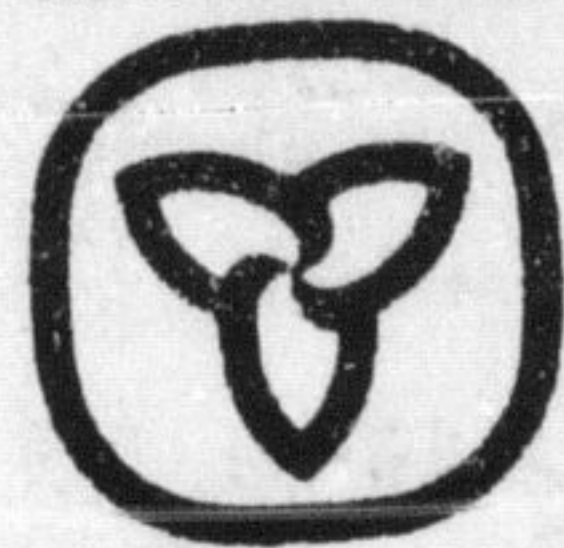


# about town with volunteers



## Volunteers are the outside link

Ontario

Volunteers at the Maplehurst Correctional Centre provide the inmates with a valuable link to the outside world.

Inmates are a group of 400 adult males, most of them between the ages of 16 and 25,

## Club here one decade with benefits felt by many



Milton supports several service clubs, made up of men and women who volunteer their time to serve the community.

Milton and District Kinsmen and their female counterpart organization, the Kinettes, are relatively small in numbers and open to accept new members.

The 15-member Kinsmen Club's major recent community party is a participark at the corner of Wilson and Woodward Dr. The group, with an annual projected budget of \$8,000 directs funds to cystic fibrosis research.

Community events sponsored by the Kinsmen include an annual Canada Day soap box derby, heritage essay contest and Milton Minor Baseball.

If you're under 40 years of age and would like to be part of this organization call Kinsmen president Joe Hock at 878-3077 or Kinettes president Alma Gildea at 878-6644.

... serving sentences of less than two years in medium security.

The Ministry of Correctional Services feels that community volunteerism is beneficial to the inmates and the volunteers because it increases community awareness and understanding of the system.

Volunteers can become involved in group discussions at the centre, like the one on human relations, which focuses on relationships, coping on the street and self understanding.

They can also take part in a programme called Seven Steps, where positive peer pressure is applied to make the inmates aware of the aspects of their lives that need changing.

Volunteers participate in the spiritual programs offered to the inmates. Every Friday evening a fellowship meeting is held. Bible study and Sunday worship programs are also available.

The volunteers provide a bond between the church on the inside and the church on the street.

In the education programme of the adult training centre volunteers are used as teacher aids in the classroom.

Other volunteers just act as friends to certain isolated inmates who may not have any other outside contacts.

The centre is always open to suggestions for new volunteer programmes, depending on someone's particular skill or expertise.

To become a volunteer at the Maplehurst Correctional Centre you have to be at least 18 years old. Anyone interested must fill out an application and be interviewed before a commitment is made.

Orientation and on-the-job training is supplemented by periodic training sessions for all volunteers.

For information contact Maplehurst's Volunteer Co-ordinator: Mrs. Pam Skinner at 878-8141.



For 25 years ... auxiliary gives

## Service

For nearly 25 years the Milton District Hospital Auxiliary has been making patients' stay in hospital more pleasant. This group of volunteers, all 200 of them, are involved in many aspects of hospital life.

Their major function is to provide in hospital services to make the patients feel more at home.

They are responsible for the staffing and the successful operation of the gift shop and cart. They are also in charge of television rentals, the distribution of the first baby photos, and flower delivery.

They keep the vending machines stocked, operate the Hospital Library, and are more than willing to do any sewing and mending for the patients.

Along with the management of the candy-striper service, the auxiliary is also available to assist in the emergency and physiotherapy departments.

Just recently the group has added a new dimension to its services. A group of 12 auxiliary members are regularly visiting the hospital's chronic care patients, investing time and energy to make for a more pleasant environment.

The MDH Auxiliary is well known for its fundraising. In the past the group has planned events like the Maytime Ball, Strawberry Fair, lawn parties, fashion shows and Christmas gift shop sales. Monies raised go toward the purchase of much needed hospital equipment.

A total of \$120,000 has been collected by the members who will be celebrating the organization's 25th anniversary next year.

