

Lifestyle

Wednesday April 4, 1990

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Community Notebook

Easter Bonnet Bazaar: It simply wouldn't be spring without Halton Centennial Manor's April Bazaar. The annual event featuring crafts made by residents, baked goods, candy and draws will run from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Lunch will be served and for the kids, there'll be a visit from the Easter bunny. Proceeds from this event support various programs for residents at the home for the aged.

Downtown Survival: A breakfast seminar geared to downtown merchants is being sponsored at the Muddy Duck by Milton Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, April 10. A panel will discuss the role of the town core in the '90s. Breakfast starts at 7:30 a.m. and the meeting will conclude by 9:30 a.m. to allow merchants to open for business as usual. For information and to reserve a spot, contact the chamber at 878-0581.

For Fit Feet: There will be a foot care clinic at Milton Community and Information Service (MCIS) on Thursday, April 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. The Victorian Order of Nurses run these clinics at the 311 Commercial St. location (Optimist Centre) at a cost of \$15 per client. Foot care is provided by appointment only. Call 876-4756 to book.

Living with Cancer: Nurses provide leadership at twice-monthly meetings of Milton's Living with Cancer group at the local branch of the Canadian Cancer Society office. Meetings geared to group discussions, practical guidance and emotional support are held every second Thursday at 751 Main St. E. (west of Bunsmaster building on the second floor) from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The next meetings will be April 5 and 19. To find out more, call the Milton Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society at 878-5228 or 878-1876.

Finance Minister on GST: The planned Goods and Services Tax and the recent federal budget will likely be hot topics when Michael Wilson, federal finance minister and Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner are guests at a barbecue in Halton Hills. The Wednesday May 23 event is being sponsored by the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce at Gordon Alcott Arena, 221-Guelph St., Georgetown. Cost is \$15 per person. Questions to the guests must be submitted to the chamber before May 9. Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m. followed by a barbecue from 7:30-9 p.m. with the program starting at 8:15 p.m. Ticket information is available from the chamber by calling 877-7119.

Pitch-In Solution: Each of us produces an average of 1,800 pounds of waste each year and managing that waste is a challenge to us all. The goal of Pitch-In Week, May 7-13 is to encourage residents to re-use, reduce and recycle. The annual event is organized by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

Thanks to Volunteers: The annual volunteer appreciation event will again take the form of an open house as a result of the success of this format in the past. The event will take place Sunday April 22 at Bishop Reding Roman Catholic Secondary School from 2-4 p.m. and will include volunteer recognition, fellowship and refreshments.

At Milton District Hospital

New audiology facility can aid hearing

By KAREN SMITH

Milton District Hospital wants everyone to hear about its latest addition.

Last month, Milton District became home to an audiology department which is the first of its kind in a Halton hospital.

Audiology is the science of hearing and the study of hearing loss. The facility houses more than \$100,000 worth of the latest equipment, said Jim Dunster, the hospital's audiologist.

The department is being used to assess people's hearing and determine how to correct any problems. Patients of all different hearing levels can use the facility.

Mr. Dunster is a specialist with extensive training in the testing and rehabilitation of hearing disorders. With the help of the equipment in the facility, he can determine if hearing problems can be corrected medically or if a device such as a hearing aid is required.

Hearing aids today are more advanced as well as smaller, he says. "But you can't pack as much punch into a small one yet."

He also provides counselling to those with hearing loss and their families.

"It's important that everyone understands what people with hearing loss go through," Mr. Dunster adds.

He says you don't have to be a patient at the hospital to use the facility. It's open to everyone. Referrals are usually made through physicians. Previously, people requiring audiological services had to travel out of town.

Hearing loss is an invisible disability affecting two million Canadians. Caused by disease, excessive noise, accident or genetic factors, it can be congenital or can occur at any age.

No matter what the cause, hearing loss means reduced access to communication with other people through language and sound, says Mr. Dunster.

In children, middle ear disease is the second most common childhood illness. Studies show as many as 15 per cent of the child population may be educationally handicapped by otitis media — middle ear infection — during the first two years of life.

In adults, about 50 per cent of the population aged over 65 years has some hearing loss. The problem is expected to grow with the expansion of the elderly population over the next few decades.

