

# Oopsie Daisy tops wish list — but just try to find one

By RICH FLAHERTY  
Herald Special

Been combing the aisles for that special gift for that special kid?

Well, Santa's helpers at the toy and department stores report many people are doing just that. Nationally, sales have been reported to be higher than last Christmas, and local Halton Hills toy sellers have reported better and increased sales.

One of the most popular items not on the shelves in many stores is the Oopsie Daisy Doll. This is a battery-operated lifelike doll that can crawl, make sounds, even trip, fall and cry, much like a real tot.

The reason for the high demand of the doll may be due to the realism it conveys. Department and toy stores say the lack of the Oopsie Daisy dolls on the shelves is due to overproduction and underproduction. This case seems to parallel that of the Coleco company and Cabbage Patch kids, which were formerly all the rage.

Lorna Bell of Zellers in Georgetown is supervisor in charge of toys at the department store and says, "We've had more calls than we can possible handle." However Zellers has not yet been able to acquire the toy.

Denise Bayles, a salesperson at Trio Mart says, "We had a million calls for it." But they are in the same position as Zellers.

Even a large organization like Toys 'R Us in Oakville finds it hard to keep them on the shelves. As one salesperson summed up the situation, "Once we get them through,

they're gone."

However, this isn't the only popular toy on the shelves.

Elves of the North Pole may have run out of the magic that makes a doll come to life, but Barbie is still as popular as ever among young girls. Another doll that has made a recent appearance on the market is one called Dolly Surprise. It allows young girls to develop grooming skills as its hair grows.

My Little Pony seems popular as well and this horse figurine with a long mane and tail continues to command a large following. Despite the prominence of women in today's corporate world, the popularity of food and kitchen playsets remains evident.

There are many makes and models out now. One is Fisher Price which features cooking sets from \$7.77 to \$99.99. Many of the more expensive kitchen playsets have working, safe stoves that allow a child to prepare small, kid-sized dishes. Some also come with plastic food for younger children to pretend with.

Obviously, Santa has been watching cartoons in the afternoon and on Saturdays during the warm months, as action figures from some of the years' most popular, (and sometimes violent) animated shows have become the rage among young boys.

Of course, there is always the Nintendo video game system, and seemingly the most popular among boys and with local department stores. But action figures and

playsets from kid's cartoons, such as GI Joe, Ninja, and others have become big sellers. One of the reasons for the popularity of these toys, is the fact that they combine many interesting and basic playthings with the hero figures, such as cars and trucks, planes, and military machinery. Locally, there seems to have been a decline in the purchases and stocking of play guns and war toys as well.

Board games are yet another aspect of Christmas giving. They present an easy alternative if the hurried Christmas shopper does not know what to buy. Zellers in Georgetown reports that the three most popular among gift-givers this season are the Adult Pictionary, and the Junior version of the game. Both games involve players' attempts at drawing out phrases or words at different age levels. The third is again another television spinoff, and similar to Pictionary, the Win, Lose or Draw game.

Alternatives may be found in specialty shops such as doll or hobby stores. Georgetown Hobby and Toy, a store which mainly focuses on hobby toys and models reports that remote-control Monster Trucks and sports car models are among the most popular.

The Doll Emporium in Acton specializes in porcelain and German mechanical moving dolls. These range in prices from \$60 to \$249, but they suggest a toy that may become an heirloom with time.



Visiting the toy section of the local department store can be quite a treat for a youngster, as 14-year-old Lori Shipley has obviously found out. The shelves are well-stocked, but some of the most popular items for Christmas are already becoming difficult for shoppers to find. (Herald photo)

## Learn to develop that winning edge

Rosalie Wysocki, a leader in the field of personal development and one of Canada's foremost speakers, will be the guest speaker at the Jan. 10, 1989 public information night sponsored by the University Women's Club of Georgetown.

In her presentation, "Developing the Winning Edge," Ms. Wysocki will outline the basic habit patterns that winners use to develop their untapped potential. She will explain techniques that can help individuals achieve greater personal success, and how to project a more positive professional image. Attendees will learn how to work "smarter not

harder," and using these winning strategies, they will be encouraged to develop their own personal and professional winning game.

