

## Business of the Year dinner



Georgetown Central Business Improvement Area representative Ann Currie gives Paul Armstrong a big smack on the lips congratulating him and his company for being named the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce 1990 Business of the Year during an

awards dinner at the North Halton Golf and Country Club Wednesday. BIA General Manager Margaret Vint (left) and BIA member Jim Goodlet also participated in the presentation. (Herald photo)



Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller presented Paul Armstrong with a town plaque Wednesday during an awards dinner at the North Halton Golf and Country Club in recognition of Mr. Armstrong's

company being named the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce 1990 Business of the Year. (Herald photo)



Norval resident Peter Pomeroy (left) is now Halton Regional Chairman and Paul Armstrong is the man behind the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce 1990 Business of the Year. Georgetown's Paul C. Armstrong Insurance Brokers Ltd. But back in the 50's the two skipped school after lunch and headed down to the local pool hall in

Georgetown. That's the story Chairman Pomeroy led off with before presenting Mr. Armstrong with a plaque Wednesday in recognition of his business achievement during the Chamber's Business of the Year dinner at the North Halton Golf and Country Club. (Herald photo)

# March is Red Cross month

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT

The Herald

Donating blood is the first thing most people think of when they see the bold, red symbol of the Canadian Red Cross Society but collecting blood is only one of the many invaluable services the Red Cross brings to the community.

Since March is Red Cross month, now is a good time to get to know your local Red Cross and what it can do for you.

Behind the large Red Cross symbol, is a giving and caring team of volunteers who are trained not only to operate blood donor clinics, but to teach first aid, respond to community disaster needs, provide shelter, clothing and food to disaster victims, provide transportation to the needy and provide sickroom equipment among other things.

Bernice Gibbs, Halton Hills Red Cross branch manager, said emergency driving is one of the more valuable services the society offers.

"Our drivers are out every week," she said. "We service about 50 to 60 seniors yearly." The service is for persons unable to obtain public or family transportation to out-of-town medical appointments. Referral is required from a physician or public health nurse.

Mary Bower, a 67-year-old Georgetown woman, says she's very "grateful" to the Red Cross Society.

"They take me to Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto. I don't know what I would do without them," she said. Ms. Bower cannot drive herself because she lost one of her hands many years ago. She's now getting a new hand after 18 years and the Red Cross Society brings her to the hospital for fittings of the prosthesis.

Other much-needed services include the sickroom loan equipment service where hospital beds, wheelchairs, commodes

and crutches are available free of charge on loan for a limited time. A doctor's or medical approval is required for all equipment.

The Red Cross also teaches first aid and water safety. When there is a disaster, whether it be individual, minor or major disaster, the society provides food and lodging. In the case of a major disaster such as a hurricane, the society is in charge of an evacuation centre.

As well, the blood donor clinics are held regularly in Halton Hills.

There are four in Acton yearly and seven in Georgetown, including four public ones, two industrial and one held at the high school.

"We're always in need of blood," said Ms. Gibbs, citing a statistic that every two minutes, someone, somewhere, in Canada needs blood.

Volunteers like Erica Thompson of Georgetown are instrumental in running blood donor clinics.

"I really admire the blood donors. They donate their blood so regularly," she said. "I try to encourage people to come out and donate so there will always be blood for surgery at our local and big city hospitals."

Some of the activities the organization will be taking part in to promote the society during March includes Loblaw's Customer Appreciation Day on March 13 where they'll hand out coffee and donuts. As well, the Senior Men's Club will be meeting on March 14 for a dinner the society will prepare to earn money for the organization.

They're also accepting money and blood to help victims of the Persian Gulf war.

If you are interested in any of the services the Halton Hills branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society offers, please call 877-5233. Red Cross is able to provide these services through the generosity of the public through the United Way Campaign.



March is Red Cross month and members of the Halton Hills Red Cross Society, including branch manager Bernice Gibbs, pictured here, will be trying to make Halton Hill's residents more aware of all the activities the Red Cross Society offers. (Herald photo)

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