

### Lions' Pride

Past Presidents of the Georgetown Lions Club gathered at a recent meeting to help celebrate the 58th anniversary of the forming of the Chapter. On hand for the occasion were, front row, from left, Dan Boyle, Vic Bristow, Al Watt, Al Martin, Ernie Sykes,

Terry Peer, and Don Gosling. Back row, Ken Burgoyne, Jim Jones, Muri Allison, Carl Hansen, Howard Murphy, Fred Zorge, Bill Mason, Ken Neely, Ron Johnson, and Ed Hretchka. Absent was Dick Riddall. (Herald photo)

## Grant requests up by 29%

Almost 50 organizations in Halton have asked for more than \$707,000 in grants from Halton Region in 1989.

That marks a 29 per cent increase over the \$558,000 in grants approved for the organizations last year.

The grants won't be approved by Regional Council until early March, but those organizations which received a grant last year and are requesting an increase of less than 4.5 per cent in 1989 will be given priority under the social service grants system.

Last year, organizations around the Region asked for 34-per-cent increase in funds, but Halton only handed out 13 per cent more.

The Canadian Hearing Society, the Burlington Bereavement Resource Council and Amity Goodwill are applying for grants for the first time in 1989 and several groups are applying for hefty increases.

Of the three new groups applying for grants, only the Canadian

Hearing Society services clients in North Halton. The society is asking for \$7,000 from Halton Region this year.

The Physically Handicapped Citizens Affiliation is asking for \$13,000 this year. That represents an increase of 225 per cent - the largest increase request of all the 48 groups. The affiliation provides information and referral services, as well as counselling, companionship and research for people throughout the Region, including many in Halton Hills. The affiliation says it needs the money to cover operating expenses.

North Halton Big Sisters is asking for a 200-per-cent increase, from \$1,000 to \$3,000 - to help hire a second caseworker. Big Sisters now has 13 matched pairs and six people in the matching process.

The Halton Victorian Order of Nurses is looking for a 160-per-cent increase to \$41,700 in 1989. The VON, whose 90 employees make some 78,000 visits to patients in Halton each year, says it needs the

extra money to cover an expected 57-per-cent increase in operating costs over a three-year period ending in 1990.

The North Halton Association for the Developmentally Handicapped is asking Halton for an increase of almost 100 per cent to just over \$34,000 in 1989. The association provides vocational and residential services, as well as pre-school, a toy library and a Saturday centre for thousands of developmentally handicapped people across North Halton. The association says it needs the money to "promote a positive image of the association in the community," and to educate the community about mental retardation. The extra money would also be put towards organizing and training volunteers and organizing fundraising projects.

The biggest benefactors of Halton's social service grants last year were the Halton Social Planning Council (\$98,000), Trafalgar Senior Homes (\$53,500) and Halton Helping Hands (\$29,700).

## Olde Hide House assists in drive for tourism trade

Tourism is a growing industry in Halton and the Olde Hide House in Acton wants to help Halton Region grab its share of the tourism dollars.

Steve Dawkins, president of the Olde Hide House said last week that his company is donating \$24,000 to Halton's Tourism Advisory Committee to help promote the Region.

The donation will almost double the budget the Region has to spend on tourism, said Mr. Dawkins.

Private business in Halton need to get more involved in promoting the Region's tourist attractions, he said.

Billed as Halton's biggest tourism attraction, the Olde Hide House draws more than 350,000 people to Acton every year. Eighty-five per cent of the leather store's revenues come from outside of Halton Region, and 92 per cent of the revenues comes from outside of Acton, said Mr. Dawkins.

But Oakville businesses say tourism promotion is Halton's responsibility, not that of private businesses, said Oakville Coun. Kevin Flynn.

Tourism promotion must be a shared responsibility between government and those businesses who will benefit from more people visiting the Region, replied Mr. Dawkins. "The private sector has to be prepared to look at this as an investment."

He wants other businesses to capitalize on Acton's "Leather-town" nickname. Mr. Dawkins said he couldn't understand why it

took more than eight years after the Hide House opened for another leather store to open up in Acton.

The Olde Hide House is opening up a second store later this year entitled Flight-Line, which will sell aviation leathers on Mill Street in Acton.

Also in the works is a Leather-town Museum which the Olde Hide House hopes to open within the next 18 months, said Mr. Dawkins.

