

## Acton crime down slightly

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The Acton Tanner

Halton police will increase their visibility in Acton by altering the shifts of the two village constables.

The change in part is due to a rash of unsolved shop break and enters in the past year in the downtown core.

Although the latest police statistics indicate that the total number of criminal offenses dropped 2.2 per cent last year in Acton, along with a 2.2 per cent drop in the number of calls for service, the increase in break and enters, to 22 from six, have police puzzled.

"There is no particular pattern to the crimes," explained Halton Inspector Keith Gregory following his presentation of the year-end statistics to Halton Hills Council last week. "They cause us some concern, even though we have issued an arrest warrant for a suspect, who was out on patrol at the time of several of the crimes."

The village constables'

shifts will be changed so the officers are in Acton more often and for longer periods of time - until 10 pm during the winter and until midnight during the summer.

The Acton crime statistics show an increase last year, to seven from zero, in the number of school break and enters where vandalism, not theft, is the apparent motive.

The statistics also show a doubling, to 11 from six, of the number of sexual assaults occurring in Acton last year.

"Most of these sexual as-

saults are historical," Gregory explained, indicating that people came forward last year to report sexual assaults that had occurred in the past.

Inspector Gregory noted that Halton's 42.2 per cent crime clearance rate is "relatively high" compared to that of neighbouring communities and slightly exceeded the police's 42 per cent clearance goal.

In Halton Hills last year there were 1,981 criminal offenses and 10,157 calls for service.

## Seniors' safety fair

### ASSIC ALERT

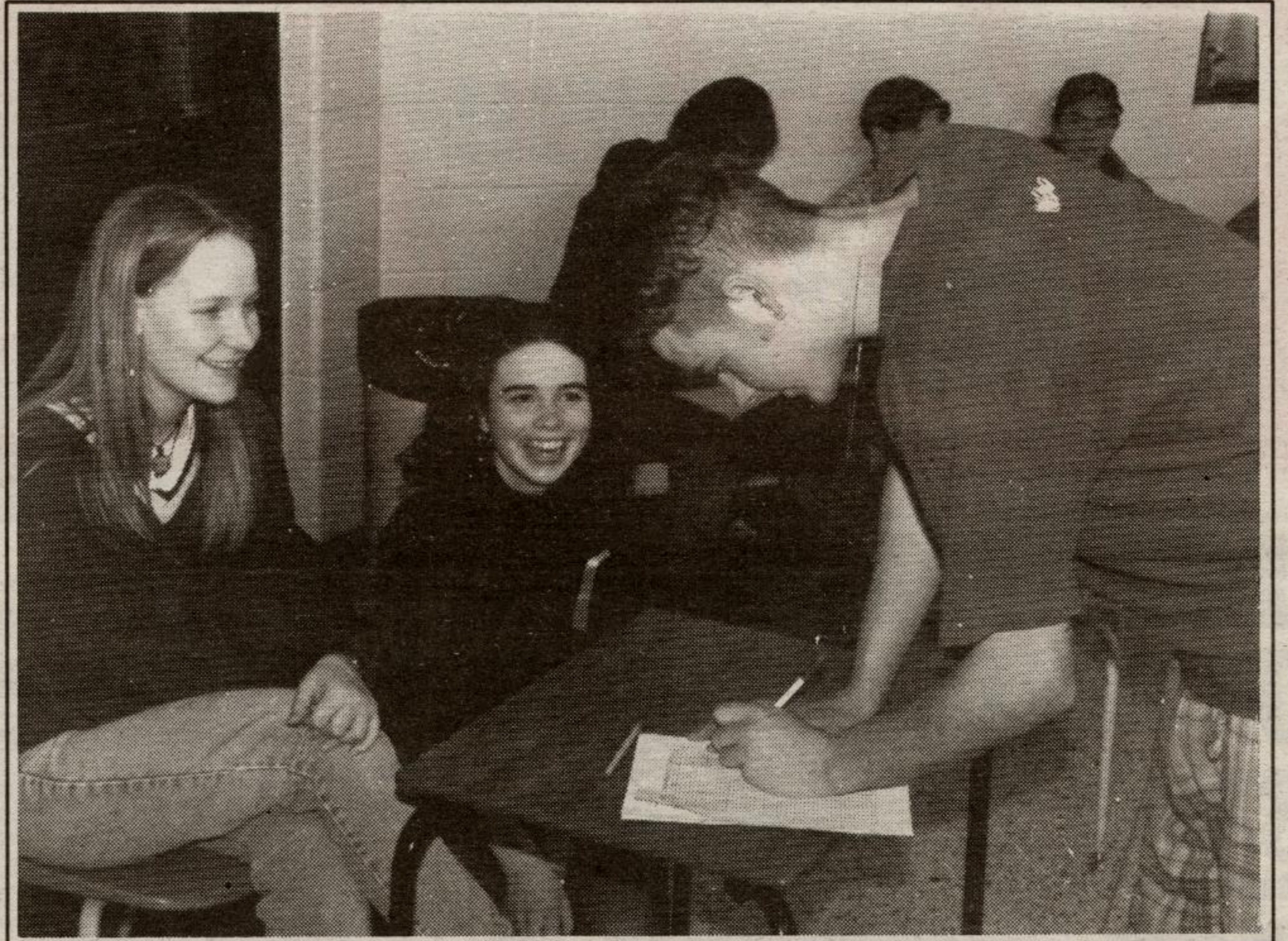
The ASSIC Activity and Planning/Education Committees will present a Seniors' Safety Fair on April 23 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion in Acton. Agencies and organizations involved in safety issues will be present to pro-

