

Co-op effort

A little work never hurt anyone - and in the case of high school students enrolled in co-operative education courses, work experience is a big asset.

Co-op education has come a long way in recent years, to the point where students are actually competing for chosen work placements, much like they'll be competing for jobs when they complete their education.

What co-op education offers is a chance to see what the working world is like. Some students aren't cut for work placements, but for the most part, students embrace the opportunity to gain valuable experience with open arms.

This, in itself, is a glowing commentary on the state of mind of young people today, and says a great deal for their maturity level.

When students turn their attentions towards finding summer employment, a potential employer would have to be impressed with seeing the candidate has weathered a work term while attending school.

In essence, the opportunity to participate in co-op education is the first step for many students on their way to adulthood. It provides a solid foundation for them to begin their working lives.

Co-op education gives students a solid foothold in the working world.

The long RIDE

Society's attitude toward drinking and driving has come a long way in the last 10 years, but there's always room for improvement.

Ontario Provincial Police and Regional forces are sending a firm message to all drivers with their increased spot check program, and judging by the number of impaired driving charges being laid, the message would appear to be getting across.

Motorists will find themselves confronted by police on many occasions, since RIDE (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) was stepped up by police to operate the entire year, not just during the holiday season.

When RIDE was first initiated, it achieved the goal of making more people take notice and consider the consequences of being caught driving while under the influence of alcohol - for awhile, at least.

But people came to know when and where to expect spot checks. They could count on police being set up with their RIDE program during the Christmas season, and the holiday long weekends.

What this produced was people being cautious on the occasions that best suited them.

Today a driver can come upon a RIDE program spot check at any time and anywhere. A slight indiscretion can lead to dire consequences.

The year-round visibility of the RIDE program will be enough to make the greater percentage of people realize the foolishness of trying to get away with drinking and driving.

The commitment of manpower is demanding but necessary for the program to do what it is intended to do.

For the drivers who have already gotten the message on drinking and driving, the highway spot checks might produce a minor inconvenience.

But the alternative of letting people take their own and others' lives in their hands when they get behind the wheel cannot be allowed.

RIDE works.

A matter of style



Editor's notebook

By Mike Turner
Herald Editor

It's against my better judgement to directly answer letters to the editor which are submitted for publication in The Herald.

I've always felt that a newspaper's "Letters to the Editor" section should remain a public forum. Some newspapers take unfair advantage by slipping in sarcastic little quips as post scripts to letters.

If someone has a bone of contention, I'm very willing to speak with them about it, if given the opportunity.

However, this opportunity was not presented when a letter from Cathy Oomen was left at our office last Thursday. (See Citizen's Forum).

The way in which the letter was submitted suggested to me that the author's conviction was not quite as strong as her writing indicates.

Even though it was about 1 p.m. Thursday, and our office was open, the letter was slipped through the mail slot of our entrance.

Since it was impossible for me to address the writer's concerns directly, across the counter, I've decided to do so right here.

Ms. Oomen refers to "the horrendous spelling mistakes" in the Herald, and she certainly caught us on the word "proportions" in the headline of the June 15 edition of the Herald.

(Advantage, Oomen).

Ms. Oomen took exception to the word "anemic" being used to describe the apartment shortage problem in the community. Her claim was that the proper spelling is "anaemic" and the word was improperly used in describing the situation.

Guess again. Ms. Oomen's Oxford Dictionary has not been updated recently - or perhaps she simply didn't read as far as she should have.

Following is a list of meanings for "anemic" taken from the Oxford Paperback Dictionary: 1. suffering from anemia. 2. pale, weak in color. 3. lacking vigor or positive characteristics.

I would suggest the characteristics of an apartment shortage in Halton Hills are far from positive, so tell me if the shoe doesn't fit.

Score tied (1-1). On the other issue of the spelling of "anemic" you'll notice I've continued without the extra "a" and for a very good reason. It's correct.

I wouldn't expect Ms. Oomen to know much about newspaper style, but surely she could give us a little credit.

If Mrs. Oomen feels newspapers should be spelling the word as "anaemic" then she had better be prepared to take on newspapers across the country.

According to the Canadian Press Style book, the proper spelling is "anemic". The CP Stylebook is "the bible" for Canadian journalists, and if you stop to think, it makes perfect sense. Which will the average people find easier to cope with, "anemic" or "anaemic"?

It's all well and fine to hold onto tradition and wave a textbook at anyone who tries to force change. But there is such a thing as "the real world".

You'll also find the "u" has been dropped for words such as color, valor and vigor. This is also according to CP Style.

(Advantage Herald).

Ms. Oomen is right. Mistakes will happen, particularly with spelling. Not all of them will be caught. But this is the way it is with any paper, no matter how big or small.

As far as hiring an English teacher as a proofreader, as Ms. Oomen has suggested, who could afford it?

I've drawn the conclusion from Ms. Oomen's letter that she is a practising English teacher, so I'd like to leave her with this final thought.

Prior to what you may think, we're not a bunch of functional illiterates running the newspaper here. We're merely products of the same educational system you have a hand in moulding.

