



KNIGHTS IN TRAINING: In Medieval times, disputes were settled with a broadsword jousting fight, as demonstrated by Acton's Christopher Bourque (left) and Austin McVeigh. The Grade four students in Mme. Vander Dussen's class at Robert Little School presented skits featuring Medieval times to their classmates last week. — Submitted photo

Communities in Bloom meet attracts crowd to civic centre

By Janis Fread

The council chambers at the Town of Halton Hills civic centre were filled last Monday night with members of the community anxious to support the committee spearheading the town's participation in the 2002 Communities in Bloom national competition.

Warren Harris, Manager of Parks & Cemeteries, presented an overview of the preparation, plantings, co-operation and planning that went into the project last year, which saw the Town of Halton Hills win at the provincial level when competing with municipalities of similar size. Harris stressed how impressed the two judges were with the community wide volunteer base that worked on the project in co-operation with local businesses and town staff. And judging by the interest shown at Monday night's meeting, planning for the 2002 competition will proceed with just as much enthusiasm!

Many ideas were presented at the informal discussion part of the meeting, covering everything from shared plantings from residential gardens to developing a contest to promote a litter-free environment. The Adopt-a-Garden program, run by the town, is an excellent way for groups to take ownership of

a public space with garden design and plantings.

Both the Acton and Georgetown Horticultural Societies hold spring plant sales — Georgetown is May 4 and Acton holds their very popular sale at the olde Hide House parking lot on May 11. Combined with the Acton Horticultural plant sale is the Black Gold compost sale by the Acton Agricultural Society. Both these venues not only support the groups involved, but also allow homeowners to purchase seasoned plants and compost to round

out their spring planting. The gardening advice is free!

The Town of Halton Hills Communities in Bloom committee, chaired by Mayor Kathy Gastle, has been divided into four sub-committees: Marketing, Residential, Public Space and Industrial/Commercial/Institutional. If you were unable to attend the public meeting, but would like to be involved in this exciting project, please call Warren Harris at 905-873-2601 ext. 2274 or email at warrenh@town.halton-hills.on.ca.

PUBLIC EDUCATION IN CRISIS....

Find out why the Halton District School Board and other Ontario school boards are facing a funding crisis. The Province is providing 1997 dollars to buy services in 2002!

You need to know ...

- ? How are students being affected?
- ? What has the Halton District School Board been forced to do to compensate for the lack of funding?
- ? What needs to be done to solve the problem?
- ? What is the effect on special education, secondary credits, municipal partnerships & user fees, as well as other issues?

PLAN TO ATTEND one of these COMMUNITY MEETINGS -

Monday, February 25 — Stewarttown Public School Gymnasium 13068 15 Side Road, Georgetown	Tuesday, February 26 — Milton District High School Auditorium 396 Williams Ave., Milton
Wednesday, February 27 — Iroquois Ridge High School Auditorium 1123 Glenashton Drive, Oakville	Thursday, February 28 — Nelson High School Auditorium 4181 New St., Burlington

All meetings begin at 7 p.m.

An initial presentation will highlight current budget issues, both locally and provincially. Subsequent "break-out" sessions will feature specific issues relating to special education, secondary school credit funding, the impact of the double cohort, and municipal partnerships and user fees.

Halton District School Board
2050 Guelph Line, Burlington, ON L7R 3Z2
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Ethel Gardiner Chair of the Board
Dusty Papke Director of Education

POLICE BEAT

Bar break out?

Police say whoever reportedly stole \$850 from Manny's Road House early Saturday morning may have waited inside after closing.

Police found no evidence of a break-in, but said the suspect may have hidden undetected inside the Mill Street club and then broken out with cash which had been left in a cardboard box.

Nissan dented

An unknown vehicle caused \$250 damage to a 1991 Nissan parked outside a Danville Avenue home last Sunday afternoon.

The owner, from Waterloo, was visiting and had left the car parked on the road between 4:40 and 8 p.m. When they went to leave, they found the driver's door had been dented.

MSB bust

Halton police seized a small amount of marijuana from a Grade 8 male student at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School last Tuesday.

Police said the vice-principal called police after deter-

mining four students were under the influence of drugs at the school. A subsequent search turned up the pot and the student was charged as a Young Offender with possession of marijuana.

He was released to his parents with a February 28 court date. The other three students were not charged and were released to their parents.

Homeowners beware

Halton police are caution-

ing homeowners to be very careful and use common sense when it comes to dealing with door-to-door sales people.

Police say the representative may be legitimate, but they could also be checking out your house for something to steal.

Police said if a salesperson comes to your door and you are considering buying their product or service, ask for a phone number of their business and call to verify that they work for the company. If you aren't satisfied they are legitimate, don't let them in.



It's that time of the year again!

Citizen of the Year Nominations
The Acton Rotary Club is seeking nominations for Acton's Citizen of the Year.

Nominations with a supporting explanation to be mailed by February 28 to Citizen of the Year, c/o Acton Rotary Club Box 22, Acton L7J 2M3

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