vide information and to answer any questions.

Some of the issues that will be covered are: home safety devices, driving alone, first aid, poison control, scams, financial abuse and fire safety. In addition to the displays there will be entertainment, food, and door prizes!

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living will present two plays, at 11 am and 1:15 pm, the Golden Age Choir will perform at 11:45 am, George Elliott will entertain on the piano at 12:30 pm and the Robert Little School choir will sing at 2 pm. People attending should make sure to register early for door prizes!

For details, please call Sue at ASSIC, 853-3310.



**PROTESTING THE CUTS:** Acton High student Mike DeBruyn, right, signs a petition addressed to the Halton Board of Education trustees which Yvone Hendry, left, and Shannon Birrell presented at last Thursday's board meeting. The petition sent the message "that the trustees ensure classroom education is in no way sacrificed as a result of the 1996 financial cutbacks." (Karen Wetmore photo)

## Women's group formed to help deal with isolation

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
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A "real sense of isolation" is causing Acton women stress and puts them at risk of using negative coping mechanisms.

That's the finding of a Region-wide study of 1,000 women who determined that meeting and talking with other women is the most helpful way to deal with stress.

The desire for a sympathetic ear and a sense of "sisterhood" are what Acton women want, and to that end a new Acton Women's Association has been formed.

The group, which held its inaugural meeting last Tuesday, is designed to deal with Acton women's wish to have a network in place to connect them with other women.

The desire for an Association was a bit of a surprise for Susan Coyne, who conducted the survey.

"Although talking with other women in similar circumstances was the number one thing that women in all of Halton thought would help them fight stress best, in Acton the women expressed a real sense of isolation and a desire to meet and talk with other women who might have the same concerns or questions," Coyne explained.

For Kelly Ann Backman who moved to Acton four years ago, there is a need for women to have an outlet, to be able to talk to someone without being judged.

"There is no place for women to get together and

relax and just be women with other women," she said.

"I meet with other moms at the Acton Parent-Child Resource Centre, but I want to meet and do things with other women who aren't necessarily mothers who have stress in their lives."

The Association will spend the first 15 minutes of each two-hour meeting getting organized and socializing, then spend 45 minutes dealing with business and the final hour dealing with activities decided on by the group.

