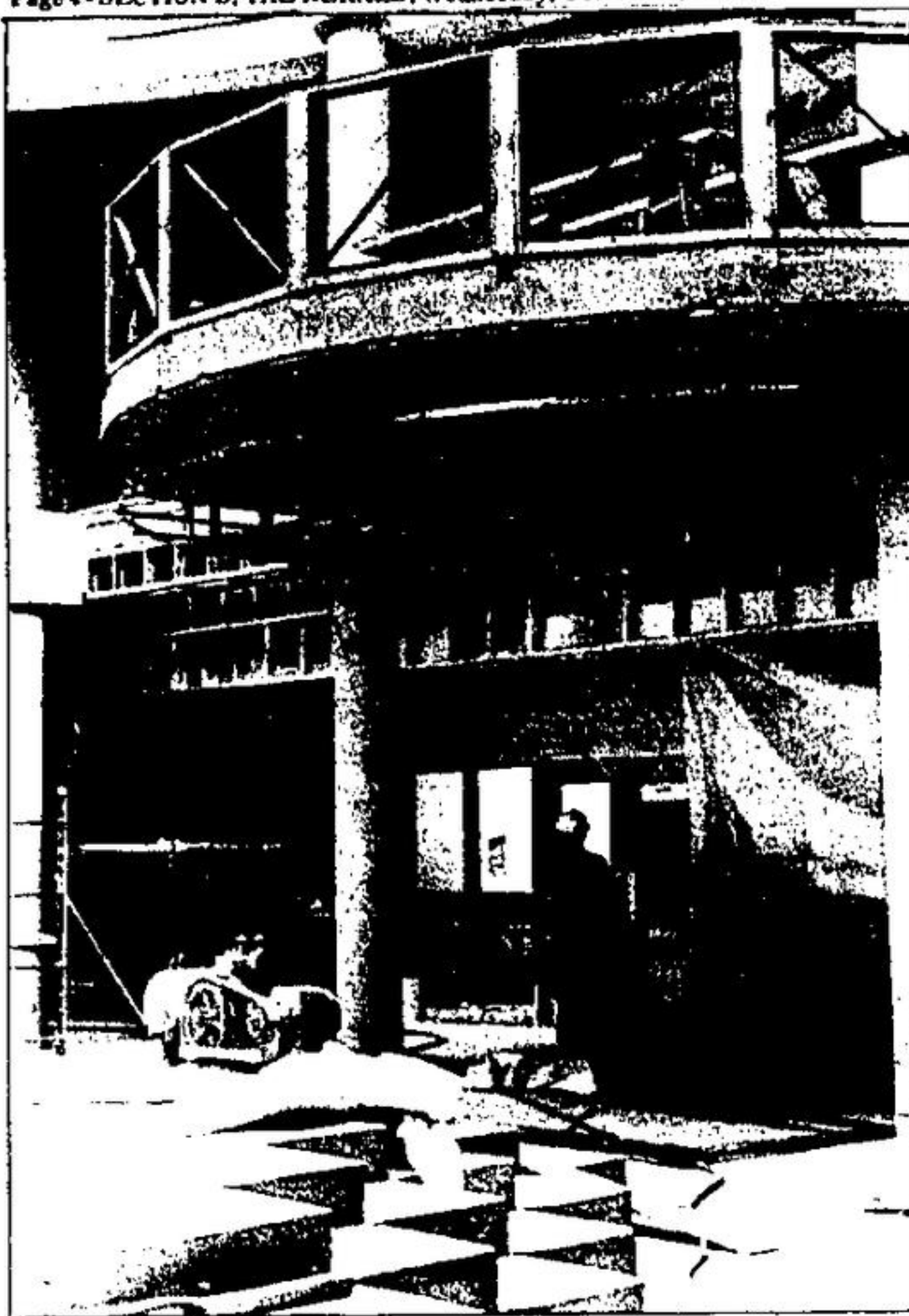


New complex is high and low tech

Bishop Reding opens doors in Milton



The new Bishop P.F. Reding Roman Catholic Secondary School receives some finishing touches from construction workers last week. The school opens today (Wednesday) but will not be completely finished until January.

