

Region heeds girl's appeal

By STEVE ARNOLD
Champion News Editor

Chantel McLaren didn't seem very interested in Halton Region's budget discussions last week, despite the tremendous importance to her future of a decision made that day.

Chantel, three-and-a-half years old, will continue to receive the assistance of a special resource teacher for the handicapped following her mother's tearful appearance before council.

Angela McLaren, of Milton, told councillors that her daughter had been attending a special program at Wee Care Day Care Centre since January where she had been receiving the assistance she needed to overcome her multiple handicaps.

Recently, however, she was told that Regional council budget decisions would mean the special resource teacher would no longer be available to Chantel.

During the short months that her daughter had been receiving the special assistance, Mrs. McLaren said there had been noticeable progress.

"She's gone from single word statements to four and even five-word sentences," she said. "She's been able to start to communicate with children her own age and that's been a real bonus."

Chantel's handicaps, including total hearing loss, would normally mean a segregated education, but the special assistance she has been receiving these early years could mean education in a normal school setting in the future, Mrs. McLaren said.

"If she has this help now and for the next year then she should be able to be fully integrated," she said.

A study of day care services in Halton carried out in 1981 had recommended the hiring of at least three special resource teachers but, before Mrs. McLaren's appeal, all three had been cut from the

budget by the budget review and administration and finance committees.

After the council's decision to restore one of the teachers to the day care department's budget, Mrs. McLaren said she was relieved but felt that more such services were required.

"I'm relieved," she said, "but they should really get as many as they need right now."

Chantel's handicaps, she said, required special attention in the areas of physiotherapy and speech therapy as well as for gross motor problems.

"She can't do a lot of things that other children take for granted," Mrs. McLaren said, adding that she has been assured her daughter will have few permanent problems if she gets special help and attention now.

Book sale

The Oakville Public Library has its next Mini Book Sale at the Central Library Friday May 14 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

On sale will be children's books for all ages and adult paperbacks, fiction and non-fiction. A small amount of hard cover fiction will also be available, including mysteries and science fiction.

All books will, as usual, be sold at 35 cents per pound. Bargain hunters are asked to bring their own bags.

Halton Pro-Life WEEKEND EVENTS
MOTHER'S DAY BAZAAR
SATURDAY, MAY 8th. * 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
St. John's Church Hall, 653 Brant St., Burlington
(across from the Post Office)
For Sale: Crafts, Plants, Baked Goods, Gifts & Books! "Weekend for Two" Raffle, Tea Room, & Poster Contest, too.
Free Parking and Babysitting

Sixth Annual SILENT VIGIL
Sunday (Mother's Day), May 9th, 2 to 3 p.m.
Spencer Smith Park, Burlington
(across from Joseph Brant Hospital)
Featuring an address by Dr. Margaret White
Founder: Society Protection of the Unborn Child and World Federation of Doctors Who Respect Human Life.
Bring your family and friends RAIN or SHINE
For more information, please call 632-3232.



A rare celebration

Margaret Hunter was joined by her family and fellow Halton Centennial Manor residents in celebrating her 100th birthday Monday. The

centenarian's daughter Dorothy McNaught was among family members who helped make the day special.

Foreign books at library

Milton Public Library has just received a fresh shipment of French and foreign language books. Included are books in French, Chinese, Czechoslovakian, German, Dutch, Italian and Spanish.

The books are changed three times a year and patrons can request that books in the language of their choice be included. Those interested can drop in and browse.

Part of a rotating collection owned by the South Central Library System, the books will remain in Milton until September.

For information call Milton Public Library 878-2879.

Salvation Army aids Maplehurst

A Salvation Army band playing at the street corner wasn't always something pleasant to hear.

In fact, in the early days of the Army, members were arrested and jailed for creating disturbances on the streets with their preaching and playing.

Those incidents, according to Major Harold Peckford, Milton's representative of the world-wide body, led to the start of the prison ministry and chaplaincy work that has become such an important part of the Army's activities.

May is the month when the Salvation Army starts its major appeal for funds to finance its work throughout the world. In the Oakville-Milton area, a goal of \$40,000 has been set.

While Milton does not have a Salvation Army church, the group is well known in the courts and at Maplehurst, where Major Peckford is a chaplain.

He explained that the wide range of services offered by the Army, from hospitals to visiting programs, to drug addiction centres and homes for unwed mothers are all available to local residents, and especially Maplehurst inmates, on a referral basis.

The Army's prison work, he said, was an outgrowth of the activities that characterized their early work, street corner preaching and crusades. That upset the sensitivities of Victorian England

and members sometimes found themselves in jail for disturbing the peace.

"From that sprang our total involvement in prison and court work," he said.

Major Peckford was commissioned into the Army in 1960 in St. John's, Newfoundland and has been working in the prison field for the last 10 years.

Baldwin biking

Robert Baldwin Public School is looking for community support for its second annual Bike-a-thon to be held Saturday, May 15.

The purpose of this biking exercise is to raise funds for additional resources and activities beyond those provided by the Halton Board of Education budget.

The "Baldwin Benefactors" are asking for the help of area citizens and merchants in supporting the students. Milton merchants are invited to make small donations for boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 10 years.

Interested merchants are requested to call Susan Marek at 878-2751 (after 5.30 p.m.) or Mrs. McCrossin at 878-1595 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Kids at Manor

Children's laughter could be ringing through the halls of a wing of Halton Centennial Manor early next month, members of Halton's health and social services committee were told last week.

That's when the first children are expected to be taken into the new daycare centre to be operated at the home for aged by the Halton Children's Aid Society.

Currently, CAS staff are working laying carpets and painting the portion of the home they have leased for the centre, to be known as Family Place.

A grand opening for the centre has been slated for May 26.

Sheridan writing award

A local student has won a journalism award from the Oakville campus of Sheridan College. Jane Brush was awarded \$100 from the Toronto Star for having the second highest graduating marks in Sheridan's journalism program.

PROCLAMATION

We hereby proclaim NURSES WEEK in the Town of Milton Monday, May 10 to Saturday, May 15, 1982.

Gordon Krantz
Mayor

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