Community News

Adult Education

Education is ageless

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said. "A lot of these adults dropped out of school and have negative feelings about school. They feel unsure and wonder if they will get their diploma this time around."

Some adults are also intimidated by the teenage students but once they've enrolled, found the younger students accept them. -

"The teenagers are so used to seeing the adults in school now, they accept them. One adult told me she felt like she was in Grade

Mr. Baker said some adults are worried it will take them years to earn their diploma but stresses that's rarely the case.

"Even if an adult doesn't have any secondary school credits from their teenage years, they don't have to earn all those credits by taking classes," he said. "Based on the age of the students and the length of time they've been out of school, an adult student can earn up to 12 maturity credits. We also take into consideration other courses they may have taken in their lifetime and award them equivalency credits for these courses. They can earn up to five of these."

If an adult is qualified for the full amount of credits, they'll have 17 before they event set a foot inside a classroom. Then, they'll only need 13 more to get their diploma, which they could earn in two years if they attended school full-time, he said.

Courses offered in ALP include keyboarding, computers (Wordperfect, Lotus 1, 2, 3), modern of-



Susan Grant

fice procedures, marketing, accounting, English, math, Canadian studies-law, personal life management, fitness and wellbeing, woodworking, home renovation, and science among others.

English, personal life management and computers are popular courses, said Ms. Grant, whose found the adult are excellent students.

"Adults are more goal-oriented and more studious," she said. "They're easier to teach because there are no problems with classroom behaviour. They come to each class with the drive to do well and they gobble up ideas."

For more information on adult education, call the Halton Adult Learning Network Line at

875-3851; Sue Grant of the Adult Learner Program at 877-6966 or the Lockhart Educational Centre at 878-1240.

Supervising the TEAM program for the Halton Hills area is Glen Williams resident, Alma Sargent, who is a graduate of another Adult and Continuing Education program, the Adult Learner Program (ALP).

Mrs. Sargent had quit school in Grade 10 over 20 years ago to help her widowed mother support the family. She finally decided, at 39years-of-age, to go back to highschool and get her secondary school diploma.

Earning 80's, she said she felt great in school.

When she graduated, she was hired by ALP supervisor, Susan Grant, to be her assistant instructor where she had a pregnant teen as a student and Mrs. Sargent found she really enjoyed working with the pregant teen and was able to help the girl successfully complete her education.

Buoyed by her success, she decided to apply for the job of Supervisor for TEAM and was accepted.

"For once, everything fell into place," said Mrs. Sargent. "I know I'm really going to enjoy this new job. It's very fulfilling to be on the other side of the desk."

TEAM is cost-free for young mothers and is funded through adult education grants from the provincial government.

For more information about TEAM, call Anne Day at 333-3499 or 878-1240.

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Young mothers who want to go back to school but can't find child care no longer have to give up their education because now there is Teen Education and Motherhood (TEAM).

For the first time in Georgetown and Acton, the Adult and Continuing Education department of the Halton Board of Education is offering TEAM which allows pregnant teens and young mothers to finish their education in a supportive en-

vironment while their children are taken care of on site. The program has been running for four years in Burlington and Oakville.

Starting Sept. 4, TEAM will be offered at Cedarvale Community Centre in Georgetown five days a week from 1-4 p.m. and in Acton at the Parent-Child Resource Centre on Wallace Street.

Gary Allen, manager of adult and alternative programs in the Adult and Continuing Education department said the goal of TEAM is to allow young mothers

to earn their high school diploma. The core areas of education offered include; english, math, personal life management and consumer education.

"A number of our girls have completed their high school re quirements and have been accepted to area colleges," he said.

Students learn through independent learning studies, (correspondence courses) but supervised by a teacher who comes in daily to support their learning, he said.



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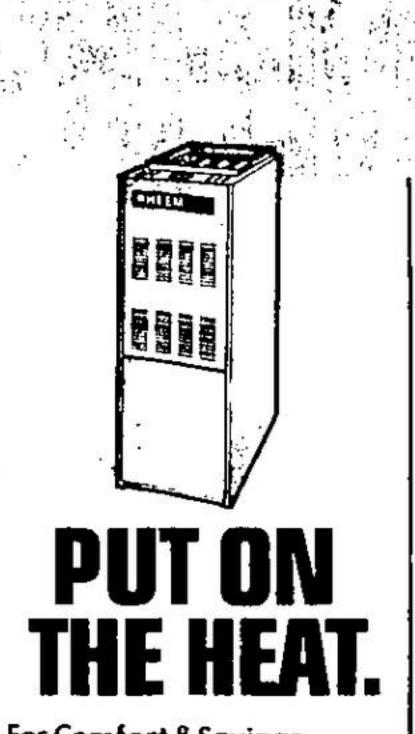
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