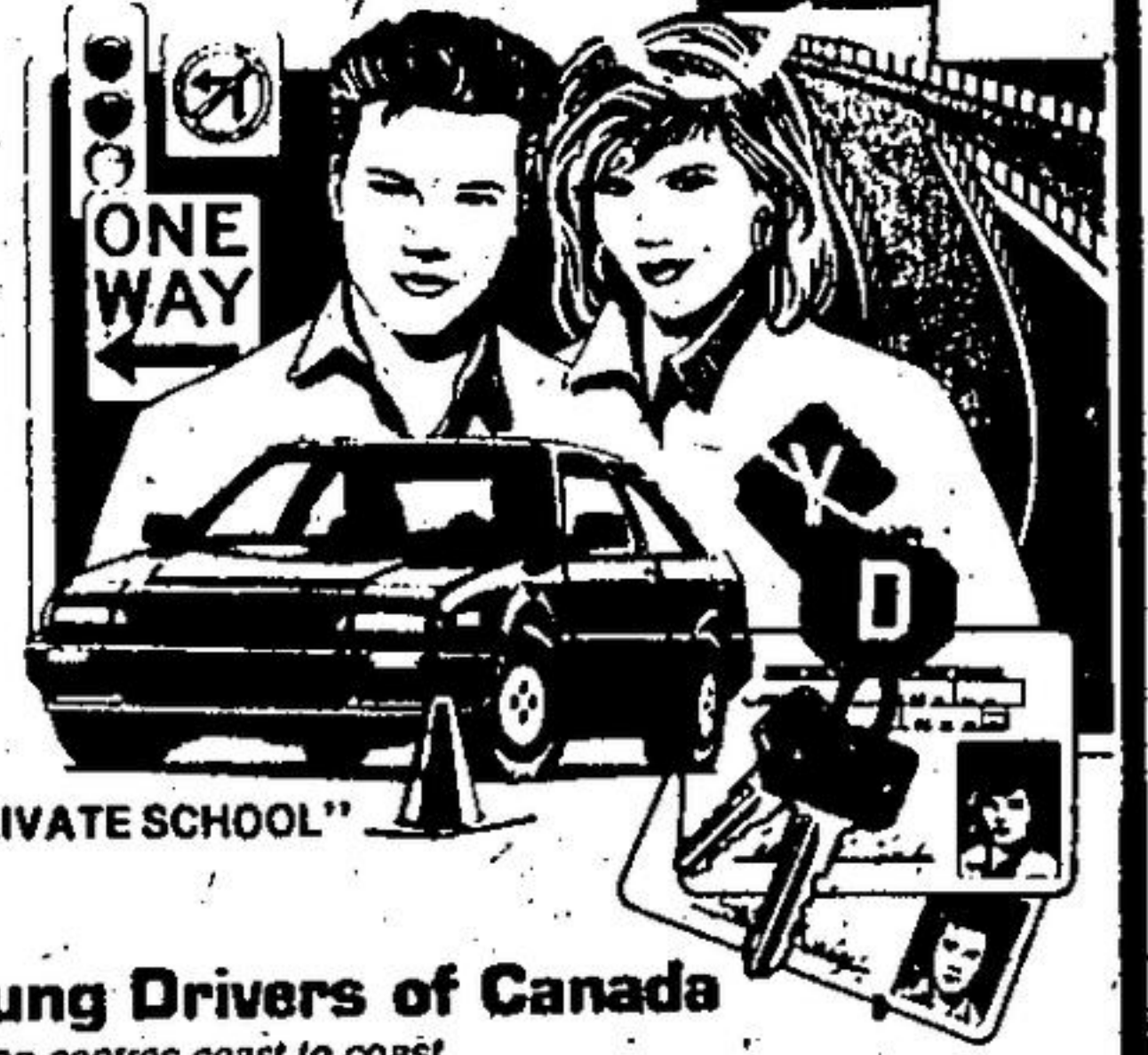
He urged Halton to take advantage of two other potential tourist attractions in the Region. A British firm called Leisure World is considering opening up a British heritage park built around the Charles Dickens theme somewhere in Canada, he said. Mr. Dawkins said he would meet with Leisure World representatives soon to discuss potential sites in Halton Region.

He also proposed Halton help Limehouse resident Frank Grant display his collection of military paraphernalia. Mr. Grant's collection, probably the best in Canada outside war memorial in Ottawa, is staying largely in obscurity because there is no place to put much of it on public display, said Mr. Dawkins.

Mr. Grant is about to get an offer from Vancouver, British Columbia to relocate his collection there, he said. Halton will have to move fast if it wants to keep the collection in the Region, said Mr. Dawkins.

Regional Chairman Pete Pomeroy said Halton would investigate the possibility of setting up a military museum using the collection Mr. Grant has accumulated.

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