

Latchkey "Joy" Program: joining old and young

In today's society many children are asked to assume responsibility for themselves for short periods of time, often after school. In response to this, the JOY committee of Acton Social Services and Information Centre (ASSIC) has created the Latchkey Program which begins this September and runs throughout the school year.

The program is planned so that a child can call a senior or an adult for comfort and reassurance after school.

Participants meet beforehand to get to know each other, and both participants exchange phone numbers and interests.

Now that the new school year is underway, adults interested in being part of this program who are at home from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday are urged to join.

Parents interested in enrolling their children in this program are also requested to join.

Simply drop in and fill out an application form at ASSIC at 19 Willow St. North, Acton. Parents can also drop off applications at their child's school.

For more information call Sue at Acton Social Services and Information Centre, 853-3310.

Spelling: logic, not memory

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The last thing you want is that fear of making mistakes will stop your child's growth as a writer. Your child's teacher should be able to tell you about spelling patterns your child is able to use, and show you examples of spelling growth in your child's writing.

The best way you can help your child at home is to be supportive, and above all patient. It will take a long time for your child to learn enough patterns for spelling to start looking good. In the meantime, make sure they keep reading and writing.

Innovation and renovation? They each have a prefix added to the same root word, "nova". The number of n's is a matter of logic, not memory.

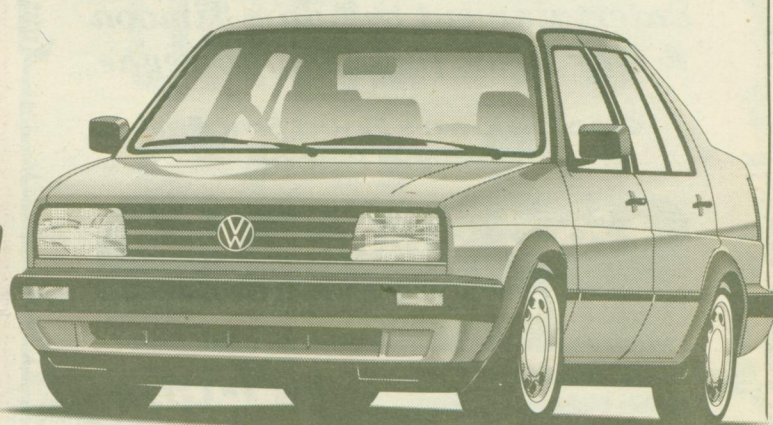
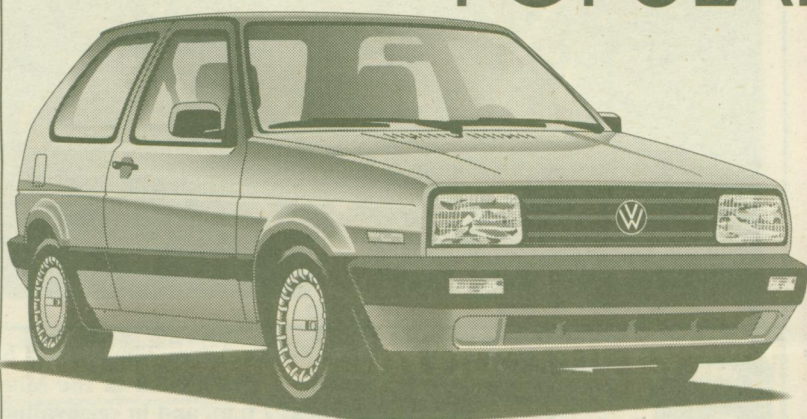
Jo Phenix, a former teacher and consultant, is now a free-lance writer living in Halton Hills.

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