



### Upside down

Showing off her headstand during a visit to Halton Museum, Kelso, is Pineview Gr. 2 student Sarah Howitt. She stayed up a long time, too.



### Plenty of little helpers

When Pineview School Gr. 2 class visited Halton Museum at Kelso Thursday to plant a European Snowball plant in front of the log cabin, the donor Elly Tuitman of Tuitman's Garden Centre, Acton, had lots of helpers. She gave the students a little lesson in tree-planting, then the children did the job.

## Child's death sometimes greatest mental stress form, parents are told

By Steve Arnold  
Facing the death of a child can cause depression and strain greater than that of some mental illnesses, according to a leading expert in the field.

Dr. Stephen Fleming, psychological consultant to the Bereaved Parents Association of Ontario,

told members of Halton's Family Service Bureau that attempting to deal with the loss of a child is more difficult than any other form of bereavement. Based in Toronto, the Bereaved Parents Association provides individual and group counselling for parents and siblings.

Three of the association's group leaders operate in Oakville. Dr. Fleming said a recent study of 67 cases handled by the association showed 66 mothers but only 14 fathers involved in programs. "That says a lot about the way we grieve," he noted, but added that

fathers face other pressures in handling their grief about a loss. "It seems that if a man expresses his grief beyond some arbitrary point like 30 days, that fact seems to find its way into the company personnel files and it has been known to affect later opportunities for promotions," he said. "That kind of thing has been reported in more than one case, he added.

Dr. Fleming said there are three commonly reported responses to the loss of a child, including feelings of excessive guilt, attempts to substitute for the dead child and extreme protectiveness of any remaining children. Guilt, he said, can take many forms, "but some parents have been known to refuse to talk about the child they lost because they feel so guilty about it."



### Thank-you gift

Milton Rotary Club asked the mentally handicapped students at E.C. Drury High School to stuff envelopes for this year's Easter Seal campaign, and the class finished 10,000 of them in a record four days. In appreciation, Rotarian Bob Scott visited the class last week and presented an AM-FM radio, tape deck. Connie Connelly and Mr. Scott try out the radio.

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## Dairy calf clubs open '81 season

By Bev Wickson  
The first meeting of the Halton 4-H Senior Dairy Calf Club was held April 13 at the Agricultural office in Milton. The elections were held and the meeting was turned over to the President of the Senior Club, Kim Peddie. The members decided to divide into three groups and each group would plan and organize a meeting. We then had a discussion on the meetings.

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## Motorcycle training at Sheridan

Sheridan College is offering its popular Motorcycle Training program for the first time in Hamilton starting May 23. The course involves two weekend sessions and registrants can sign up for one of six sessions available during the summer. Starting dates include May 23, June 6 and 20, July 4 and 18, and Aug. 8.

All sessions, offered in co-operation with the Canada Safety Council, will be given at McMaster University, Building 33, Parking Lot No. 7, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day.

The course, taught by experienced certified instructors, stresses the high degree of skill required to operate a motorcycle in a vehicle-dominated environment. Participants will learn the basic and advanced skills of motorcycle safety and operation, such as balancing, braking, cold starting, stopping, gear changing, signals and shoulder checks, slow riding and pattern riding. Also included in the instructions will be traffic behavior, collision avoidance, decision-making, and dealing with obstacles. Each student will have the use of a motorcycle

and certified helmet provided by the college and will spend 18 hours of the 20-hour course on a bike. Applicants must be 16 years of age or more and should wear heavy long sleeved jackets, blue jeans or heavy slacks, leather work gloves and heavy duty leather footwear.

## Billy Goat greets kids on farm tour

By Bobby Williamson, Andy Sward and Shawn Russell.

On Wednesday, April 15, the Gr. 4s of Martin St. School went to the Branch sheep farm on Steeles Ave. Billy Goat met us. Mr. and Mrs. Branch took us to the barns where we saw many sheep and lambs. Some were very young and one was just born that day. Some of us fed the lambs with baby bottles. Most of the sheep let us pet them but some were too scared. At the end of our visit we were treated to ice cream and cookies. We certainly learned a lot and appreciated the kindness of the Branch "shepherds".

Persons successfully completing the course will surpass the licensing requirements and may benefit from reduced insurance premiums. Fee for the course is \$80. For further information contact the Community Services Campus in Burlington, 2319 Fairview St. at 639-0100.

In all this year we have visited dairy, beef, sheep and cash crop farms. We all know how important the farmers are to us now.

"They have also been known to become excessively protective of the remaining children. They are always anxious because they feel that nothing is safe any longer." Dr. Fleming said that in order to survive grief,

"you have to learn to be selfish for a while." "At some time you have to say you're going to stop and take care of your own concerns for a while." Problems, however, hamper efforts to cope with grief, he said. Dr. Fleming drew one example of a woman who "appeared to be coping well" with the recent loss of a child. She went through her normal daily routine, "but one night she sat down to do some sewing and couldn't find her thimble. She cried for two hours over that."

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