The Milton District Hospital Auxiliary can never have too many volunteers. If you're interested call President; Rose Shannon at 878-6805 or the director of volunteers; Joan Lytle 336-3526.

## Gift of time is crucial

There is no area of the North Halton Mentally Retarded Association which does not involve the service of volunteers.

The organization, established in 1955 by a group of parents concerned about the educational needs of their mentally retarded children, is a non-profit body.

The association runs and monitors services for the mentally retarded and is concerned with the welfare of these people. Job opportunities, training, preschool and residential facilities and supervision are some of the services offered by the North Halton Association.

"The overall objective of the association is to enable mentally retarded people to grow to their full potential and have full exercise of their rights as citizens of the community," said David Williams, association director.

He stresses the "crucial" role of volunteers who contribute greatly to the success of the association.

One of the major contributions of volunteers is providing social contact for the association's clients and graduates of the residential program.

Volunteers cover a variety of services including office support in the vocational program, working each weekday with handicapped children at Tinkerbell Nursery and participating in the Extend-A-Family program.

That program and the North Halton toy library are run entirely by volunteers as well as all fund raising activities.

The association's board of directors, which is responsible for overall management, is composed entirely of community volunteers.

The North Halton Association can be contacted by calling 877-5557.

## Teachers need help

Volunteers play an important role at Tinkerbell Nursery.

A volunteer, with staff guidance, helps to ensure that a child receives his or her own prescribed programme.

Tinkerbell Nursery School is located in the E.C. Drury School for the Deaf. It is a half-day program (9.00 a.m.-11.30) for developmentally handicapped children from 2 to 5 years of age.

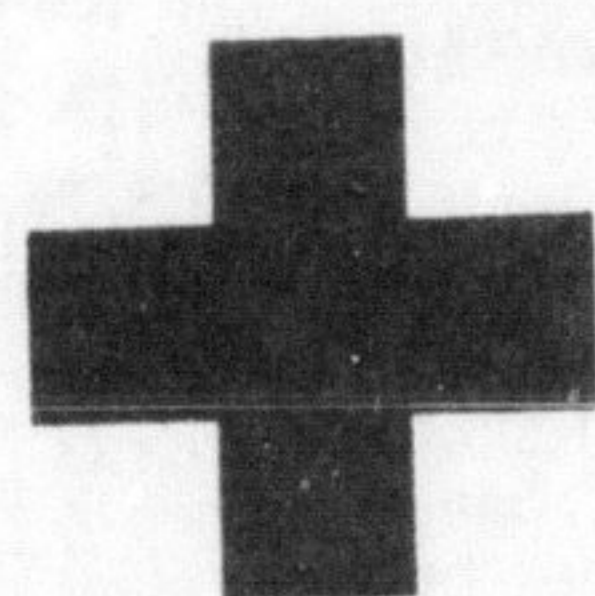
A "Typical" day at Tinkerbell Nursery—the volunteers arrive by 9.00 a.m. and look over their child's program for the day. The children arrive, by van, shortly after 9.00 a.m. each week day. They are greeted by the volunteers who assist them as they alight from the vans and escort them through the halls to T.B.N. Walking is encouraged where possible. Self-help skills

and independence are promoted from the moment the children arrive in the vans until they leave at 11.30 a.m.

The children are divided into groups according to age and/or skill level. Each group is led by a qualified teacher and is assisted by volunteers. It is impossible for one teacher to provide all the opportunities necessary for all the children to reach their highest potential in every learning situation, and the volunteers play a very important role in each child's development.

Volunteers are also necessary for picnics, trips to shopping malls etc. Transportation is sometimes arranged for volunteers.

If you have questions or would like more information, please call Tinkerbell Nursery, 878-7656 or Volunteer Co-ordinator Carol Vickery 878-8638.



Red Cross offers

## Many services

The Canadian Red Cross, a member of the International Red Cross, has been active in Milton for over 60 years providing many programs to residents of Milton.

The area Red Cross attained branch level in 1939 until 1978 where the community Red Cross has its own charter and administration and conducts its own fundraising. The Milton Branch lost its charter in 1978 due to a lack of volunteers and funds and was reduced to a unit level under the Oakville Branch which becomes responsible to the National Red Cross organization for Red Cross activities in Milton.

Milton Unit volunteers and staff provide four Red Cross services to the residents of Milton. The Homemakers Service provides aid to sick residents who need trained staff to help them in the home in co-operation with government home care programs. The chairman for the Milton area is Marg Bundy who supervises the work of the Homemakers staff from her office at the Martin Street Public School.

