

Lifestyle

Wednesday July 11, 1990

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Community Notebook

Kids Kapers: Children are invited to explore various forms of puppetry at Milton Public Library during the Kids Kapers program tomorrow (Thursday) at 2 p.m. The puppet show, which combines traditional and open forms of puppetry, is titled *Under the Waves*. Tickets cost \$1. Call 875-2665 for information about ticket availability as these programs are often sold out.

Nature's Treats: Learn how to identify plants fit to eat in the forest at Crawford Lake Conservation Area this Sunday (July 15). The "Edible Wilds" guided hike leaves the conservation centre at 2 p.m. Participants are assured of finding some tasty treats along the way. Crawford Lake is located on Guelph Line at Steeles Avenue and is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Halton 4-H Festival: The 75th anniversary of the 4-H program in Ontario will be celebrated on Sunday, July 29 at Scotsdale Farm, Trafalgar Road north, Georgetown. There will be a chicken barbecue starting at 12:30 p.m. followed by a cake-cutting ceremony, games and entertainment. Children and adults will have a chance to roll some round bales of hay, pitch horseshoes, take a wagon ride and witness a celebrity feud. Tickets for the lunch are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children age 12 and under. For information or to order tickets contact the Ministry of Agriculture and Food office at 17 Wilson Dr., or call 878-2314.

Art Competition: The deadline is approaching for entries to the seventh annual juried exhibition of wall art at the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre, 9 Church St., Georgetown. Artists from across Halton are eligible to submit artwork by Saturday, Sept. 22. Rules of the "Here and Now" exhibition are available at any Halton library. The exhibition runs Oct. 3-28. For more, call 873-2681.

Support for Women: The Women's Information and Support Centre of Halton is open Tuesday evenings from 7:30-9:30 and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. John's Church, Oakville. Specialized support groups are also available to women going through divorce and separation and for women suffering from environmental diseases. For information call the Centre at 338-1953.

Women Veterans Reunion: Organizers of the World War II Canadian Women's Army Corps Veterans 32nd annual reunion are looking for members. The event, being held in Toronto, will include old photos for viewing, a wreath laying ceremony, social time and dance on the Friday night and a reunion luncheon, dinner and dancing the next day. The reunion is slated for Sept. 28 and 29. To obtain a complete reunion brochure write to: C.W.A.C. Veterans Reunion Chairman, Mrs. Shirley Wood Heesaker, 201 Niagara St., Toronto M5V 1C9 or call (416) 781-2872, (416) 781-3821.

Little Sisters Sought: There's room for more girls age 7 to 16 in the Big Sisters Association of north Halton. The organization can be reached by calling 878-0378 or 878-7772. The Big Sisters are getting ready for the second annual Christmas House Tour slated for Saturday, Nov. 24.



Photos by JOHN WARREN
Lisa Wong is learning all about farm life through the Junior Agriculturalist Program organized by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. She is spending the summer at the Middlebrook's dairy farm on Walker's Line. The 20-year-old from North York hopes to become a veterinarian some day.

Rural living

Lisa discovers the country life by taking part in agriculture program

By KAREN SMITH

URBAN YOUTHS ARE ONCE AGAIN invading Milton farms.

To help bridge the urban-rural gap, the Junior Agriculturalist Program is back for another summer.

The program answers requests from farmers for summer assistance while providing young people with valuable farm experience.

It requires host farm families to provide training and supervision as well as room and board to youths between the ages of 15-24, says Stuart McClure, Junior Agriculturalist supervisor.

"Rural lifestyle is a formidable attraction to many young people in urban communities," he adds. "They are all enthusiastic about the experience they will gain."

Veterinary school

At Harold Middlebrook's dairy farm on Walker's Line, Lisa Wong of North York is milking cows and feeding calves for the first time in her life.

Lisa, 20, got involved in the program to gain experience with large animals. At the same time, the pay will help cover the bills. She hopes to attend veterinary school next year.

"I never got up so early in my life. It's very different, but it's not that hard to adjust to."

— Lisa Wong

Farmers contribute \$17 a day to the eight-week program which began June 25 and continues until August 17.

Lisa gets every second weekend off and is paid \$35 a day by the provincial Ministry of Agriculture and Food — the organizer of the program.

Moving from Metropolitan Toronto to a farm for the summer brought many changes in Lisa's lifestyle, she says.

"I never got up so early in my life," adds the native of Hong Kong. "It's very different, but it's not that hard to adjust to."

She is accustomed to long hours though. Lisa, who moved to Canada five years ago, recently completed her third year at the

University of Waterloo where she studied biology.

A typical day includes rising at 6 a.m., milking the cows, feeding the cows, and milking them once again. In between, Lisa works in the vegetable garden or does some cleaning.

She described the Middlebrook family as "really nice people." She gets along well with Mr. and Mrs. Middlebrook and their 25-year-old son Keith.

An extra hand

Mr. Middlebrook appreciates the extra hand to milk and look after his 25 cows. He hires a student every summer, but this year decided to do so through the Junior Agriculturalist Program.

Gary and Erla Love of Tremaine Road are also taking advantage of the program and have acquired Kyle Dearlove, a student from Cambridge. Kyle is looking to gain farm management skills.

Dr. Richard Kunica's nearby dairy and cash crop farm will be the summer home of Ross Johnstone. The Mississauga resident wants to spend time on a farm to prepare himself for veterinary medicine.

Although Lisa is well adapted to her temporary rural home, she will always prefer the urban life, she says.

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