

Teacher, 81, seeks replacement to aid impoverished Pakistani students

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

For the past eight years Saloma Smith has spent nearly half of each year running an English school in a poor community in Pakistan.

The 81-year-old Georgetown woman, a retired Toronto teacher, enjoys the volunteer work there, but at her age is looking for someone else (a retired teacher perhaps) to step in and take over her role at the school.

Smith first visited Kunri, the small town where she later started the school, after spending several years doing literacy work in Pakistan. She stopped there for a brief vacation before heading home to Canada.

But while she was there she was convinced by the community's residents to start an English school.

"So many people came to persuade me to start an English school. They said, 'it will be easy, we'll help you. All you have to do is run a school,'" said Smith, who comes from a Mennonite background in St. Jacob's.

So each year since, Smith flies to Pakistan in the fall to run the Christian English Immersion School, which often also involves her teaching as well.

The school has grown, and grades are added, as the children have grown up. Currently it now offers up to Grade 9.

She said there are about 50 students in the school, and many of them are "hungry poor."

The Saloma Smith Scholarship Fund funds the education for about 19 of the students at the school, including uniforms, shoes and books.

"We try to collect a little something from them, even if it's 20 rupees a month."

The Scholarship Fund also funds the education of about 100 other students in Sindh province.

Smith wrote a book about her life, including her long service in Pakistan entitled *Out of the Schwemmy*. All profits from sales of the \$20 book go to the scholarship fund.



SALOMA SMITH

All of the instruction at the Christian English Immersion School is in English said Smith.

"To get a good job, you have to know English. That gives them so much mileage," said Smith.

There are five teachers at the school along with Smith. She said the students are getting a very good education.

She would love to have some Canadian teachers at the school and needs someone to take over for her, "because I'm not going to be able to go much longer."

She said there needs to be a Canadian there administering the funds from Canada. Residency can be arranged for those who volunteer.

"The houses are nice for that area," said Smith. She said there are no behavioural problems at the school.

"I can't get Canadians to go over there," she said, adding "It's far removed from the war with the Taliban."

It costs about \$200 per year to fund a youth's education.

She is always attempting to raise funds and any donations can be sent to the Saloma Smith Scholarship Fund c/o Harolyn Panetta, 38 Castlegrove Blvd., Don Mills, ON, M3A 1L2. A receipt will be issued. To purchase a copy of her book contact Smith at 905-702-8651, email her at saloma21@gmail.com or visit <http://stores.lulu.com/SalomaS>.

Summer is Here

Air Condition - Now!

REPLACE YOUR OLD AIR CONDITIONER WITH A 15 SEER HIGH EFFICIENCY AIR CONDITIONER WITH A 10 YEAR WARRANTY FOR

AS LOW AS \$2,590⁰⁰

(AFTER REBATE) INSTALLED*

- 10 YEAR PARTS WARRANTY

**DON'T PAY 'TIL
MARCH 2011! ****

UCC financial



1967 **43** years 2010
www.applebysystems.ca



Coleman

*Limited Time Offer. Tax extra. **OAC



APPLEBY SYSTEMS

905-877-8990

Fireplace, Heating & Air Conditioning Sales & Service

118 Guelph St. Georgetown (at Maple)

Hours: Monday - Friday 9-5; Saturday 11-4; Appointments available after hours upon request www.applebysystems.ca

FULL PARTS & SERVICE

6 YEARS IN A ROW Favourite Furnace & Air Conditioner

ROSE THEATRE PRESENTS

summertheatre Season 2010

UNTIL SATURDAY ONLY!

Broadway Gold II

A Musical Revue
Back by Popular Demand!

July 23 - 31 • Main Theatre • \$30


A lively and entertaining revue covering "golden age" musicals *Carousel* and *South Pacific* and the latest hits like *Wicked* and *Rock of Ages!*

Call Today!

905.874.2800

ROSE

rosetheatre.ca THEATRE BRAMPTON



MUNICIPAL ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED

A number of workers are required for the Town of Caledon to work in the 2010 Municipal Election, to be held on Monday, October 25, 2010.

Tabulator Operators: Responsible for assisting voters with putting ballots through the tabulator, ensure ballots are accurately tabulated, and ensure tabulator is working properly at all times. Election Day Payment = \$200.00

Deputy Returning Officers: Responsible for opening and closing poll, distributing ballots, verifying voter identification, ensuring secrecy of the vote, and administering oaths. Election Day Payment = \$175.00

Revision Officers: Responsible for assisting voters with the completion of amendments and additions to the voters list and directing voters to appropriate voting station. Election Day Payment = \$175.00

Greeters: Responsible for greeting and assisting voters, reminding voters to have their proper identification ready and available, ensure voter traffic flows smoothly throughout the polling location. Election Day Payment = \$100.00

Successful Applicants:

- must provide their own transportation
- must arrive at the voting place 30 minutes prior to the opening of the polls (10:00 a.m.) and remain at the voting place until approximately 8:30 p.m.
- attend mandatory training

Visit our website at www.caledon.ca to electronically fill out an Election Official Application Form and to view a more detailed description of the election worker responsibilities. Applications can also be picked up at either Customer Service or Legislative Services.

Please return or email your Election Official Application form no later than September 10, 2010, to the attention of: Leesa Wright, Legislative Services | Town of Caledon, Town Hall | 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon ON L7C 1J6 or via e-mail: leesa.wright@caledon.ca

TOWN HALL
6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, ON L7C 1J6
905.584.2272 | 1.888.CALEDON | FAX 905.584.4325 | www.caledon.ca