The blood donor clinics for Milton are held four times a year, the third Thursday of February, May, August and November in

the centre hall of the Milton Mall. The clinics are sponsored by A.E. LePage Real Estate and the Milton Mall and organized by Margo Kent, the blood donor clinic co-ordinator for Milton. Volunteers are what the Blood donor clinic program is all about with an average of 300 donors at each clinic, and dozens of volunteers of all ages working to promote the clinics through poster campaigns, telephone blitzes, registration of donors, nurses assistants, set up and clean up crews, and refreshment service to make the clinic a well run operation and a pleasant experience for the donor.

If you are sick at home and are in need of hospital equipment the Red Cross sick room equipment loan service provides help through the work of Mac Elliott. Equipment such as hospital beds, bed tables, wheelchairs, walkers, canes, and raised toilet seats as well as requested equipment can be arranged to be picked up or delivered from the equipment storeroom.

The Red Cross Water Safety program teaches children the basics of safety for swimmers and year round precautions to take around pools and lakes. The Milton Parks and Recreation swimming lesson program follows the Red Cross water safety program grades from novice to senior levels as well as leadership and instructor training.

The Red Cross is trying to establish two other programs in all branches with the help of volunteers. The Emergency Services program trains volunteers to help in relief of emergencies and natural disasters in co-operation with government disaster plans through the Red Cross services both locally and internationally. The other program is Red Cross Youth where volunteers of high school age become involved in Red Cross in their own programs and services.

For more information call: Marg Bundy, Homemakers, 878-5626; Margo Kent, Blood Donors 878-3763; Mac Elliott, Loan Service 878-2383; Colin Best, Branch Liaison 878-3623.



## Girls grow up in organization

The major aim of the Girl Guides of Canada is to help young girls become responsible, resourceful and happy members of society.

This goal could not be realized without the programmes' volunteer leaders.

The Milton chapter of the Girl Guides has programmes for Brownies; 6 to 9-year old girls, Guides; 9 to 12-year old girls, Pathfinders; for girls ages 12 to 15, and Rangers, Cadets and Junior Leaders for girls 15 to 17-years old.

Usually three volunteer adult leaders work with each group of 24 girls.

Although leaders do not need any past experience, they must enjoy working with children and be willing to fulfill the objectives of Guiding.

A child in the Girl Guides is supposed to develop a respect for nature, herself and others. She should participate in new ad-

ventures and experiences. The Guides will also show the young girl how to function in small groups, acquire decision making and leadership skills.

Lastly, Girl Guides should be fun, and a place to make new friends. Volunteer leaders are there to assure that the organization achieves all of its objectives.

The time commitment that volunteers must make is not great.

A leader must be available to attend weekly unit meetings that could last up to 2 hours. She must also be present at monthly District Council meetings once a month, and available for unit planning meetings, held when the need arises.

All new volunteers will be fully trained. Thinking about becoming a leader? For more information contact Mrs. Speigle-halter; 878-0852, Mrs. D. Ley; 878-2964, Mrs. L. Mohr; 876-1227, or Mrs. G. Stelter at 878-3441.

## Children gain from contributions made by many volunteers

Halton Children's Aid Society relies greatly on the contributions made by its volunteers, currently numbering 140 men and women.

To co-ordinate volunteer activities, three staff persons are employed in the department.

Volunteers function in many areas for the CAS to make the organization a better place.

Friendship and support are the volunteer's contributions in case aide work. This includes reducing a client's isolation, teaching life skills, child management skills, monitoring, investigation and assessment of the family.

One to one relationships with a child or group of siblings in the function of volunteer "brothers" and "sisters". They function as role models, befrienders and confidantes, teaching life skills and involving children in

appropriate activities. Helping children to cope with school is the task of volunteer tutors. Mothers' groups, pre-school programs and adolescent groups all utilize the services of volunteers.

Volunteers help in homestudies carried out with prospective foster parents, locate room and board facilities and provide support to those living independently.

Drivers for CAS clients are on the road every week day. This service, along with tasks like public speaking, clerical assistance, typing interpreting and public relations also fall into the hands of volunteers.

CAS volunteers are trained initially and receive support education throughout the year as well.

For further information contact the CAS Volunteer Department at 878-2375.



