

Top it up

Hmmmmmm good. St. Francis of Assis Grade 2 student Christopher Hunziger is shown by Wendy Miller, of Miller's Bakery in Georgetown, the finer art of cake making. Christopher was one of several St. Francis of Assis students who recently got a chance to make their own cake at the baker. (Herald Photo)

Grandparents put experience to good use in schools

"It's a pity to waste all the experiences and resources of a lifetime," a spokesperson for a thriving separate school program said.

Geraldine Barnes, teacherliaison for the Halton Roman Catholic School Board's "Grandteacher" program said she would like to be able to harness all the people who retire to work in the program.

The program started in 1984 at the Holy Cross School on Maple Avenue in Georgetown.

It is the brainchild of Margaret Dewdney who believes in the joy and benefits the international program can create, Mrs. Barnes notes.

Mrs. Barnes said the program is very spontaneous and flexible because nobody enforces participation.

While she says she can see why people just want to sit around and relax after they have retired she would rather "wear out than rust

"You're never too old to either learn or teach," Mrs. Barnes said. She added the childen tend to keep grandteachers on their toes.

Seniors do not need to actually teach the "three-R's" but can be part of the environment program. This part of the program allows seniors to bring a "different type of wealth" to the classroom.

Some seniors have taught crochet, puppetry, bird lore, baseball and art.

If a student is having a problem with a subject the grandteacher can take the student aside and



Geraldine Barnes

teach them, Mrs. Barnes said. She added that people tend to gravitate towards their own peer

group. It's good to exchange ideas between those groups, she said.

We are an aging population, what she likes to call "a greying society"; Mrs. Barnes said. She is hopeing to attain people who retire for this program.

Mrs. Barnes originally comes from Tipperary in Ireland and taught in college in Scotland before moving to Canada in 1951.

In a newsletter for a seminar on the program, Mrs. Barnes writes seniors can also act as surrogate grandparents "to students who have no senior figure in their lives a common occurrence in today's mobile society."

The letter also notes "Grandteachers create rapport between the generations and break down stereotyping on all sides.

"Old exteriors do not denote old minds," the letter concludes.

Georgetown District Memorial Hospital

NOTICE

of Board of Directors Meeting

An opening meeting of the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital Board of Directors will take place on:

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1990 AT 4:15 P.M. IN THE HOSPITAL BOARD ROOM

The agenda will be posted by 9 a.m. the day of the meeting in the administrative offices.

Those wishing to address the board must forward a request in writing to the Chairman of the Board of Directors by April 20th, 1990.

> GEORGETOWN DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL Princess Ann Drive, Georgetown L7G 2B8

Country and western dance

The Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital Auxiliary is holding a country and western dance featuring Marion's Country Band and soloist Earl Burt at Holy Cross auditorium Saturday, April 28.

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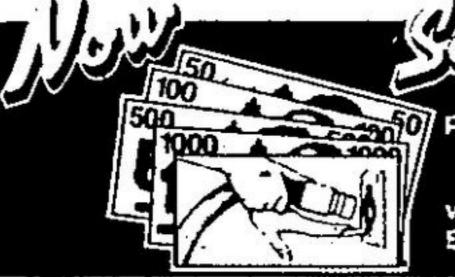
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