

## Three named to business hall of Fame

The first Halton Business Hall of Fame (HBHF) Inductees of the new century were announced by Michael Shepherd, vice-president of Halton Credit Union.

The year 2000 HBHF inductees are: G.W. (Bill) Line, owner of Canadian Tire Associate Store (Fairview Street), Burlington; Peter Gilgan, President and CEO,

The Mattamy Corporation; and Jobst and Waltraud Gellert, founder of Mold-Masters of Georgetown.

The year 2000 Inductees will be formally inducted on April 6 at the Junior Achievement of Halton's Governors' Dinner at Le Dome Banquet Hall in Oakville. In addition to the induction ceremony, Junior Achievement of Halton

has obtained Ken Dryden, president of the Toronto Maple Leafs, to give the keynote address.

Established by Junior Achievement of Halton with the cooperation of the Region of Halton in 1999, the HBHF provides a link between Halton's history and its future. Junior Achievement's mission is to inspire and educate young people to value free enterprise, understand business and economics and develop entrepreneurial and leadership skills. Through JA, HBHF Inductees serve as inspiring role models for young people in Halton.

Founded in 1967, Junior Achievement of Canada is a national organization that offers seven business education programs, delivered at no cost to elementary and high school students. Junior Achievement of Halton, serving the communities of Halton Hills, Burlington, Milton and Oakville, is one of 32 chartered organizations operating across Canada. The programs currently offered by Junior Achievement of Halton are Business Basics (ages 10 - 11), Economics of Staying in School (ages 13 - 14) and the Company Program (ages 15 - 19).

## Science Matters

- by David Suzuki



There's an increasing sense of urgency in the scientific community that many important environmental issues are not being addressed. As a result, more scientists are choosing not just to conduct research, but also to broadly communicate their findings

and even become participants in policy debates.

This is not a new phenomenon. In the late 1960s, ecologist Gene Likens' research on watersheds in the Northeastern US helped uncover the problem of acid rain, but it was his willingness to speak out about the problem that got the attention of government and media. Similarly, after publishing a 1974 paper on the potential destructive effects of CFCs on the ozone layer, atmospheric chemists F. Sherwood Rowland and Mario Molina pushed to have the use of CFCs curtailed. While criticized for going out of the lab and into the public arena, they were vindicated with a Nobel prize for their work.

Today, scientist-advocates are decidedly more common, reflective of the scope of environmental problems and the increasing pace of science and technology. Opponents of this trend say that scientists should not become advocates because the public will not be able to tell where the scientists' research ends and where their personal values begin. They argue that this could diminish public trust in science, and be damaging to the entire discipline of impartial, value-free "pure" science.

But this argument fails because "pure" science is a fallacy to begin with. By the very act of choosing to investigate particular issues and ask certain questions, scientists impose values on their work. Findings are also open to interpretation, depending on the framework from which they are viewed. This does not mean that the results are not valid, only that they have to be explored in a broader context.

I have worked both as a scientist and as a journalist - two disciplines where impartiality is paramount. But the problem is that in both disciplines, divergent viewpoints

and analyses are often lost, both intentionally and unintentionally, for the sake of protecting the status quo. In journalism that may mean appeasing advertisers and owners, while in science it manifests itself in the drive for acceptance by peers and the need for continued research grants. This is not a minor issue. According to a recent poll in the UK, one in three scientists in both public or private institutions report they have been asked to alter research findings, largely to suit a customer's preferred outcome or to obtain further contracts.

So when scientists are told by some that they are no longer credible because they have waded beyond the scope of merely reporting the findings of their research, I have to shake my head. There is obviously a line between science-advocacy and advocacy entirely for the sake of one's personal values, but expecting scientists to ignore the social and environmental implications of their work is like expecting journalists to only report one side of an issue, and in effect turn them into moral eunuchs.

The fact is that much of science today is driven by a profit motive, often with insufficient regard for social and environmental consequences. Further, globalization has had a profound impact on the nature of science - bringing a new scale and speed to scientific advances never before seen in the history of the discipline. Genetically modified foods are a perfect example. Just a few years ago, modified organisms were found only in labs. Today they cover millions of acres of crop land, and only now is the debate over their use catching up to the pace of their deployment.

From a personal perspective, I deliberately gave up on the day-to-day excitement of genetic research in order to remain a credible discussant on the moral and ethical implications of the discipline. Scientists still in the field face a difficult challenge of balancing the need for funding with the responsibility of understanding and explaining the broader implications of their work to a concerned public.

## SENIORS' REC. CTR.

By Dot Redekop

We had our monthly trip to Rama last Wednesday. It was not too profitable for quite a few of us but many Hoare won the 50/50 on the coach. Sign up for the next Rama on Wednesday, March 29.

Don't forget the CPR and first aid course on Thursday, March 16 and Friday, March 17 from 9-12. You have to register for this course. The cost is \$15.

Ruth Burke, Jean Jackson and Isabel McDonald went to the "moon" last Thursday afternoon.

We have a trip coming up late in April to Livna Gardens in Stoney Creek. The show is Radio Days Revue. More about it later.

We had our annual meeting last Tuesday and true to promise, it was a short, happy meeting. Thanks Donna. The eats were great and once again thanks to Flo and Maxine for setting it all out.

Hilda Benedix was the lucky person and won the 50/50 draw last Friday.

Winners were Olga Dyriv, Betty Green, Elma Braida, Neil Miller, Marion Storey, Pat Patterson, Pat Thompson, Freda Buckman, Joyce Miller, Maria Pataky, Wes Storey, Dot Redekop and Betty Bousfield. Prizes donated from Great Canadian Coach, Home Hardware, IGA, Touch of Harmony, Purity Life, Tim Hortons, Corrie's Hair Salon and Carter-Horner.

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Prices are per person, double occupancy from Toronto and subject to availability. Applicable taxes, surcharges and related fees are additional. Flights are via Skyservice. Sunquest Reg. #04555793.

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