Ms. Wysocki's background includes a 12-year career as a business teacher, followed by five successful years in direct sales with a publishing company. She was a top sales professional and later a divisional sales manager where she was responsible for recruiting, sales training and management development.

In 1981, she established her own Human Resources Development company and has won a number of

awards including the 1986 Motivator of the Year Award for Canada from Success Motivation International.

Because the University Women's Club is offering this seminar as a community educational service, it is subsidizing a major portion of the seminar costs. Tickets are only \$5 per person and are available at Young's I.D.A. Pharmacy or Georgetown Fabrics.

The presentation will be held from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Georgetown District High School cafeteria. Coffee and dessert will be served.

## Helping the less fortunate

# Kinnettes begin toy drive

By RICH FLAHERTY  
Herald Special

Every once in a while, Santa needs a little help. Not always from the Santas seen in the malls and department stores, but from unseen people, like Jane Leonard of the Kinnettes.

Mrs. Leonard, manager of her own day-care service, has been filling boxes of toys and taking donations for families that may not be able to afford to give their kids the type of Christmas many of us take for granted.

With drop-off locations at Johnston Realty, the Georgetown Herald, the post office, and Mrs. Leonard's own residence, 17 Greystone Crescent, she has been filling her garage with, "clean, workable toys," describing the type of toy being looked for as a donation. "If they include batteries for battery-operated toys, it would be appreciated."

Operated by the Kinnettes with help from their Kinsmen counterparts, the toys will be distributed by the Lioness Club about two days before Christmas.

Kids' toys are not the only function of the toy drive however. Donations are accepted at the drop-off points and from the Kinnettes and Lioness Clubs to provide gift certificates and special gifts for teens who may be lacking in material gifts this Christmas.

Previous toy drives have been successful. "Last year we did great," said Mrs. Leonard. "But donations are getting better, and we're getting newer toys in better condition."

Mrs. Leonard attributes this to the awareness people have when thinking about donating to the Toy Drive. "You have to think of giving your



Stephanie Pallichuk is almost buried in a kid's version of heaven as she tests some of the toys sent in as donations for the Kinnettes' annual Christmas toy drive. With the help of

the Good Neighbor Service of the Lioness Club, the drive collects both toys and donations for tots and teens. (Herald photo)

own child a toy for Christmas," she said.

There is still a lot of work to be done, however. Mrs. Leonard feels that what may seem to be too much in this case is never enough. "We need as many toys as we can get,"

she said, and as for donations for the teen drive, "It's just started."

As the Kinnettes are also working with the Lioness Club, any Good Neighbor Service drop-off will accept donations for the Toy Drive as well.

## Kinsmen sponsor Tour of Lights

Once again, the Kinsmen Club of Georgetown is holding the Senior Citizens' Tour of the Christmas Lights, Wednesday, Dec. 14.

This marks the 10th anniversary of this event in Georgetown, and promises to be the best yet. The Kinsmen are asking all the citizens of Georgetown to ensure their Christmas lights are turned on for this event. Already, there are some impressive displays.

The senior citizens will be picked up in Travelways buses and the ActiVan at designated pick-up points at approximately 7:30 p.m. The buses will meet at Georgetown Marketplace. The bus convoy will be escorted by the Halton Regional Police along as many streets as possible. The seniors will then be brought to St. Andrew's United Church for a reception, where entertainment will be provided.

Refreshments will be served, and door prizes will be presented by Santa Claus. The senior citizens will be able to join in the singing of Christmas carols. After the festivities, the buses will return the seniors to their pick-up points.

The Kinsmen Club thanks the many local merchants who have donated the gifts and refreshments which make this event a continuing success, year after year.

