



Pearl and Colin Baker had three special guests attend their 50th wedding anniversary party at the Acton Legion recently. Their children, Janis Ruitenbeck of Holland, Ken Baker of Beaumont, Alberta, and David Baker of Ottawa, were all on

hand to help celebrate the occasion. Pictured (from left) are David, Pearl, Janis, Colin and Ken. The couple were married on August 29, 1941, and have lived in Acton for the past 25 years.

Worker charged with theft of merchandise

By KAREN SMITH
A 15-year employee of Maplehurst Correctional Centre has been charged following the disappearance of \$195,000 in merchandise from the inmate canteen.

Halton Regional Police arrested the suspect last Friday. He is accused of stealing goods - mostly cigarettes - from the prison shop since January, 1989, said Detective Sergeant Mike Eacrett.

The Ministry of Correctional Services conducted the initial investigation into the thefts before contacting police last Thursday, according to Sgt. Eacrett.

Since the arrest, the accused - a provincial government worker for the last 18 years - has resigned

from the position of canteen clerk. Items such as cigarettes and snack foods can be purchased by inmates at the shop.

Gary Commeford, superintendent of the Milton correctional centre, declined comment, saying the charges are "now a police matter."

The police investigation is far from over, said Sgt. Eacrett. "The value could very well exceed \$195,000."

A Brampton man faces a charge of theft over \$1,000. He has been released from custody and will appear in Milton provincial court September 30.

The maximum sentence for such a crime is 10 years.

Literacy workshop studies benefits of plain language

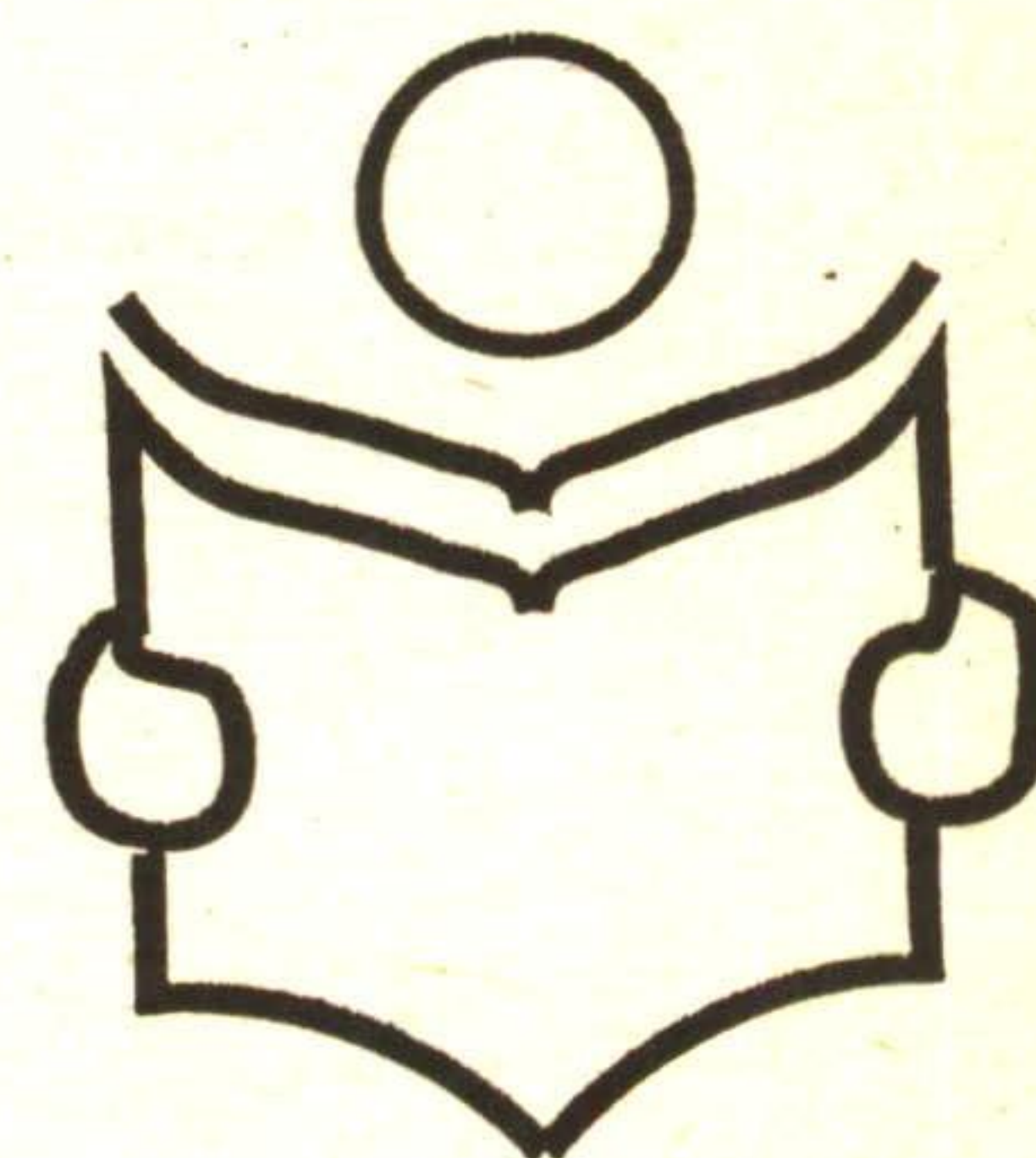
Furthering its efforts to improve people's ability to communicate fully, the North Halton Literacy Guild is hosting a special workshop Oct. 7 at Scotsdale Farm.

"How to Compose and Design Clear Language Documents for the Workplace" is a workshop designed to show how communication in any kind of business can be improved through the use of "plain language."

