



Traditional dance

Georgetown 7th East Brownies were treated to a welcoming dance by Georgetown Ojibway Indian, Julie Cochrane. The Brownies were have an unofficial gathering to end the Brownie season and enjoyed the traditional dance which Julie learned from her Ojibway god-parents in Southampton. (Herald photo)

Provincial government grants a boon to Acton school

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

Friday's approval of \$16.1 million in capital grants for the Halton Board of Education by the Ontario NDP government, means renovations and alterations to Robert Little Public School in Acton will start this summer instead of next summer as planned.

"We were able to bump the renovations up a year," said the Chairman of the Halton Board of Education, Bill Harrison, after hearing that Ontario's Education Minister, Marion Boyd, had approved two Halton projects in a \$135.3 million release of capital grants for central Ontario School boards.

Robert Little School received \$1.1 million of the funding while the remaining portion of Halton's grant, \$15 million, will be used to construct a new secondary school in Oakville planned for 1994.

Acton's board trustee, Arlene Bruce, was pleased with the funding citing the school as a "facility that is so crowded for space, renovations to it are long overdue."

"Parents, staff and children will be ecstatic when it is finished," she said.

The \$1.1 million grant was requested by board trustees last year who asked that the money be taken out of the Ministry's Equity Capital Reserve Fund. Mr. Harrison explained the fund is made up of monies collected from the sale of property. Although the money belongs to the ministry, it allows local boards to hold the money until permission is granted for boards to use the funds.

The grant doesn't cover the total expense of the project however.

The Board accepted a tender from Tychansky, Heine and McCallum Construction in Burlington for \$1,521,456 and have budgeted the project at \$2,014,000. A debenture will be taken out to cover the remaining cost said Mr. Harrison.

Renovations to the school include constructing an extension to the present gym and gym storage room, altering the present classroom and administration area at the front of the school to expand the area and include seven more rooms and construct a four classroom addition. While construction is going on, the present building will also be upgraded, additional parking will be provided and the facility will be made accessible for physically handicapped students.

While releasing the information about the capital grand fun-

ding, Ms. Boyd said "school facilities are important both as centres for learning and for the life of the local community. This government is committed to helping school boards build and renew these valuable resources."

She estimated the funding, which approved 90 projects, will create approximately 19,000 new pupil places.

The 90 projects approved for funding include 14 new schools (12 of which have day care centres), three are full partial replacements for existing schools and 22 additions.



Environment study

From the expression on her face, it looks like Melfssa Casson discovered an insect in the pond that wasn't too appealing during the pond study she and her Grade 4 class from Glen Williams Public School took part in at Blue Springs Scout Camp in Acton Thursday. Students learned all about the environment by studying everything from pond ecosystems to trees and birds. (Photo by Allison MacFarlane)

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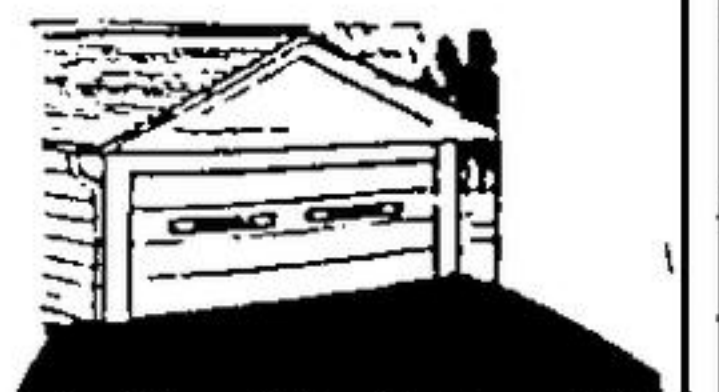
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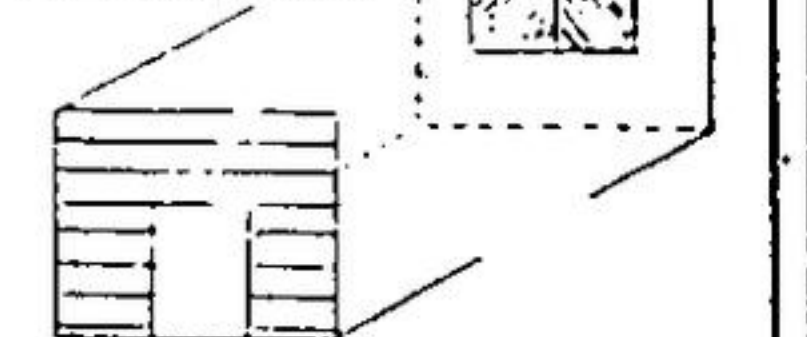


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