

Teen virgins bring abstinence message to local youths

A group of Canadian teenagers is coming to Acton with a very different message. It's cool to be chaste.

That's not the kind of lingo you expect to hear from today's teenagers, who are assumed to be "doing it" and when they are, encouraged to "do it safely."

Abstinence is OK. That is the message that will be brought by a group of 24 teenagers, called Challenge '94, traveling across Canada, selling their message of voluntary virginity to their peers. The team of teens, ranging in age from 18 to 21 will be sharing their message to teenagers of the Acton area on Sunday, May 8 at 8 p.m. at the Bethel Christian Reformed Church. Anyone interested in finding out more or in taking part in a provocative evening are invited to come or to call 853-1675 for more information.

Their message is attracting a lot of attention. Teenage virgins are coming out of the closet and declaring that abstinence is no longer just for nerds. In fact, the movement recently attracted nation-wide attention, featured prominently on the CBC Evening News.

Living in an age in which AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases are real concerns, teenagers are tuning in. Julie Champagne, a Grade 12 student shares her reason for becoming involved with the movement: "A lot of kids get pushed into having sex before they've really thought about it. They feel pressured because they figure that everybody else is doing it or that it's the only way to show their boyfriends they care. Many of them regret it later."

The teens will be speaking

frankly and positively to their peers about the real meaning of sexuality, about sexual self control, and the pressures society puts on them. They will be challenging teenagers from our area to think about the future and the consequences of the decisions they make. The group uses skits, songs and stories to help make their point.

One 16-year-old teenager from Medicine Hat had the following to say about the presentation: "I think that your presentation was really good because a lot of people feel pressured and don't know how to say no, or if they've done it they really want to get out of it and feel that there is no one there to support them. Thank you for sharing another option!" Last year the group spoke to over 13,000 teens across Canada and because of popular demand they are traveling the country again.

The "abstinence" word is spreading. A similar tour is being planned for the United States and inquiries have come from four other countries. "Just Say No" isn't just talking about drugs anymore. It's a choice that many teens are making for themselves before they go out on a date.

Citizens' Band performs today

Acton Citizens Band Spring Concert, Musical, Magical Mystery Tour from Showboat to Llangollan, will be held Sunday, May 1, 2:30 p.m. at Trinity United Church, 70 Mill St. E. Acton. Refreshments following. Adults \$5, Students/Seniors \$3, Children under 6 free.

Education: EXPLAINED!

Jargon. The hundreds of terms used in education sometimes build walls between educators and the public. *Education: Explained!* will change that. It's an ongoing campaign to shed some light on what's really going on in public education today. Through publications and events, we want to develop an understanding of the great things happening in Halton Board of Education schools.

So, take the first step and have
EDUCATION: EXPLAINED!
at one of the Education Focus 1994 events:

LEARNING OR EARNING: WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF OUR SCHOOLS?

Monday, May 2, 1994 • 7:30 p.m. • Milton District High School • 396 Williams Avenue, MILTON

THE CURRICULUM REVOLUTION: WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SUBJECTS?

Tuesday, May 3, 1994 • 7:30 p.m. • Lord Elgin High School • 5151 New Street, BURLINGTON



DAVE WHITTING
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

"PURSUING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
THROUGH COMMITMENT AND SERVICE"

BOB WILLIAMS
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION



WE'RE GOING OUT ON A LIMB FOR YOU!

APPLE Auto Glass

"Pick of the Crop!"

50% OFF ALL UPHOLSTERY MATERIAL

WINDSHIELDS

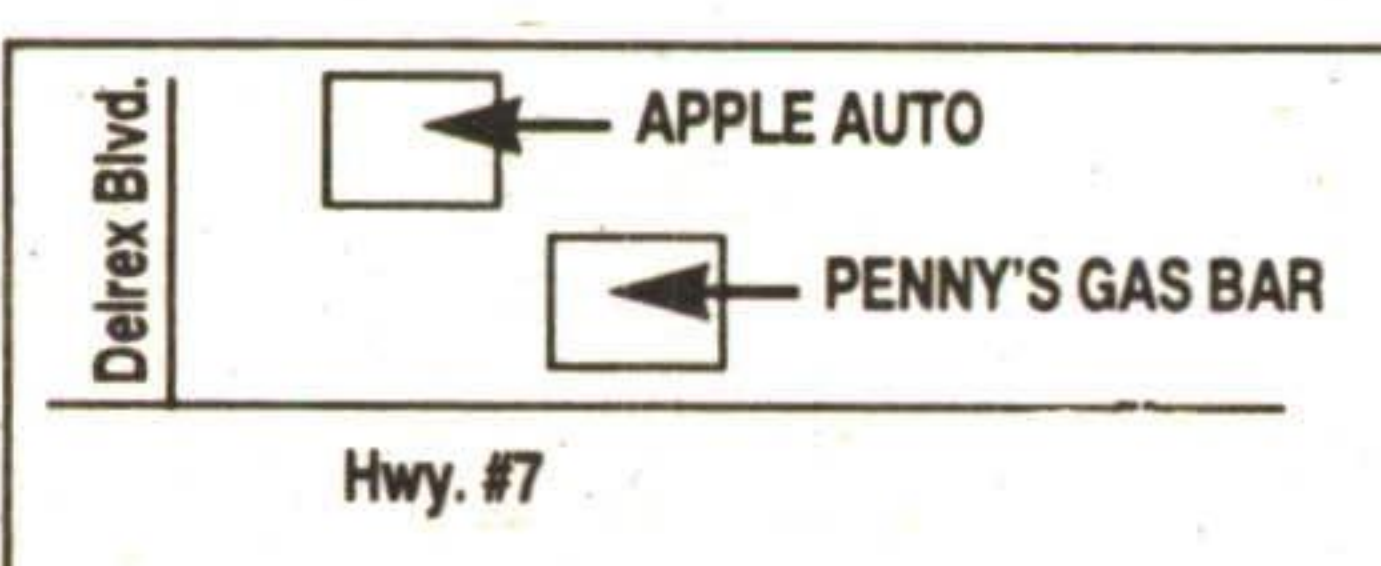
If a customer requires a rental vehicle, it will be provided at our expense.*

*Subject to terms & conditions.

FREE
AIR
FRESHENERS

- AT APPLE WE OFFER FACTORY INSTALLATION METHODS
- FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE
- PICK UP & DELIVERY AVAILABLE
- ALL INSURANCE CLAIMS WELCOME

WE WILL NOT BE
UNDERSOLD



354 GUELPH ST.
(BEHIND PENNY'S GAS BAR)



873-1655