

Oakville, Georgetown students top artists

Winners of the 1976 fire prevention poster contest for Halton's grade five students were announced by the sponsoring Halton Region Fire Prevention Committee. Top girl in the contest was

Audrey Kooymans of St. Michael's School in Oakville. Top boy is Michael Jacobs of Park School, Georgetown. Four runners-up are Christine Opsteen of Milton's Holy Rosary School, Carole

Buehler of Speyside School in Halton Hills (Acton), Paul Walsh of St. Ann's in Oakville, and Mark Bertin of Ascension School, Burlington.

The six winning posters were selected from hundreds submitted by grade five students from across Halton. Local competitions were held by the Burlington, Oakville, Milton, Acton and Georgetown fire departments and the local winners went on to the region-wide contest. The fire prevention bureau of the Brampton Fire Department selected the regional winners this year.

All six students will receive a desk pen set in recognition of their efforts, and the presentations will be made at a Halton Regional Council meeting Wednesday, Dec. 1. In addition, school trophies donated by Halwell Mutual Insurance will be presented to Audrey Kooymans' and Michael Jacobs' schools, to be displayed there for one year.

The two winning posters will go on to an all-Ontario contest sponsored by the Ontario Fire Chiefs' Association next spring. All the posters were drawn on the theme "Fire Prevention in the Home."



PROUD WINNERS of trophies in the Milton Fire Department's 1976 grade five fire prevention poster contest were top girl Christine Opsteen (left), top boy Warren Melanson (centre), and honorable mention winner Marco Durante (right), all of Holy Rosary School. Fire Chief A. E. Clement, pictured with the winners, presented the trophies he made himself, bearing the town's new coat of arms. Christine's and Warren's posters were entered in the Halton Region contest where Christine's was given an honorable mention prize.



HONORABLE MENTION in Milton Fire Department's 1976 fire prevention poster contest was won by Brookville School student Kathy Johns, pictured receiving a trophy from Assistant Deputy Fire Chief Jim Coulson. Her poster warned "Watch Those Cigarettes".

Research clothing needs for elderly citizens

The simple act of dressing one's self can pose a real problem for the elderly. Faced with clothing manufacturers concerned more with fashion than function, most senior citizens are doomed to struggling with buttons that are too small and zippers they can't reach.

Helen Lloyd, co-ordinator of Allied Health Programs for Sheridan College, Oakville South Campus, hopes to change all that.

Lloyd has been awarded a \$10,200 Local Initiatives Project grant from the federal government to hire three persons to research the clothing needs of the elderly and design garments especially for them.

The research-design project, scheduled to begin Jan. 4, will be the first of its kind in Canada to focus solely on the needs of the aged.

Survey seniors The first step in the five-month project will be to survey residents of nursing homes, homes for the aged and senior citizens apartments to find out what clothing problems the elderly face and what they would like to see in the way of improvements.

"We will start with senior citizens first," says Lloyd, "because they are still look-

ing after themselves and must deal with clothing problems on a regular basis."

In fact, senior citizens are the major thrust of the project, which is designed to promote independence and self-care for the elderly for as long as possible.

"We hope that by developing clothing that is easy to put on, comfortable and easy to look after, the elderly will be able to remain on their own longer," says Lloyd.

Buttons, zippers In most cases, buttons are too small, armholes are not cut large enough and zippers are too difficult to handle.

Those hired for the project will have had some experience in fashion design so that they can make sample items of clothing based on the needs they discover during their research of the elderly.

These sample clothes will then be taken into the nursing homes, and senior citizens' residences to test them and obtain the reactions of seniors.

The project has received considerable support from the Fashion Council of Canada, which has expressed an interest in obtaining the final study results.

"We hope the project will have some influence on the garment industry and give

them the necessary push to begin manufacturing clothing for the specific needs of the elderly," says Lloyd.

"With the percentage of elderly in our society constantly increasing, geriatric clothing is something that must be looked at seriously. I'm convinced that the elderly can be as fashionable as anyone else if they have clothing designed properly for them."

