is doing just fine and will be home soon.

Graduation

Dean's Honor List



Suzanne E. Young, granddaughter of Catherine Young of Georgetown, and the late Albert Young graduated from the University of Waterloo with a Bachelor of Environmental Studies, with Honors Geography in the Co-operative Program. Ms. Young graduated on the Dean's Honor List. In September, Ms. Young will begin a two-year Masters of Science (Physical Geography) at the University of British Columbia, with a Natural Science and Engineering Research Council Scholarship. Ms. Young is a 1983 graduate of York Mills Collegiate Institute.

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- Strawberry Shortcake and Refreshments.
- The Ukrainian Shevchenko Musical Ensemble (Chorus, Mandolin Orchestra and Dancers) - 11:00 a.m.
- Horse and Surrey Rides (Don McNiven from Ballinafad): 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- John Bradshaw (Internationally Famous Horticulturist, Radio & TV Personality) - 11:00 a.m.
- Demonstration on Shoeing Horses (by Steve Kane) - 12 to 2:00 p.m.
- Halton Youth Symphony - 2:00 p.m.

- Art Drysdale (CFRB's Gardening Personality) - 2:00 p.m.
- Miss Canada - 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
- Special Ceremonies - 2:00 p.m.
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