After tolerating the cramped quarters of a make-shift high school in Halton Hills, Bishop Reding Secondary School students and staff can finally stretch out at their new facilities in Milton.

Over 600 students begin classes today (Wednesday) at the new \$20 million, 165,000-sq-ft complex on Main Street in Milton. Since 1986, Bishop Reding has been using the former Speyside Public School on Highway 25.

"Our two year stay at Speyside has certainly given definition to our school theme of 'Together in His Name,'" said Bishop Reding secondary school principal Art Kelly.

The new school, funded by the Ministry of Education, has cost \$16 million so far, but total expected costs will be in the \$20 million range, said Halton Roman Catholic Separate School Board Superintendent Dennis Nolan.

"From birth right to conception, this is the first Catholic school to receive government funding," said Mr. Kelly.

Angelo Tonelli, a Catholic school board trustee for the last 23 years, said he has now witnessed the building of Halton's four Catholic high schools, and said he was "very excited" about Bishop Reding.

The Milton trustee for Wards 1 and 3 shares Mr. Tonelli's excitement.

"We sent our kids everywhere so that they could get a Catholic education. It really is a dream come true - a Catholic school in Milton," said John Bradley.

But the Milton school is to be shared among Halton Hills and Milton. Bishop Reding's past school president Adrienne Harris will travel from Georgetown to the new site. So will vice-president Dustin Chandler.

Halton Hills Catholic school board trustee Irene McCauley said she is "thrilled" with the new school site. "It's so airy and bright. It will motivate students," she said.

The massive new school, located at Thompson Road and Main Street near Milton's downtown, is filled with windows, large arched hallways, and bright modern colors.

The rust and blue interior reflects the school colors, said Mr. Kelly.

The school includes a piazza, an open centre in the "heart" of the school where students can meet. And there is a mezzanine podium for speeches, said Mr. Kelly.

The new Catholic school also has a "double-sized" chapel, staffed by full-time chaplain Maureen Morrison.

Local clergy have promised to be at the school every Wednesday, said Mr. Kelly.

The modern facilities of Bishop Reding will include a cosmetology wing, a fashion design room, a day-care centre to be run partially by co-operative students, a special han-

dicapped area, an elevator for the handicapped, a 120-capacity lecture hall with 10 left-handed desks, a greenhouse to be filled with benches and plants, two computer rooms for all-day use, three science laboratories, a weather station, staff work areas, a photography dark room, a tuck shop and a book store.

Among the high school's more standard features are a family studies area, a cafeteria, a resource centre (with skylight ceiling), a theatre arts room, a music room, a continuing education office, a co-operative education office, technical facilities for woodworking, auto mechanics and construction, and a triple-sized gymnasium.

The school will be "low tech and high tech" according to Mr. Kelly. He added that the "elitist" image of the Catholic system no longer exists in Halton.

Staff and students of Halton's separate schools helped to plan the new school. The fashion area was designed with input from teacher

Marilyn Smith, who was on hand for a press conference at the school last week. Ms. Smith suggested mirrors for the fashion classroom to give students at the back full view of any demonstrations.

And help was received in designing a joint science lab comparable in length to a "bowling alley," said Mr. Kelly.

In keeping with the egalitarian concept of the new school, custodians and students were consulted for input on floor space and locker room, as well as general layout.

The principal's office is "very visible" to students entering the school, said Mr. Kelly.

"The students must know the principal is there, supporting them."

While students are moving into 24 classrooms and staff are moving into the administrative centre in October, the rest of the school will not be completed until January, according to Catholic Board Director Cliff Byrnes.

School features latest concepts

Bishop Reding Secondary School, Halton Region's newest Catholic school, located on a 20-acre lot in Milton, will offer students and staff "equality" according to the architects.

"The essence of the school is equal treatment of the members of the school community," says Lubmir Dzamba, of Stafford Haensli Architects in Port Credit. "We're trying to get away from having one door for students and another for teachers," he said.

Bishop Reding Secondary School in Milton is "based on community presence," said Mr. Dzamba, who headed the school's architectural design team.

