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## Super Sunday Series

During the grand finale of the Georgetown University Women's Club sponsored "Join Hands" show at the Cultural Centre in Georgetown last Sunday, children were invited up on stage to participate in the show. Join Hands is a husband and wife puppetry troupe from Windsor, Ontario. The troupe consists of Matthew Romain and Margaret

Atkinson. The show was part of the university club's Super Sunday Series. The next performance will be Morgan's Journey, a clown act, March 3 at the Cultural Centre. For ticket information call 877-5373 or 877-6140. (Herald photo)

## School plan passed

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT  
The Herald

Halton School Board's Race and Ethnocultural Equity Policy and Implementation plan was passed at the board's Jan. 10 meeting but Halton Hills trustee, Dick Howitt, was one of four trustees who voted against the implementation plan.

"The part of the implementation plan I object to is hiring or using a consultant to head up the implementation," said Trustee Howitt.

There are eight pages of 'goals' listed under the implementation plan of which the first under leadership emphasis is to "establish a leadership role for someone to assume the responsibility for the implementation of this policy."

Superintendent of Instructional Services, Graeme Barrett, explained the leadership role will likely be assumed by a "consultant." There are several consultants currently working for the Halton Board of Education on two-year commitments. This means every two years, they are assigned a different task. This group of term consultants was established last year, as part of Halton's "Toward 2000, Strategic Directions."

Mr. Barrett said there will "likely" be a consultant assigned to the position. "Though the implementation plan has been approved, which calls for a leadership role, should the person be relocated from existing staff, this would be subject to budget approval."

Mr. Howitt said implementation of the plan shouldn't fall to a consultant but rather, be undertaken by one of the board superintendents.

"I can think of four superintendents that could take on the job with what they already do," he said.

Mr. Howitt has two basic objections to the use of consultants.

One stems from the very idea of using them because he didn't agree to the idea of consultants in the first place.

But since they are here, he says, they could be better used in other areas.

"I think they should be used on curricular subjects like mathematics, sciences, or languages. These seem more important to me than an ethnocultural policy," he said. "The policy isn't on top of my priority list."

But as only one of four negative voters, the implementation part of the policy was passed by the board. Halton Hills trustee Arlene Bruce wasn't present at the meeting.

As for the policy itself, Mr. Howitt said he "didn't object to it."

The entire board of trustees is somewhat divided concerning the policy which was evident by the conflicting reports trustees gave at the meeting.

In summary, the policy passed states: "It shall be the policy of the Halton Board of Education to continuously strive through the dedication of its human and physical resources to develop, promote and maintain race and ethnocultural equity in a learning and working environment free of bias and racism."

# Seniors centres recommended for Georgetown and Acton

By BEN DUMMETT  
The Herald

A strategic plan by the Halton District Health Council and Halton Region on how best to service seniors in the Region recommends seniors' centres, be established in Georgetown and Acton.

Seniors groups in both communities are currently negotiating with the Town of Halton Hills to have centres built.

Acton seniors are negotiating with the Town to establish a centre in the existing Acton Fire Hall, once the proposed new fire hall for Acton is built. Deliberations concerning the new Acton Fire Hall are expected to occur during the upcoming Town budget deliberations.

Georgetown seniors recently rejected an offer by the Town to

use the Sacre Coeur Hall as a temporary facility. The Georgetown Seniors Association is meeting with the Town to determine the best way of establishing a permanent centre, a possibility being the inclusion of a centre as part of the expansion of the Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena.

The recommendation for the centres in Georgetown and Acton was one of several supported by the Region's Health and Social Services Committee Monday. That recommendation will go before Halton Council this coming Wednesday for final approval.

The recommendations arose out of several focus groups established throughout the Region involving seniors this past summer and a questionnaire answered by 700 area seniors.

The recommendations identify the existing services for seniors, what is still needed and what must be done to close the gap in services, said Marlene Longdon of the HAHC.

Assuming Halton Council approves the strategic plan, the next step, said Ms. Longdon, is to promise the services needed and implement the services in accordance with available funding.

Ms. Longdon is hopeful all of the recommendations can be implemented over the next 10 years including the senior centres.

She predicts more provincial funding will be forthcoming from the province than in the past because it has requested municipalities prepare long term senior care strategies.

Municipalities will be able to access funds from both the Ministry of Community and Social Services and Ministry of Health to set up new services, said Ms. Longdon.

Halton is ahead of many communities in this area because the Region study is already done, she added.

Regional health and Social Services Commissioner Bonnie Ewart echoed Ms. Longdon's statements saying "we're several steps ahead (of some other communities)."

Other recommendations pertaining to Halton Hills include addressing the issue of loneliness among seniors and the lack of volunteer drivers to transport seniors within the community.

Ms. Ewart said this is a common problem throughout Halton. The problem is part of the greater issue of fewer and fewer volunteers offering their services every year, said the commissioner.

A public transportation system with Halton Hills is another ser-

vice identified by area seniors that is necessary, said Ms. Longdon.

The problem with this issue, she explained, is that in a spread out community like Halton Hills and there being only an irregular demand for public transportation, it isn't necessarily profitable to run such a service. It could work by using volunteers, she suggested.

Services lacking throughout Halton range from the need for more people to help seniors with heavy chores like snow shovelling to day care programs for seniors suffering from such illnesses as Alzheimers Disease.

Underlying the implementation program is the idea that seniors prefer to stay at home as long as possible instead of being put in an institution. Ms. Ewart said seniors across the province have identified this preference.

Regarding the implementation stage of the plan, Ms. Ewart said community agencies as well as seniors will be consulted on which services will be implemented and how this will be done.

"It's a community plan," she stressed.

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## High school break-in

Halton Regional Police report \$1,234 worth of property was stolen from Georgetown District High School last Thursday night between 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m.

Unknown suspects smashed through a door window on the west side to gain entry into the building, police say. The door led into the drafting room where the suspects smashed in the window of a storeroom door, gaining entry but taking nothing. The suspects then left the classroom, travelling to the teacher's room for the social science department side of the building and here, the same technique was used to enter the room.

Once inside the culprits found \$84 worth of bills in a brown envelope and also took a Pulsar TV, a Beta VCR and a guitar along with its case which belonged to a teacher.

Police weren't able to find fingerprints or footprints due to the number of people in the rooms each day, but the brown envelope was taken for examination. Police say the incident must have occurred before midnight while the janitors were still on site since the school's motion detector alarms in the school didn't go off between midnight and 7:30 a.m. Also using the building that evening were three organizations.

Police suspect the culprits were juveniles since several computers were overlooked.