Caplan code keeps people guessing

People talk in code when they don't want to reveal their real goals.

And with politicians, this is doubly so. That's why watching Health Minister Elinor Caplan in action is an increasingly fascinating exercise.

The Liberals have been broadcasting to everyone in sight that health care faces a financial crisis. What they haven't said is what they are going to do about it.

There are hints from officials, trial balloons in the media and speeches such as the one Caplan recently made to the Ontario Medical Association.

"This is our agenda for the future - appropriate care for the chronically ill, the effective use of technologies and procedures, proper roles for the care providers, the effective use of institutional resources and the development of community-based services," she said.

And that's all very nice, but what does it mean in reality?

Or take this nonsense: "Health is understood to be a resource for living, the liberating capacity that allows us to cope with our surroundings and realize our aspirations. Simply treating illness is not



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson
Innison News Service

enough. We must empower individuals to take charge of their own health. And we must make available options that make personal health choices practical and possible," she said.

JARGON

Without specifics, this kind of statement is just trendy jargon. Even when she did touch on something real, Caplan did it in the most oblique way.

She issued a warning that "right now, health care spending is on a collision course with economic reality."

But she proceeded to illustrate the possible consequences by going to the U.S. experience - that's right, U.S. - when she could have chosen numerous examples from right here.

Only the least of these is the lineups for cardiac bypass and other

operations in provincial hospitals.

Instead, Caplan spoke about the U.S. Was she suggesting that such American rules as the one requiring a "mandatory second opinion prior to surgery" are in the works for Ontario?

Mind you, what she avoided saying is that the U.S. spends 11.5 per cent of its Gross National Product on health care, three percentage points more than Canada does.

Perhaps that is why (to quote Michael Walker of the Fraser Institute) the U.S. is experiencing a "widening surplus of hospital beds and diagnostic capability" at a time of shortages here.

Caplan also told her audience of doctors that "nearly 40 per cent of U.S. physicians are salaried and that 50 per cent of graduates coming out of American medical schools will not be working in fee-for-service environments."

Fee-for-service is the system whereby doctors bill OHIP individually for each visit, treatment or service rather than take a flat wage. Its critics say it encourages doctors to over-bill.

WARNING?

Was Caplan issuing a warning? Some reporters thought so. If not, why was no mention made of the

number of Ontario doctors already on salary (25 per cent)?

The changing use of the health-care system also caught her eye, as she noted some estimates suggest 90 per cent of "patient contacts" today result from chronic conditions and disabilities.

"What's more, the 10 per cent of our population over 65 now consumes about 40 per cent of health resources. Does this mean that when seniors account for 20 per cent of the population, as they will early in the next century, they will require 80 per cent of the resources?" she asked.

Money wasn't the answer, she added. (Why not? We're still three percentage points back of the Americans.) Instead, she saw the solution as "better management and planning, the development of alternatives for health-care providers and consumers, the setting of health goals and objectives and the closer integration of our community and institutional resources."

All of which is very nice, if vague - but does that mean Uncle Joe will, or won't, get his bypass?

Halton's History

from our files

30 years ago

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Weston of McNabb Street in Georgetown sailed abroad the "Sylvania" from Montreal for a three month vacation in England. This was their first trip home since they came to Canada in 1924.

Georgetown cubs returned to their dens victorious as they picked up penants for their efforts at the third annual Cubaroo. Barry Smith, Georgetown "A" Pack, placed second while Jimmy Richardson, Georgetown "B" Pack, placed first.

Harold Dodds, BSA, a 1958 graduate in economics at Ontario Agricultural College, was appointed manager of the Georgetown branch of Halton Co-operative Supplies.

Jim Warren of Georgetown was one of seven Canadians awarded scholarships by the National Industrial Design Council. Under the grant, he attended a summer course at the Centre for Design Studies in Boston.

15 years ago

First place winners of prizes donated by the commercial teachers of Georgetown District High School were Marsha Fry, Heather Hamilton, Gertrude De Beer, Carol Stockfish, Michelle Mumby, Carolyn Bird and Pat Symie. All but Miss De Beer, who won the shorthand contest, were winners in a typing contest.

Eleven exhausted young Mexicans arrived in Georgetown after coming all the way from Mexico City by bus and train to become members of Canadian families for a month. They were part of the Experiment in International Living, an affiliate of UNESCO, which believes one can learn by living together.

Two Georgetown high school students spent a week in Toronto. Sue Milne and Paul MacDonald represented the Red Cross Society at the annual assembly of Red Cross youth.

A 91-year-old cowboy returned to Georgetown for a visit. Jimmy Williams left the town when he was 21, boarded a train with six other men and went to Buffalo. Since then, he travelled the States and Canada following rodeos.

10 years ago

Dennis Edward Scallen was found guilty of all three counts of fraud following 10 hours of deliberation by a 12-member jury at Milton county court.

The decision ended a complicated nine-day trial before Judge Alan Sprague during which Mr. Scallen defended his validity as a Roman Catholic Priest and his religious activities at a RRI Limehouse industrial shed.