The school was constructed from

the centre outward, he said. Classrooms and other facilities surround a base consisting of the piazza (open meeting space at the school's centre), cafeteria, library, book store, tuck shop, and administrative area.

"The school is built around the concept of a central space," said Mr. Dzamba.

The "central space" concept is becoming common for schools. Other structures designed by Stafford Haensli include "65-70 educational projects since 1971." Stafford Haensli designed Notre Dame Secondary School in Brampton, and Father Michael Goetz Secondary School in Mississauga.

The Port Credit architects are

also behind the construction of several modern plazas on Dundas Street in Mississauga. But Bishop Reding is the showpiece of their design, being the most recent school built, said Mr. Dzamba.

"We've had extremely positive results," he said, pointing to six offers the firm has received since Bishop Reding, to build schools.

"People seem to like the concept of a heart of the school at the centre of the school," he said.

Bishop Reding Secondary School, located at Main Street and Thompson Road in Milton, is open for classes today (Oct. 12). The official date for completion is January.



Staff and students of Bishop P.F. Reding Roman Catholic Secondary School celebrated the opening of their \$20 million facilities in Milton last week. The school opens today (Wednesday) and will replace the smaller Speyside site and its 20 portables. Left to right are Halton Hills Catholic school board trustee Irene McCauley, Bishop Reding school president James Cunningham, past president Adrienne Harris, vice president Dustin Chandler, and teacher Marilyn Smith.

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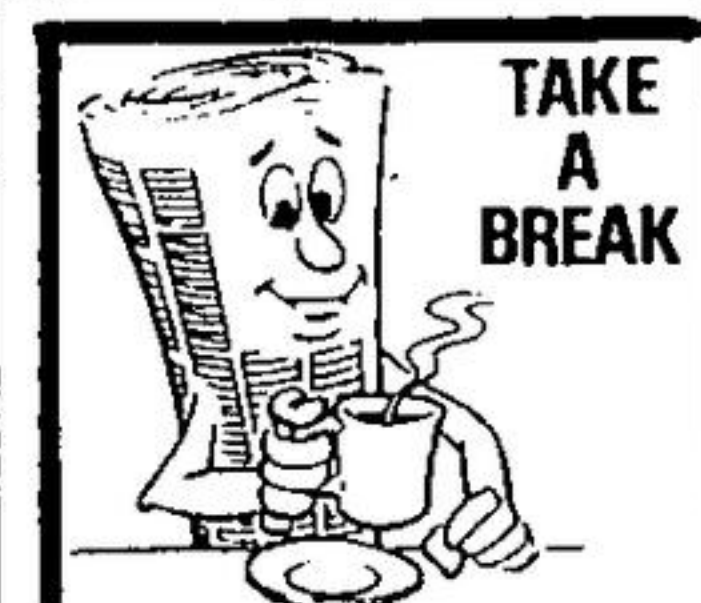
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The piazza, or square, in the centre of the new Bishop Reding high school in Milton was the base for the centralized design of the school. Stafford Haensli Architects of Port Credit designed a similar Catholic secondary school in Brampton.



