

Community

Burns supper authentic affair

By BETTY SOJKA

Much care was taken to make last Saturday's "Robbie Burn's Supper" at the Community Center a most authentic Scottish affair. Walls were lined with Scottish memorabilia including a picture of Mr. Robbie Burns himself. With tables beautifully set, a very warm and cozy atmosphere was created for dining. MC for the evening was Brian Arenault, who also blended his voice with wife Alyson for a heart rendering duet of Amazing Grace. During the night Alyson Arenault and Fred Shortill delighted the sell out crowd with more singing. Mrs. Margaret Jamieson gave the Selkirk Grace. The haggis was piped in by Don McEachern. Diners were in for a real treat when Mr. Don McEachern was joined by fellow piper Joe Sellors, and drummers Master Corporals' Shawn Kelly and Larry Birmingham, for a couple of sets during the evening. Tender roast beef was served with turnips, potatoes, peas, gravy, haggis and then topped off with apple pie. A chance to shake a leg was given when the dancing opened up after supper. Live music was supplied by Mrs. Eileen McEnery on piano, Scottie McHardie, and Ernie McEnery, and Jack Layman on fiddles. It was wonderful to watch dancers doing the "Strip the Willow" and the "dashing White Sargent." Scottish dance was performed by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Pinkerton. A bevy of prizes was given including a pair of tickets to the Phantom of the Opera. Most amusing was the winning of 3 free lessons of hand gliding all won by

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members of the Martin family. This event put on by the Senior and Junior Choirs of the United Church was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

It was a very disappointing small number who turned up last Sunday for the Annual Hall Board Dance. Financial Statements covering 1990's activities were reviewed. The 1990 hall was returned for another term, with one change. Jim Bailey comes on board as Recreation Chairman, Karen Smith returns as Chair Person, Susan Attard is the Treasurer, Gloria Buckley is Vice Chairman, and Betty Sojka will be the Secretary for 1991. Members at large are Betty Andrews, Bill and Carol Mathison. Municipal representatives on the Hall Board are Doris Topolsek for Erin Twp., and Alf Spence for Halton Hills. Doris commended the 1990 Board for their many accomplishments during the year, and for also ending up in the black financially. The first official meeting for the 1991 Board will be held Tuesday, February 5 starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center. The group will make plans for 1991's activities, and review current rental rates, etc.

Watch out for the January monthly newsletter sponsored by the "Hobby Horse" that was mailed out this week.



The 1991 Ballinafad Hall Board is now officially in place. Pictured above, back row, left to right, Alf Spence (Halton Hills Council representative), Susan Attard (Treasurer), Doris Topolsek (Erin Township

representative), and Jim Bailey (Recreation Chairman). Front row, left to right, Betty Sojka (Secretary), Gloria Buckley (Vice Chairperson) and Karen Smith (Chairperson). (Photo submitted)

School boards join project

TORONTO - The Halton public and Dufferin-Peel separate boards of education will take part in a \$4-million, six-year project aimed at helping primary school students who face social adjustment problems.

Ontario Education Minister Marion Boyd announced the Helping Children Adjust study program on Tuesday.

Eight school boards across the province will work with the education, health, and community and social services ministries in developing techniques to spot children having problems, and helping the children, teachers and parents to cope with them.

Each of the ministries will put \$60,000 into the cost of the project in the first year, and each school board \$15,000. In subsequent years the funding works out at \$170,000 per year per ministry and \$25,000 annually for the school boards.

The project results from findings of the Ontario Child Health Study which cited adjustment difficulties as the foremost health problem faced by children today.



Queen's Park Bureau
by Pauline Johnson
Thomson News Service

The developmental phase of the project will be completed by August and the five-year implementation phase of the project will start in September.

The focus of the study will be on children in Kindergarten to Grade 3.

It is estimated that across the province more than 40,000 children aged four to 11 years exhibit social adjustment problems. Untreated it can lead to serious psychological and social problems in adulthood ranging from chronic depression to criminal behaviour.

Coping with stress

Waiting to hear about the events of the Persian Gulf hostilities is dangerous to those left behind.

"For all Canadians, especially the family and friends left back home, it is a time when we must remind ourselves to rely on our coping skills," says Mary Oordt, National President of the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA).

"We need to guard ourselves against stress which can overwhelm us. It is also important that we are aware of the warning signs of depression and watch for these in ourselves as well as others," explains Oordt.

Young people are particularly at risk because they have never experienced "wartime" with Canadian troops engaged in military battle.

The Canadian Mental Health Association is a source of information in 200 community offices across Canada. If you need some help, we can suggest ways to cope with grief, loss, or the stress of living in turbulent times. Contact the Halton Region Branch offices of CMHA in the community nearest you: in Oakville, 845-5044; Burlington, 681-6776 or Halton Hills, 853-4477.

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