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1991 New Year's baby

Halton Hills first baby of 1991 is Colton William Burgan who came into the world January 2 at 5:15 a.m. in Georgetown and District Memorial

Hospital. Proud parents are Julie and Charlie Burgan of Norval. (Photo by Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot)

Blakemore gets life sentence

Kevin Blakemore of R.R.1, Georgetown, was handed a life sentence last Wednesday for attempted murder.

Mr. Justice William Lyon sentenced the 31-year-old Blakemore in the Ontario Court, General Division, Toronto.

Mr. Blakemore was arrested Oct. 23, 1989 by Metro Police after the fled an apartment where a 31-

year-old woman had been repeatedly stabbed.

Before the stabbing, the woman and Mr. Blakemore were watching videos in her Queen's Quay apartment. He left when the movie was over but returned later asking to use the phone. As he was starting to leave, he grabbed a kitchen knife, forced the woman 'into her bedroom and

repeatedly stabbed her in the arms, legs and chest. A wound under her right breast penetrated

She was rushed to Toronto General Hospital where she underwent emergency surgery.

A Toronto jury found Mr. Blakemore guilty of attempted

Baby Colton welcomed

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT The Herald

Halton Hills first baby of the year is Colton William Burgan, who took his first breath at 5:15 a.m. January 2.

Parents of the New Year's baby are Julie and Charlie Burgan of Norval who expected their little guy to arrive Dec. 28.

But seven pound, 13 ounce Colton had other plans it seems, for at 11:00 p.m. New Year's Day, he made his intentions known and made his entrance at Georgetown and District Hospital-just over six hours later.

Colton is the first child for his parents and another grandchild to Bill and Lisa Burgan of Silvercreek and great grandchild to Olive Burgan of Norval.

Mr. Burgan said he was "ecstatic" about the baby and it's birthday which is the same day as his brothers.

The new family was visited by Welcome Wagon hostess, Debbie Butler, who had a certificate from Town of Halton Hills Mayor, Russ Miller, and some gifts from local businesses to give to the trio.

The gifts include: one week's free service from Ginny's Diaper

Service in Georgetown; one week's use of facilities at Work That Body in Georgetown; a keepsake gift from Hopechest Christian Books and Gifts in Georgetown; manicure from The Feminine Way toning salon in Georgetown; cereal samples from Milupa Company in Mississauga; free facial, eyeshadow and make-up consultation from Sandra Ellis, Mary Kay cosmetics; free consultation from Spaces interior design; baby products gift certificate from Georgetown Food Market; financial plan from Theresia Andrews-Mass, Mutual Life; baby gift pack from Young's Pharmacy; 4 x 5 portrait from Canadian Baby Photo; medium pizza from Gino's Pizza, Georgetown; dinner for two from Wendy's fast food restaurant in Georgetown; dozen donuts from Nectar Donuts; emergency telephone cord from University Scholarships of Canada in Oakville; rattle and gift certificate from Discovery Toys in Georgetown; container from Judy Holmes, Toronto Tupperware salesperson and a water analysis from Aquafine in Georgetown.

GAY rights sparks row

By BEN DUMMETT The Herald

provincial government's new policy recognizing gay and lesbian "companions" of Ontario's civil servants is "a blow" to the special status the traditional family holds in society, says Georgetown resident and Family Coalition Party Executive Vice-President Giuseppi Gori.

The policy "is a serious blow to the family because it doesn't recognize its value as the basic unit of society and contribute to the deterioration of society," said Mr. Gori in a telephone interview Wednesday.

The new policy, which took effect New Year's Day, means companions of lesbian and gay civil servants will get extended medical, dental and life insurance just as heterosexual spouses have always received, said North-Halton MPP Noel Duignan. As well, homosexual civil servants now receive bereavement leave.

The principle underlying the policy, said Mr. Duignan "is people must be treated fairly regardless of the nature of the family unit."

Mr. Gori, however, said a heterosexual family has always held special status in Canadian society and should continue to do so. "It (heterosexual families) is the ideal institution to propogate the race and to raise children into being responsible citizens. The special status of the traditional family has been recognized in various federal and provincial government initiatives such as family tax rebates," said Mr. Gori.

"But if you now say any two people 'make 'up' a 'family, 'it's ' knocking the family," he explain-

Mr. Gori said he had nothing personal against homosexuals but believes sexual equality isn't the preferred state in all situations.

Mr. Dulgnan holds the opinion that it's important equal rights apply to everybody regardless of their sexual preference.

He also pointed out homosexuals, like the family, have been part of society for millenniums but they have had to hide their sexual orientation in the past.

Mr. Gori is imposing his morality on other people, said Mr. Duignan, something the MPP doesn't support.

Asked if the private sector and the federal government should follow the New Democrat's lead and institute similar policies, Mr. Duignan said, "people should be treated equal in the public and private sectors."

Mr. Duignan suggested other provincial laws pertaining to spousal support could also be changed to recognize homosexual spouses following the government's current review of these laws.

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