



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

### And the winner is...

A Holy Rosary School grade 3 class is the winner of an award for a mural students entered in the Milton Fall Fair. Charlie Speck (right), president of the Halton Agricultural Society, recently presented a plaque to Mrs. Depelsmaeker's class. The runner-up in the contest was Sam Sherratt School.

## Board lobbies for tighter gun control

By HOWARD MOZEL  
Special to The Champion

There will be fewer guns on the street if the Halton Regional Police Services Board has any say in the matter.

Recently board members passed a resolution authorizing chair Barry Quinn to write Justice Minister Alan Rock and press the following six points:

- That the board endorse any efforts by the federal government for the self-funded registration of all firearms.

- A total prohibition of private ownership of all handguns except those used by police, law enforcement and bona fide occupational regiments.

- A total prohibition of assault weapons.

- Vigorous enforcement of the regulation on the safe storage of firearms pursuant to the provisions

of the Criminal Code.

- Increasing the minimum sentence for the use of a firearm in the commission of an indictable offence, with no eligibility for parole whatsoever during this minimum sentence.

- An amnesty period to allow people to comply with the legislation.

"We have to strike while the iron is hot," said board member Paul LaFleur, who drafted the resolution.

Given the fact that Canada's gun lobby is likely doing its best to dilute proposed federal firearm control legislation, Mr. LaFleur said it is incumbent upon the board to push for tighter restrictions.

Board member Fred Oliver said he could not support the resolution's second point calling for the total prohibition of all private handgun ownership, if it includes legitimate gun club members. Mr. LaFleur — who said he could tolerate handguns kept locked up in a club setting — worried about the possibility of legal handguns being stolen from people's homes.

Mr. Quinn also had reservations, saying, "this would make criminals out of a number of law abiding citizens."

Halton Regional Police Chief Peter Campbell supported all six points, but said an amnesty program would avoid making criminals of anyone. Member Richard Szymczyk said the board should leave well enough alone.

"As soon as you start watering down proposals it defeats the whole purpose," he said.

In regard to sentencing for offenders, Mr. Oliver said he would like to see 10 years imposed with no parole whatsoever. The board agreed.

### Coordinators are hired

The Halton Social Planning Council has hired two program coordinators.

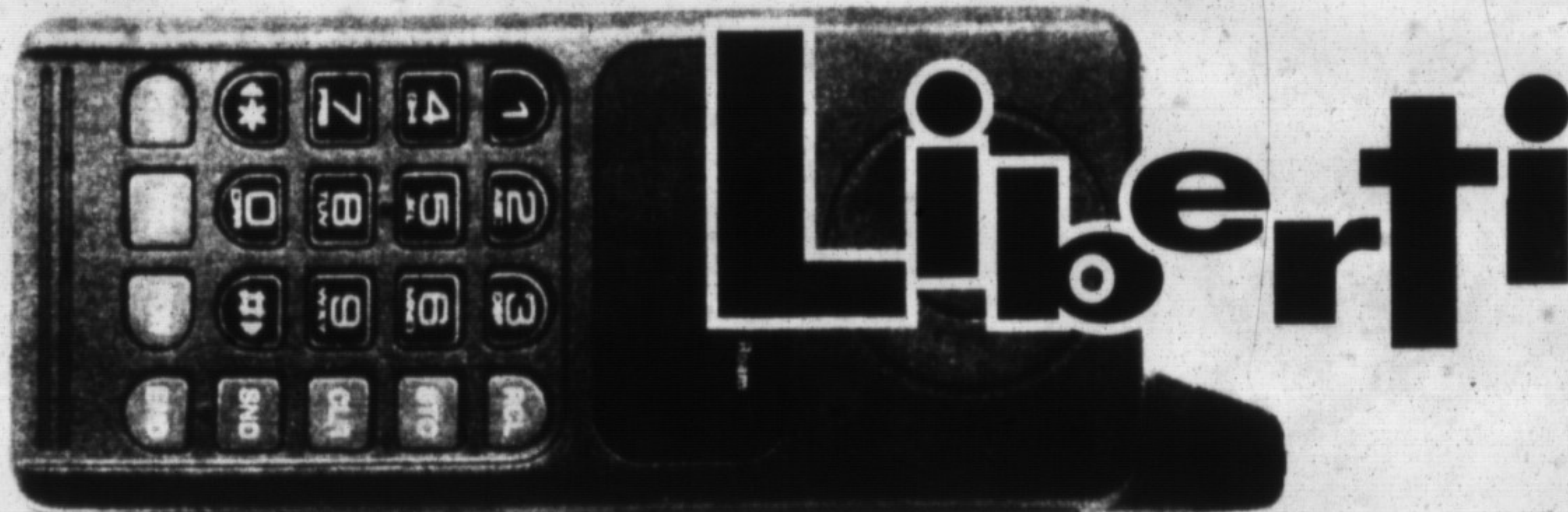
Lorena Kelly and Sonya Mackey will be sharing responsibility for a unique pilot project aimed at collaborating on intergenerational activities through Halton.

Intergenerational programs bring together people from varying ages for various activities.

The council received \$118,800 funding from the Health and Welfare Canada Seniors Independence Program for a three year intergenerational pilot project.

The project will be evaluated yearly based on its expansion of assistance and support to the Halton community, the effectiveness of a coordinated approach and the improvement and development of intergenerational efforts.

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Canadian Mental Health Association,  
Halton Region Branch

**Annual General Meeting**

**Monday, December 12, 1994**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Canadian Mental Health Office  
341 Kerr Street, Oakville

For more information  
call 905-845-5044

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
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