More than 200 North Halton Scouts and Guides attended the first co-ed rally at Lake of the Woods Camp on the 6th Line Nassagaweya. The day long camp featured activities of all sorts.

Norval Presbyterian Church celebrated its 100th anniversary. Rev. Cam Taylor of Knox Presbyterian Church, Oakville, was the guest speaker.

Georgetown high school students took the top spots in a county wide accounting test. Ross Jeffery and Bob Turner took the senior and junior awards.

5 years ago

Teenage volunteers at the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital were honored for their devotion to the sick and needy. Julie Saunders received the award of excellence, Karen Meller the award of progress, Shidley Braisby the award of service and assistance, and Sandra Lovegrove, the first for over 1,000 hours of volunteer service and a scholarship.

Some of the recipients of certificates handed out at the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded were: Police Chief James Harding, Bob Groom, Findlay Arnold, Burt Arnold, Etta Mills, Gord Lane and Audrey Hillman.

Emily Bessey, a long-standing member of Halton Hills, was honored with the "Oldest Pioneer" award at the opening of Pioneer Days. The recipient is not based on age solely, but rather who clearly represents the pioneer spirit and has contributed to the heritage of Halton Hills.

Scott Munroe of Georgetown graduated from McMaster University with a Bachelor of Engineering degree. Blair W. Thompson of Georgetown graduated from the University of Waterloo with a Bachelor of Applied Science degree.

WHO THE ANTI SMOKING BILLS WILL HURT....



Citizens' forum

A note from the English class

Dear Sir,
For many years, I have overlooked the horrendous spelling mistakes in your paper's articles, and even the grammatical errors too, an action very difficult for an English teacher to do.

But your headline, "Shortage of Apartments Reaches Anemic Proportions" (June 15, 1988) just went too far for my forgiving nature! Even if the words anemic proportions were spelled correctly, anaemic proportions, what in heaven's name does the headline mean?

Anemic, according to the Oxford Dictionary, means lacking in blood, having an unhealthy pallor. How can the proportions of apartments lack blood or suffer from an unhealthy pallor? Perhaps the proportions require an infusion of iron?

Have you ever considered hiring an English teacher as a proofreader? Your newspaper would really keep one very busy!

Sincerely,
Cathy Oomen.

Grateful for support

Dear Sir,
The YMCA and Youth Employment Service wish to sincerely thank all those who donated so generously to their 1988 Community Fund.

Your contributions to the YMCA and YES are direct contributions to your community; they make a great

difference to the quality of your neighbors' lives.

Last year, the YMCA/YES provided: Children with summer camp; youths with counselling and job placements; all ages with quality recreational programs; families with peace of mind Child Care during the work or school day; families with a Toy-Lending Library, Child Care Registry and Parent and Tot Drop-ins; and many hundreds of volunteer hours to help the delivery of excellent programs and services.

We are very grateful for your continuing and generous support to our organization.

Sincerely,
Claudette Smith,
Regional Manager

Toughen it up

Dear Sir,
It was wonderful to see the Town once again promote fitness through the Mayor's Race. However, I feel that next year we could make it a much more challenging race.

I suggest an obstacle race. We have the runners go along the sidewalks instead of the roads. The citizens could all park their cars so they straddle the sidewalks. Then the athletes could jump over the hoods much like a steeplechase. Some households would just have to park the way they normally do, without thinking of changing their usual pattern. For that matter, without thinking - period. Perhaps

this parking pattern would earn Georgetown another gold medal winner in the steeplechase at OF-SAA.

The other portion of the race would have one run under the low hanging branches that dangle over the sidewalks and around the hedges which protrude into their pathway.

Finally, as a convenience, every block or so a designated household could put their sprinkler on to cool down those finely tuned athletes who have been hurdling and dodging the obstacles that the citizens of our town could place in their path.

This wouldn't be just a walk to the corner store. This could be as gruelling as the Hawaiian Triathlon.

Runners take your marks!

D. Walker,
Georgetown

A great time at the track

Dear Sir,
We would like to thank Mrs. Susan Orchard, Sean Cleary and Yanne Letarnee for inviting us to the track and field meet at the Georgetown District High School on June 8. We also would like to thank them for the orange drinks, coffee and for the treats.

The meet was well organized and the judges were great. We had a fantastic time! We would like to come again next year. Thanks also to Mr. Southworth of Harrison School.

Sincerely,
Park Public School

In your opinion

Question: What do you think of this year's Pioneer Days?

How was Pioneer Days?



MIKE BAGLEY: "They need better music but it's not bad as a place to hang out. We don't need all the skateboarders."



TANYA STOYLES: "It's really good. A lot of people turned out and everyone seems to be enjoying themselves."



SUZY HOEKSTRA: "It's great. The man who is playing the piano, Haydn Evans, is doing a fantastic job. We're all having a good time."



TIM DEBOER: "It's great but they should have the McGibbon's beer area bigger. Miniskirts are looking great this year."



KEVIN BURNETT: "It's good for the local businesses in downtown Georgetown and everyone seems to be having fun."