"We also discussed setting up a child care exchange, a book club and couples club, a walking club and possibly a caring circle to deal with issues that are causing people stress," Coyne said.

Coyne, who will chair the first few meetings, said electing an Acton executive will also be one of the Association's first pieces of business.

The group meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Band Hall on Wallace Street. The next meeting is May 7 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

For more information call Cathy Gerrow at 853-2574.

## Bowlers advance

### LEGION LADIES'

BY OLIVE ELLERBY

In spite of the snow storm last Thursday, 21 members attended the Ladies' Auxiliary meeting in the auditorium. Gary Mundy was the liaison.

After the opening ceremonies, the auxiliary charter was draped in memory of Eva Williams, who passed away at the end of March.

Six bowlers have advanced to the Provincials in Pembroke on April 27. Good luck to Peggy Harris, Delia Kentner, Gail Robb, Pat Peterson, Annamarie Lowen and Lucy Synnot.

The sports group did so

well at the March euchre, they are holding another on this Sunday afternoon at 1:30 pm. Sandwiches and coffee will be available.

Delia Kentner was the 50-50 draw winner. Margaret Sasek from Georgetown will be initiated into the Auxiliary at the May meeting.

An important Zone meeting will be held at Bramalea Legion on May 1. A bus will be available at the Legion parking lot at 6:30 pm.

Get well wishes go out to the Legion bar steward Charlie Parr, Jean Earle and Freda Lambert.

Remember "pot luck" at the May meeting.

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## YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

The Halton Board of Education invites all community members to participate in an intensive review of its administration, organization, programs and services to enhance the quality of education in Halton and effect long-term budget savings. Help our School Renewal Team create meaningful change by reading the belief statement below, and answering the four questions that follow.

*The School Renewal Team believes that in this climate of shrinking resources, it is the purpose of the Halton Board of Education to provide high quality education programs for all students at all levels. Graduates of these programs are confident, caring and responsible citizens, prepared for their future in a changing world. These graduates:*

- Use literacy and numeracy skills to communicate effectively;
- Solve problems and make effective decisions using critical and creative thinking;
- Use appropriate models and theories to describe and investigate the world around them;
- Work cooperatively and effectively with others;
- Participate as responsible citizens in the life of the local, national and global communities;
- Use a wide range of technologies to gather information, express ideas and solve problems;
- Make informed educational and career decisions;
- Use the arts to explore, express and interpret ideas, beliefs and values;
- Make wise and safe choices for healthy living;
- Use the skills of learning to be lifelong learners.

Become a part of the renewal process by answering these four key questions:

1. What is currently being done in Halton which best promotes achievement of the desired outcomes reflected in our Belief Statement?
2. What changes could be made that would help to achieve the desired outcomes for students?
3. What should we stop doing because it does not promote the achievement of the desired outcomes for students?
4. What additional thoughts would you particularly like to share with the School Programs Renewal Team?

Presentations will be received by the School Renewal Team at a public meeting on:

**Tuesday, April 16, 1996**  
**7:30 p.m.**

Inquouis Ridge High School (in the Theatre)  
1123 Glenashton Drive, Oakville, Ontario

If you wish to participate, call **Kit Rankin**, Superintendent of Education Services at 905-335-3663 (North) 905-878-8451 to book your 10-minute presentation time. All community members are welcome to attend. To respond by mail, address your comments to:

**Kit Rankin**, Superintendent of Education Services  
Halton Board of Education  
2050 Guelph Line, Burlington, Ontario L7R 3Z2

or respond by electronic mail at [progrenewal@halton.tor.hookup.net](mailto:progrenewal@halton.tor.hookup.net)

For further information visit our Internet web site: <http://www.haltonbe.on.ca/renewal/renewal/html>  
Mail and Internet responses must be received no later than **Friday, April 19, 1996.**

Linda Glover  
Chair of the Board



Bob Williams  
Director of Education