## Volunteers are vital

Trying to describe what volunteers mean inside Halton Centennial Manor would fill more than this entire page.

Manor volunteer co-ordinator, Lorena Smith says "volunteers do not take the place of paid staff, but enrich and give new vitality to the program of care which is carried out by the staff."

There are 120 adult volunteers and 20 student volunteers, but more are needed for three important reasons. 1) To help supplement and expand the service and programs offered. 2) To bring vitality and new faces into the lives of residents.

3) To assist in the Manor in public relations by making known activities, objectives and accomplishments to the community of Milton.

While the Manor is operated by Halton Region, handling of the needs of a facility with more than 370 beds is a big job and that's why it takes many volunteers.

Mrs. Smith said the kinds of services a volunteer might assist in are; working on the telephone, as a recreation assistant; aiding adjutant cases; helping in the craft room; helping with hairdressing; assisting with the

clerical work; volunteering to help with special care; or just making friendly visits or mom and tot visits. There are many more areas but this gives some idea of the tasks and the multi-faceted needs.

Volunteers get to choose the kind of help they want to give and they can also choose the hours when they might

### Big Brothers

There are probably more boys in Milton who could benefit from having a big Brother than those who have indicated a need, according to the organization's executive director.

Graham Scott suspects there is a greater need than the five name waiting list in Milton shows. There are currently 12 Big and Little Brother match ups in town, brought about by the Big Brothers Association of Oakville and Milton Inc.

Boys aged 6 to 16 who do not have a mature male role model can qualify

for a Big Brother who will spend a minimum of three hours a week with his match.

"We're looking for mature men of good character who enjoy children," Mr. Scott explains.

Compared to other towns of Milton's size, he expects as many as 25 boys are likely potential Little Brothers. Although applications have probably not been submitted by all those who could qualify, there are five local boys who want a Big Brother who don't have one.

Big Brothers must be at least 18

years of age, patient and reliable, according to Mr. Scott.

An applicant is required to submit four character references and attend a personal interview. All applicants are checked by police as well.

"The idea is to be a role model and an example for a boy who doesn't have this in his life," the executive director explained.

For further information call Mr. Scott at 845-6456. If you would like to volunteer but want to talk to a local Big Brother before a commitment is made, call John King at 878-7563.

## More could benefit

## Drive a meal for lunch

If it weren't for volunteer drivers, many elderly and handicapped people in Milton and Campbellville would be without the Meals on Wheels service.

Along with supplying a balanced

meal, the twice-weekly visits of Meals on Wheels volunteers provides outside contact with clients.

If you have a car and about an hour of time to offer, call Meals on Wheels co-ordinator Mary Cooke at 878-6639.

## Ladies make life better at Manor

The Halton Manor Auxiliary is a group of area ladies who help to brighten the lives of the residents of Halton Centennial Manor.

The non-profit organization, in existence for 21 years, is always on the lookout for new recruits.

This group of volunteers provides many services, one of their major responsibilities is the stocking and staffing of the two Tuck Shops on the premises.

They also have a hand in the operation of the Craft Room, and the planning of fund-raising events. Every May the Manor holds its annual bazaar where the public is invited to purchase handiwork and baked goods. The auxiliary members man the bake tables and craft displays.

Money raised through the Auxiliary over the past few years has helped to provide residents with whirlpool baths, hair dryers, vaporizers, televisions, coffee machines and furnishing for the Manor chapel.

The group also takes part in social events and afternoon teas, and sponsors two bus trips annually. Last year Manor residents visited Dundurn Castle and Hillsburgh.

Volunteers also read to residents with failing vision and assist adjutants in therapy. Anyone interested in becoming

part of the Halton Manor Auxiliary is asked to call President, Mrs. Verna Callan, anytime at 878-9157.

## Change despair to hope

In operation for 10 years, the North Halton Contact Centre can, and has, provided the link between despair and hope.

The North Halton Contact Centre (NHCC) is there when someone is in trouble and needs understanding and guidance.

Staff volunteers handle the telephone on a 24-hour, 365-day basis to deal with people in crisis. The service is confidential and all callers can remain anonymous if they choose.

Information and subjects such as community centre events, the availability of day-care, helping find apartments for seniors, emergency aid and agencies, local organizations, even consumer information are available.

To keep the NHCC running, it takes volunteers. There are spring and fall training courses and the next session starts April 26.

The executive director is Irene MacLean and she can provide all information on what the service does at 877-1211.