

Robert Little News

BY LAURA KOBSA &
BECKY BEHLING

This week at Robert Little we had our speech competition. First there were the Grade 4 and 5 speak offs.

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The Grade 4 winners were Samantha Dingwall, Devon Lambert, Erin Linton and Shawn Grey.

The Grade 5 winners were Becco Behling, Ian Douglas, Jeff Godin and Tiffany Pursoo.

These eight people continued to go on to our school finals. After everyone had read their speeches and the judges had talked it over, the person who would represent our school at the Regional Finals was chosen. The winner was picked and it ended up to be Becco Behling with her speech on her rabbit, Thumper.

The two runners-up were Samantha Dingwall with her speech on her pregnant mom, and Jeff Godin with his speech on his trip to Florida in January.

A thanks goes out to everyone who participated in the competition. Good Luck Becco in the Regional Finals!

For the good of the country?

First it was "Joe Who" who said he was resigning from politics. For my money it was not "who" but "what" was lost. Clark was a true statesman and Canadian who gave his best to his country. And I have a collector's item that will always remind me he was the Prime Minister, albeit for only nine months — my 25-year Service plaque is signed by Joe Clark.

The last week, Mr. Mulroney — oops, Mulroney — spoke the words "I'm resigning" through his lying teeth. Why, just two months ago, he was stating he was not resigning, his caucus loved him (?) and he would stay on.

In his speech he stated he had thought of resigning two years ago, but he thought his caucus wouldn't let him. He said he decided it would

Seniors Scene

With
Pat Giguere



supercilious smile on his face, he'll accept a healthy pension.

It amazes me when it's announced that statistics indicate unemployment is down. I'd say that it's because unemployment benefits have run out for a lot of people and a lot of them are on welfare.

Was happy though to hear they are not going to pay benefits to those who quit their job without good reason.

When I retired after 28 years of paying UIC, I received three weeks unemployment benefits in the last year. That I couldn't understand as my papers showed I had been gainfully employed for 28 years. Yet I knew of people who worked only the required period for entitlement, then quit and when the benefits ran out, got a job for as long as was necessary to qualify and again quit to receive the benefits. It's different now as there are no jobs. The UIC surely locked the barn after the horse got away.

And while I'm at it, I may as well gripe about another pet peeve — maternity leave. In this day and age, couples plan their families and when they decide to have a child, they get up to six months maternity leave benefits and I don't think it's right. I do think though that what there should be for them is a job guarantee for when they go back to work.

I'm happy to tell seniors that plans are underway for an Ontario Senior Games Fun Day in July. Tickets will be sold at \$3 and a potluck luncheon is planned for July 14 with a rain-date of July 21.

You'll be given a chance to participate in 13 different games — some you know and others you might want to try. A golf tournament will be held on a separate day, so you golfers will be able to come out for the fun day. The five-pin bowling event for the Bragger's Right Trophy will be held again this year and all bowlers over 55 years of age will be informed of the date. It will be at Roseland Bowl in Burlington.

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Getting to know you ...

Today begins a new project for me as the Village Constable in Acton, writing a column in our fine community newspaper.

I will be writing for the column once a month about different aspects of policing in our community. For the other three weeks my column will be devoted to tips on personal safety and protection, crime prevention, home security, vehicle security, street-proofing for children and such things as bicycle safety, etc.

Community Policing, Halton Region's answer to putting the police back into public and the public back into policing, began in Acton on Jan. 1, 1989 with the advent of the Village Constable program.

I volunteered to become Acton's Village Constable and I was appointed to that post. I had been a police officer for over 20 years at that time and my personal style of policing seemed to

fit the Community Policing policy.

Instead of constantly being on a mobile patrol, I preferred to work an area where the people would get to know me and I would get to know them. Because this was a new style of policing there was little in the way of guidelines about how to do the job of Village Constable, and when I started in Acton it was a learning process for both myself and the Halton Police Service. The mandate I was given was to become involved in the community and to involve the community in policing.

Next week I'll talk about what's been done to get the community involved in policing.

To conclude this week, I thank the staff of the Acton Tanner for giving me this opportunity, and I offer a special thanks to the local businesses who have invested in our community by sponsoring this column.

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