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Seniors' programs need people

By FRANCES NIBLOCK The New Tanner

The recent struggle to corral enough people for a line dancing class at the Acton Seniors' Centre is indicative of the participation problems Town staff is trying to resolve in Acton.

Some Centre members are frustrated that exercise. swimming, line dancing and aerobics classes, offered by the Recreation and Parks department and the Centre, have been cancelled in the past year because of a lack interest while other programs, like the weekly seniors' skate, are underutilized.

"As far as I'm concerned they (seniors) are getting the message, they're just not tak-

ing advantage of it," said seniors' co-ordinator Adriana Lawless in an interview on Monday.

The Town and Centre publicize special and regular programs and events through newsletters to Centre member, flyers and press releases and a regular newspaper column to non-members. Lawless said she would also make

more use of the cable system for program promotion.

There are approximately 1,200 Acton residents who are over 55 years of age. The Seniors' Centre has approximately 200 members who take part in some 15 to 20 programs, the most popular being Bingo and the Centre luncheons.

Arlene Bruce, who has taught a seniors' exercise class for four years, is concerned that the line dancing program that began today (Thursday) almost had to be cancelled. Bruce is convinced that if the health benefits and fun of the fitness programs were more people would register for the classes and more classes could be

"I think the lack of people is due to apathy," Bruce said when asked why there was on-going trouble filling the classes and programs.

"Maybe people are not being health-wise enough. I think they maybe don't just realize what's available," Bruce said.

The total operating budget for the Seniors' Centre last year was \$63,000.

Thirty thousand dollars of that came from an annual \$30,000 provincial grant and the seniors were required to raise 25 per cent of the balance - \$8,250 - and the rest was in the Town's Recreation and Parks budget.



do LEGION NEWS BRANCH No. 197

BY MIKE MANUEL

The Annual Peewee Hockey Tournament on Sunday, Feb. 7, starting at 8 a.m. and going on until 11 a.m. The cost of this breakfast is only \$3 per person and is available to everyone.

There will be a Valentine's Party on Feb. 13 with everyone welcome. The dance starts at 8 p.m. Get down early to get the best seats.

The buses will be ready to roll to Rama on Feb. 27. So if you're looking for a good day out then be at the Legion by 8 a.m. The buses will return around 5 p.m. There will be meals at Rama and again at the Branch when you get back. A \$10 registration cost has to be paid at the Branch prior to Feb. 20.

A few of the upcoming events to watch for:

Mar. 27: Easter Ham Roll. Mar. 28: Br. 197 Anniversary Honour and Awards.

Apr. 17: Elimination Draw and Dance.

Apr. 23: Zone B-7 Social. Just a personal word of thanks to Carl, Troy, Gayle, Tony and everyone else who made the month of January the success socially that it

See you at the Branch.



Items Needed:

The Open Door Youth Centre is in need of two chess sets, and Scrabble and Monopoly games for their dropin program. The Open Door Youth Centre offers social and recreational opportunities to youth in Georgetown. It is located at St. George's Anglican Church (basement), next door to the high school. The drop in is open during school lunch break hours - Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Thursdays from 11 a. m. to 6 p.m. If you have any of these items and you would like to donate them to the centre please call Ann at 873-

Shoe Fitting Clinic:

A Professional Shoe Fitting Clinic will be held on Wednesday, March 31 at the Acton office of Halton Hills Community Support and Information. The office is located at 19 Willow St. N., Acton. The clinic will offer free assessment and recommendation of good supportive walking shoes. Shoes will be available to purchase. Difficult widths, depths, and lengths will be accommodated. This service is provided by a Pedorthic Technician from Women's College Hospital in Toronto. To book an appointment please call 853-3310.

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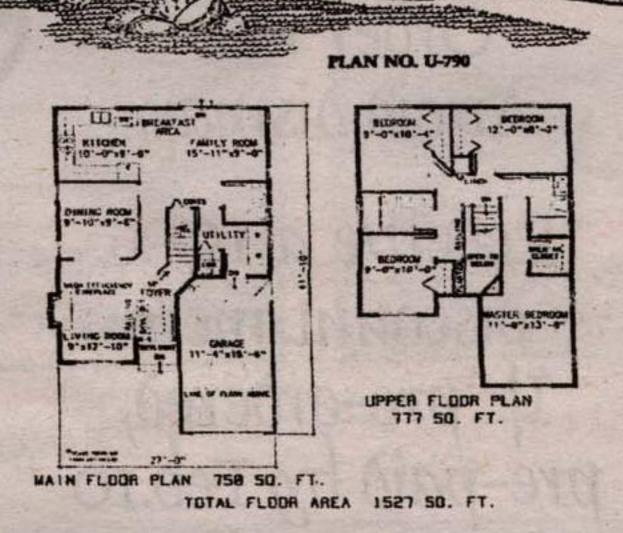












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