Election results are obtainable by telephone next Monday evening from The Champion, 878-2341, or you can visit election headquarters at Memorial Arena, Thompson Rd.

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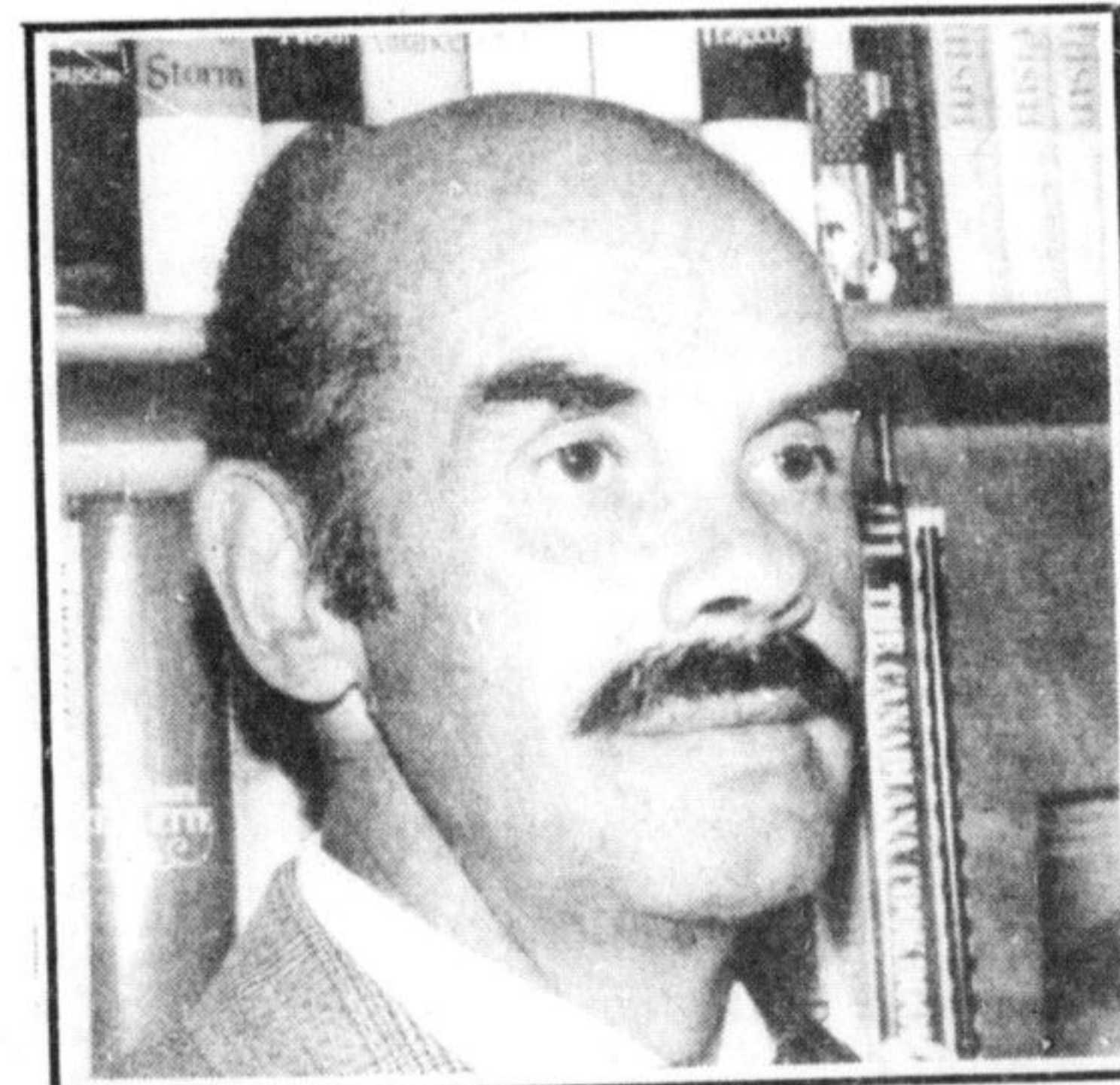
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