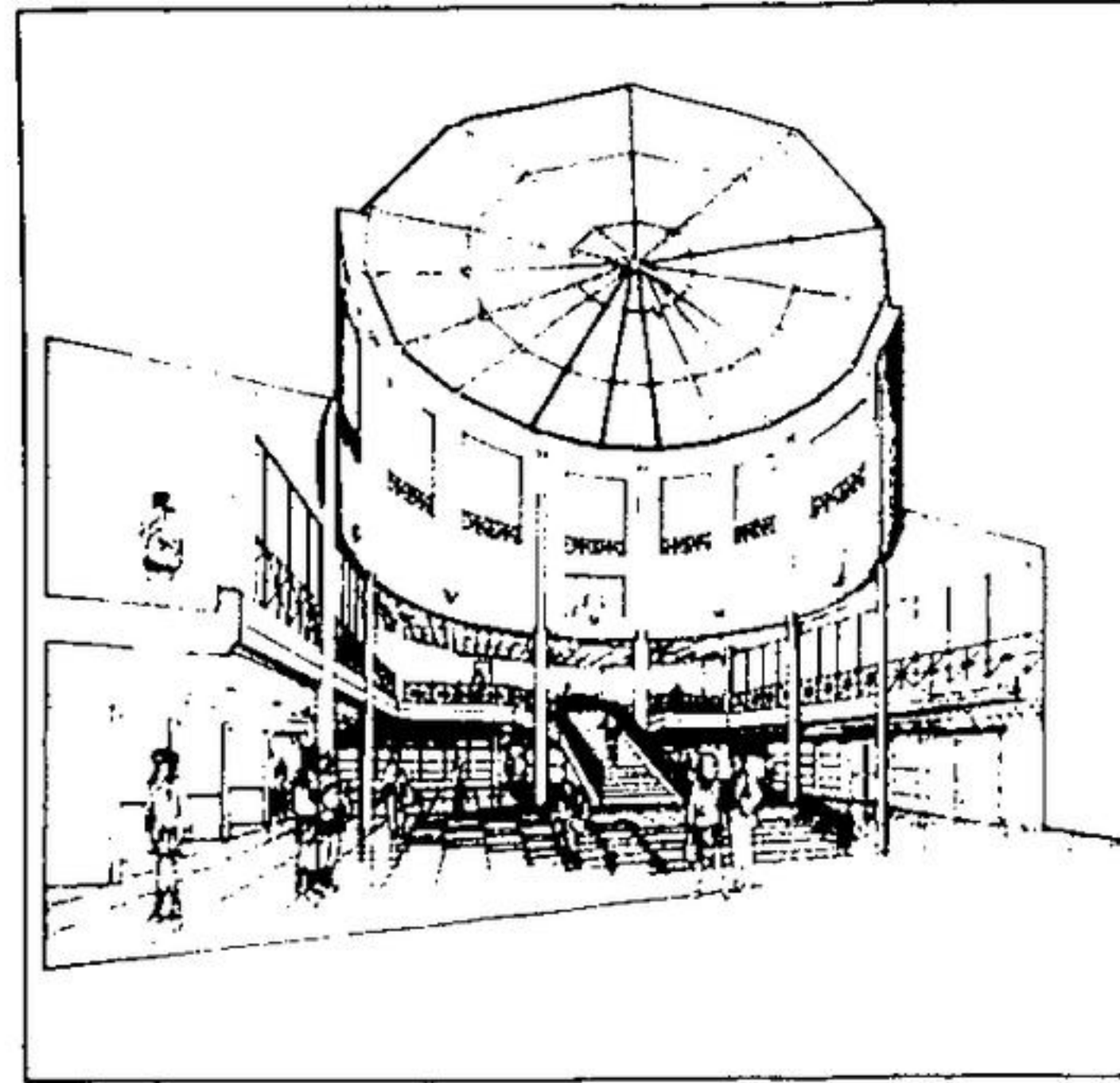
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Open house for new office

The Region of Peel's health department is hosting an "open house" for Brampton/Caledon residents at its new site which serves the more northerly part of the Region.

On Oct. 20, while celebrating the official opening of the Brampton/Caledon office, the staff will also be conducting information sessions for those attending.

Light refreshments will be served and kids accompanying their parents will receive balloons at the event which runs from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The public will also be able to take part in the "Six Ways to Get Heart-smart" program which provides blood pressure, lung function and computerized lifestyle assessments.

"Everyone is welcome to tour the three stories of the facilities and to learn more about what health programs are available from the Region of Peel," says Linda Tijssen, director, nursing and home care. The office is now located at 180B

Sandalwood Parkway East, Brampton, close to the Brampton-Caledon municipal border. This office was previously housed at the Region's administrative headquarters building at 10 Peel Centre Drive in Brampton.

The move, last spring, completed the health department's decentralization plans to make essential health services more accessible to the public.

The health department operates three district offices which are responsible for delivering services such as: community health nursing, including maternal/child health and communicable disease control, dentistry and home care.

The district offices also provide environmental health services, including monitoring the safety of food and beverages in restaurants and processing plants, and investigating complaints relating to occupational health and unsanitary conditions.

For more information on the open house, call Beth McVean, office coordinator, at 840-1440.

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