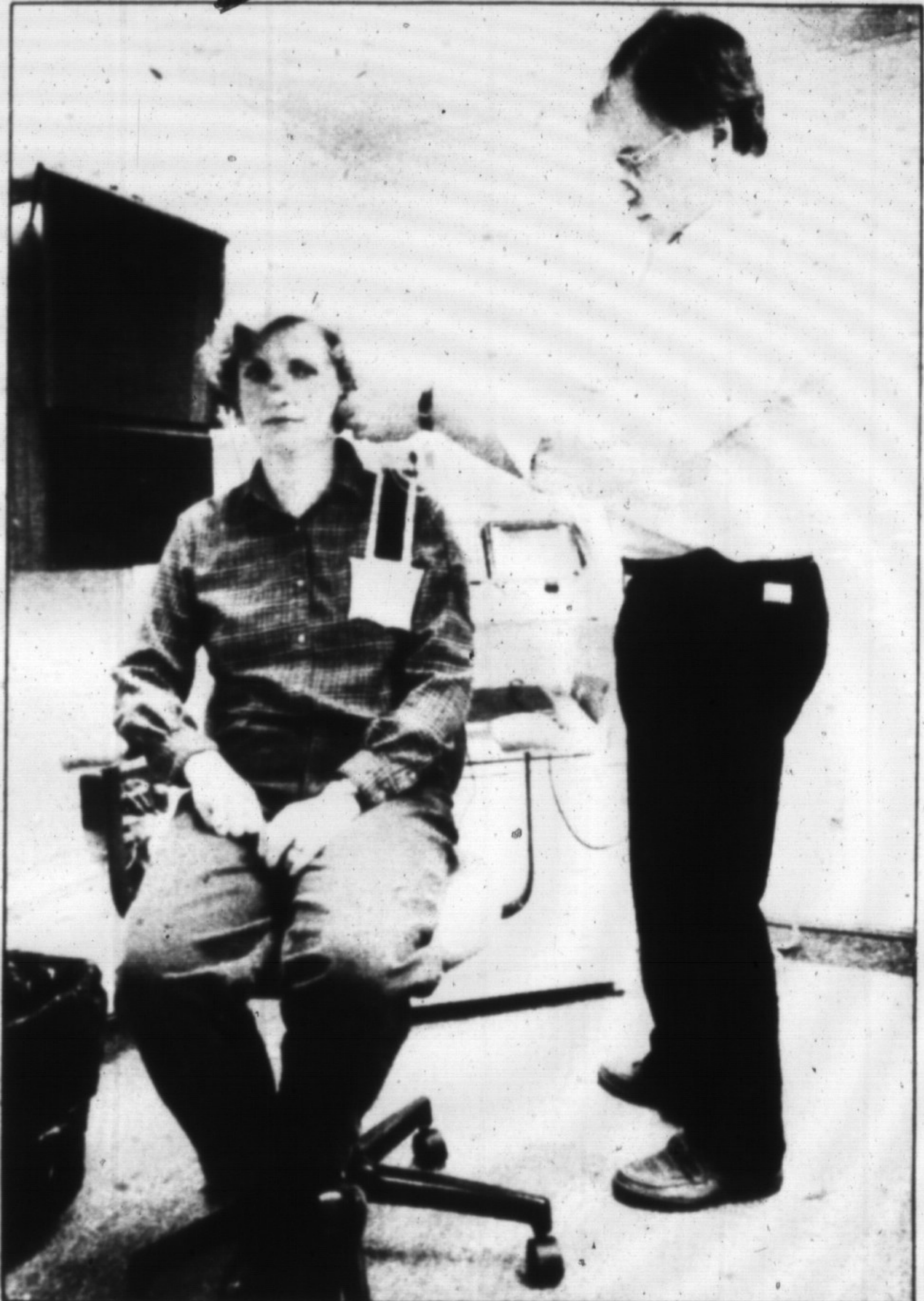
Equipment in the audiology department includes a sound proof room for precise testing. More equipment is expected in the near future to complement the existing system, says Mr. Dunster.

The hospital foundation, in conjunction with fund-raising efforts for the equipment, will hold the Blazing Saddles Beef 'N' Beans BBQ in June at Hornby's Pineland Farm.

"It definitely will be the place to be," said newly-elected board president Anne Ptolemy. "We are planning an evening with something for everyone and the emphasis will be on fun."

There will be a silent auction. For tickets or to donate items, call 878-2383 ext. 2170.

Jim Dunster, audiologist at Milton District Hospital, tests the hearing of a patient with \$100,000 equipment purchased for the new facility. The audiology department opened its doors last month and is available to anyone in or out of the hospital.



Photos by JON BLACKER

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