## Winners from bazaar announced

The Georgetown Parent-Child Centre, located at St. Andrew's Church, 89 Mountainview Rd. S., held its "Home Party Bazaar" on Nov. 26. A raffle of 12 donated items was held. The following is a listing of the winners. Two games from Childscope/Toy Magic were won by Cindy Lukas; a poinsettia from Fendley Florist was won by C. Moriarity; a model from Georgetown Hobby and Toy Inc. and a picture frame from Georgetown Photo was won by

Tom Crawford; a haircut from First Choice Haircutters was won by Beth Sanna; Ian Cartwright won a dinosaur cookie jar from Consumers Distributing; and a Christmas fruit cake donated by Craig R. Gray; Anita Alton won a wreath for two at McGibbon Hotel; Sue Macdonald won a wreath donated by Gail Cartwright; D. Hicks won a ring holder and vase from Connaissance's Court; a mixmaster from Consumers Distributing and a sachet

box from Whimsy's was won by Merry Crawford.

The bazaar went well and everyone seemed to have had a good time. The Georgetown Parent-Child Centre was especially thankful to all who donated items and put in time during the day, and also to those who stopped by and shopped. They feel that they will probably be having a "Home Party Bazaar" again next year.



The Open Door drop-in centre held a fundraising pizza night in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church last Wednesday. Over 200 people enjoyed pizza, lasagna and spaghetti donated by area businesses. Sampling

their pizza are Open Door members Tracey Gaterell, Corinna Stephens, Karen Butterworth and Dave Shirreffs. (Herald photo)

## Open Door hosts successful pizza party

By BEV SCRUTON  
Herald Special

Open Door says a big thank you to everyone who supported their fundraising dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 30.

We served approximately 200 dinners and made a profit of \$750 in a very successful evening. Thanks to all the young people and their parents who donated food and cooked for the dinner. We would also like to thank the Caesar Restaurant, who donated the Caesar salad, and the following businesses who made contributions: The Butcher Shop,

Loblaws, Pizza Hut, IGA, and the Georgetown Fruit Market. Thank you also to St. George's Anglican Church for the use of the hall.

Profits will go towards the operating expenses of the drop-in center and the Young Parent Program. The young people are ex-

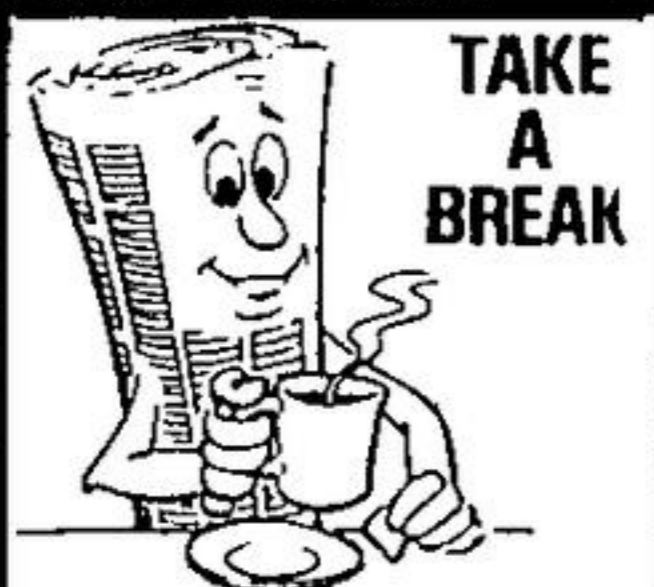
pected to raise \$5,000 of the total budget for both programs. So far this year they have raised approximately \$1,500 and are planning other projects to help them meet this target.

## THE SALVATION ARMY



"The Salvation Army, in cooperation with the Lakeside Chapter of the O.D.E. St. Vincent de Paul, and Acton Rotary Club will supply Christmas Hampers to families in need upon request. Applications are available at The Salvation Army Thrift Store, 120 Mill Street East, Acton (853-3321); The Acton Social Services, 19 Willow Street North (853-3310); and The Salvation Army Thrift Store, 82 Mill Street, Georgetown (877-8522).

Applications are available between Monday, Nov 21st, and Monday, Dec. 5th, 1988.



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