Frontier College, regarded as one of Canada's foremost literacy organizations, is conducting the workshop Oct. 7 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$25 per person.

The registration deadline is Sept. 25. Forms can be obtained from and submitted to the North Halton Literacy Guild, P.O. Box 218, Georgetown, Ont., L7G 4Y5, or call Karen at 873-2200.

The workshop examines literacy in Canada and how clear language



fits into the picture. Participants learn about the role of reading at work and in the community and find out how the use of clear language helps.

Also covered are the basic principles of clear language, the "Clear Writer's Hit List," ways of determining one's reading level, getting the most out of a word processor, and type styles, features and formatting.

Scott's compost heap to grow

Milton farmer Jim Scott got a ringing vote of confidence at Halton Region's planning and public works committee meeting last Wednesday.

Regional councillors, for the most part, heaped praise on Scott's composting operation on Britannia Road and went along with his bid to expand it.

Burlington councillor Pat McLaughlin said of farmers such as Scott, "we should be encouraging them, not putting obstacles in the way."

Councillors overruled Halton staff, who had recommended Scott's operation be only permitted to produce to 20,000 tonnes annually. Instead, councillors said he could process 30,000 tonnes of waste.

Oakville councillor Janet Mitchell said diverting organic waste from landfills "is very, very important. I'm highly supportive."

The only dissenting voice was that of Milton

councillor Bill Johnson, who said such composting systems "are not environmentally friendly to the upper ozone" layer because they produce damaging methane gas.

On a four-acre site, Scott takes primarily yard cuttings from municipal collections and uses it as raw material to make compost both for sale and for his own farm.

He wants to expand the scope of his operation to take more and different types of waste, such as some food from supermarkets.

In order to do that, Scott must get permission from the Ministry of the Environment, which in turn asked Halton regional councillors if they had any objections. The fact that they didn't was an important step forward for Scott.

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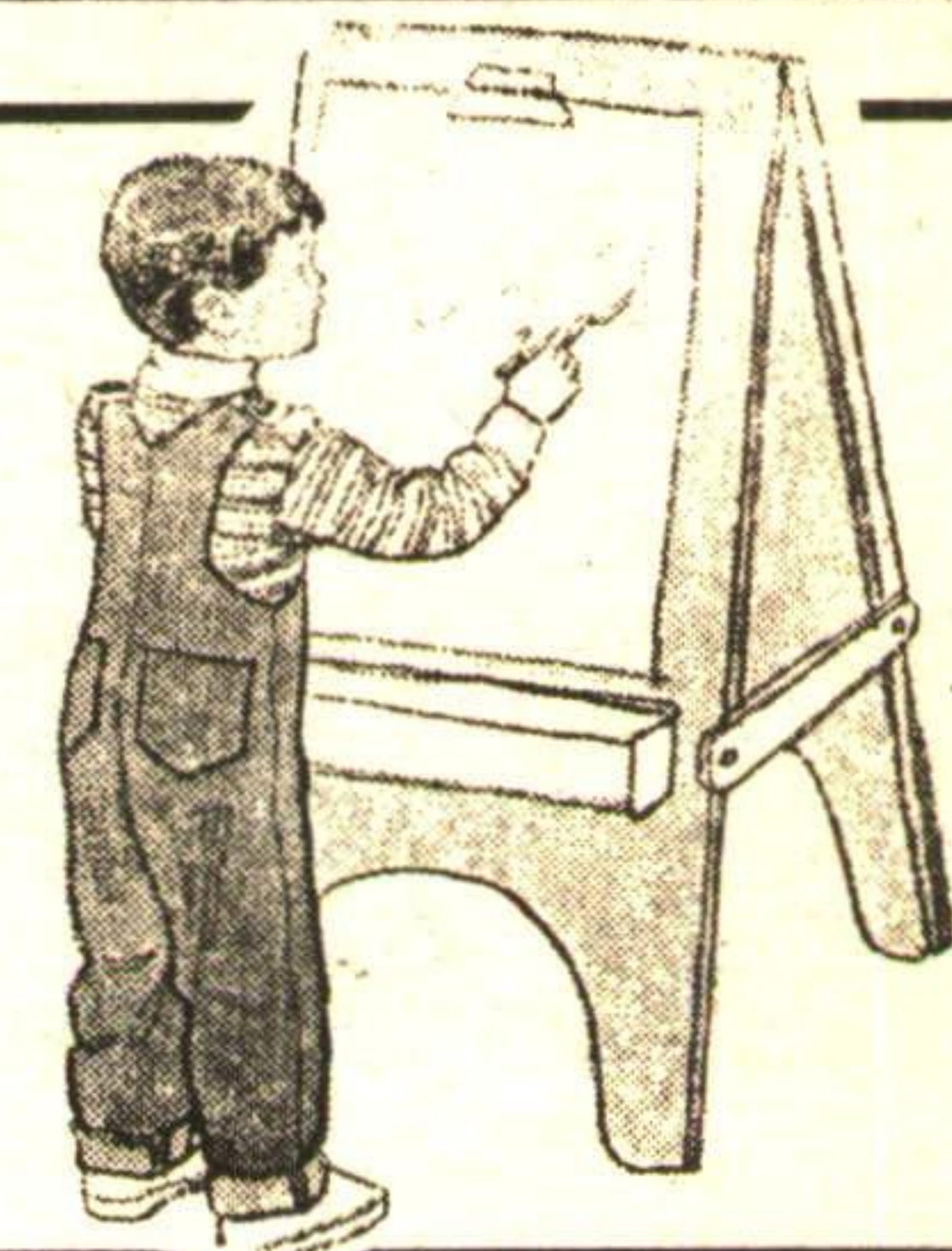
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL Sharon at 873-1177