

Program offers caregivers respite

By **KAREN SMITH**
The Champion

Most participants in Allendale's Friends' Landing program are a little reluctant in the beginning. But soon they become one of the gang.

"About 95 per cent don't want to come at first," said Lorena Smith, Allendale day program supervisor. "Then they just get hooked on us."

A new recreational program for cognitively-impaired people provides them with a safe haven while giving their caregivers peace of mind.

The Friends' Landing program, officially launched at Allendale Thursday, is designed for people, many suffering from

Alzheimer's disease, who tend to wander or exit seek.

Caregivers who look after cognitively-impaired people at home can enroll their loved ones in the daytime recreational program for up to five days a week. Participants enjoy activities, hot meals, snacks and interaction with others.

Time out

Meanwhile, caregivers can work or take much-needed time to themselves without worry.

"They (clients) make new friends," Ms Smith said. "Some find old friends. They ended up here together."

Friends' Landing is the only program of

its kind in north Halton, she said.

The Victorian Order of Nurses offers a similar program, but for many the drive is just too far.

"It's usually a last resort before admission," Ms Smith said.

The program that started in June can accommodate eight clients per day. It runs Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Transportation to and from the program is co-ordinated by Allendale. Canadian Red Cross Society volunteer drivers bring clients from Acton and Georgetown while Milton Taxi provides transportation for Milton participants.

For more information, contact Ms Smith at 878-4141, ext. 8026.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Looking regal

Complete with tiara, formal gown and a winning smile is 19-year Ember Johnstone, who is enjoying her reign as Milton Fall Fair ambassador.

SHERIDAN



GLENNA CARR, CHAIR

Glenna Carr, Chief Executive Officer of Carr-Gordon Limited, a Canadian company specializing in private-public partnerships, commercialization, competitive contracting, corporate governance and management of the interface between business, government and not-for-profit sectors, was acclaimed as Chair of the Board for 1998/99. Since her appointment to the Board in September, 1994, she has served as Chair of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee, a member of the Board's Executive, Nominations and Presidential Selection Committees and, since September, 1996, as Vice-Chair of the Board. Ms. Carr has held a number of senior positions in the Government of Ontario, including Deputy Minister of Skills Development, Deputy Minister of Commercial Relations and Deputy Minister in charge of the Management Board of Cabinet. Most recently, she was Vice-President of Corporate Affairs with Laidlaw Inc. in Burlington where she participated in the formulation of partnerships to provide services across North America.



JOAN JOHNSTON, VICE-CHAIR

Joan Johnston, who was acclaimed as Vice-Chair of the Board for 1998/99, established her management consulting firm, J.M. Johnston & Associates in 1992. This followed careers in banking and marketing. Working with both public and private sector clients, her work has involved the development of long-term strategic plans, organizational restructuring, board renewal, investment decisions and business development particularly in the area of new technologies. Ms. Johnston is also one of four principals in the Toronto-based firm, TSPG Inc., which provides strategic planning, organizational design and effectiveness and senior advisory services. Ms. Johnston joined the Board in September, 1997.



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