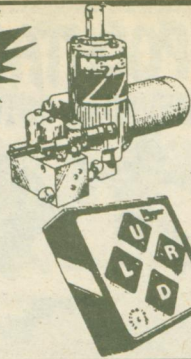


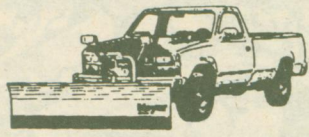
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# English class the only one of its kind in North America

By Wendy Long

In a classroom tucked away at the back of Sacre Coeur School in Georgetown, a 71-year-old woman is learning to read and write for the first time in her life. She has been a Canadian for almost 50 years.

A young man from Columbia is expanding his English language skills, and a woman, originally from Macedonia, who suffered a stroke is learning speech all over



Members of the English as a second language class enjoy learning the basics of the language.

again.

These are but a few of the many participants of an English As a Second Language class jointly sponsored by the North Halton Literacy Guild and the Halton Roman Catholic School Board.

The class, taught by Eileen Evans of the literacy guild, is held two mornings a week from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. As well as speaking skills, the class emphasizes literacy: writing and spelling improvement.

"It's the only class of this kind running in North Halton," said Evans.

The program is designed for individual adult tuition, so the numbers are kept low. There are three people on the waiting list to access the class.

The program is rewarding for its eager students, who have a great thirst for knowledge. Many of them have led restricted lives because of their lack of literacy skills and opportunity to learn.

There are varying degrees of ability within the room.

"English is very hard to learn," said one woman quietly, but sure that her efforts will reap eventual reward.

All of the students are thrilled to

be there and say that they're having fun learning.

The students have a message they feel is important for other Halton Hills citizens whose literacy skills need improving: "People shouldn't be embarrassed to learn in their old age. Never quit learning."

The 71-year-old woman, "Grace", is perhaps the most inspirational in the dynamic class.

Her parents died in Poland when she was a young child, and WWII snatched her into a German prison camp for many long, brutal years.

"They fed us potato skins," Grace said emphatically. "I thought I was going to die." Her siblings were killed.

She fled to Canada on her release from the camp, searching for a better life. She said she knew Canada would be the best.

Grace worked to survive, and schooling was long forgotten. She learned the English language on her own.

"It's so inspirational, what's coming out of this class," said Evans, who has been in education for 33 years. "I'd love for high school kids to come into the class and see their dedication."

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Hours: 12 Noon to 5 p.m.

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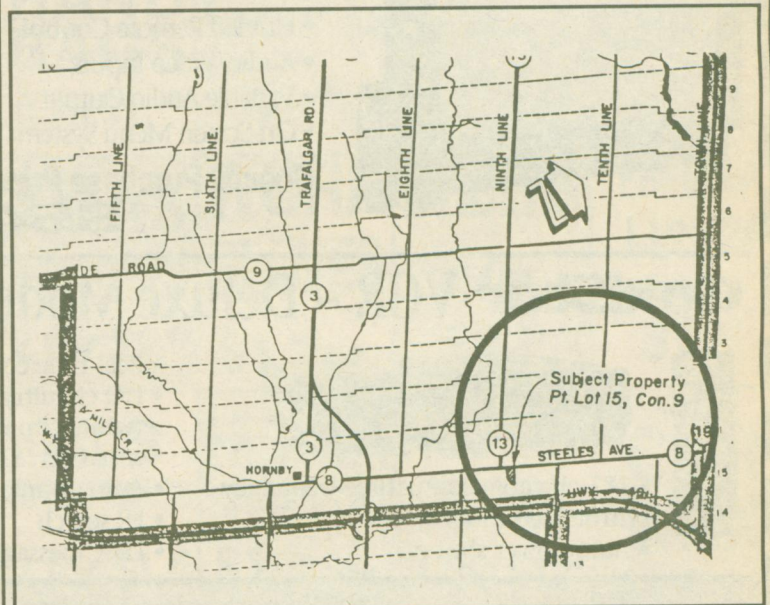
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### THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS COURTESY NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING WARD 2 / NINTH LINE / STEELES AVENUE



Council for the Town of Halton Hills will conduct a Public Meeting to examine and discuss a proposed amendment to the Halton Hills Official Plan and Zoning By-law 1965-136 to permit a gas bar and convenience store.

The property is located on the south side of Steeles Avenue, at the Ninth Line in Halton Hills. The property has a municipal address of 15076 Steeles Avenue, Town of Halton Hills (Oakville)

Further information is available in the Planning Department.

ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE WELCOME

Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Date: Monday, November 2, 1992  
File No: D09/TUCCARONE

Location: Council Chamber  
Halton Hills Civic Centre  
1 Halton Hills Drive  
Halton Hills (Georgetown)