

For Big Sisters

Organizational meeting held

Big Brothers in North Simcoe may have met their match.

The Quota Club of Huronia and the Huronia Social Planning Council co-sponsored an information meeting on Sunday on the possibility of establishing a Big Sisters organization in this area.

The Big Brothers organization was established last year, with the aim of helping to prevent juvenile delinquency and to support youth in finding an identity. Big Brothers publicity director Gary Westgarth told the meeting. Through the organization "we provide not just an image for the youth, but friendship, reassurance, and love", he said.

By matching a fatherless boy with a "big brother", he pointed out, the boy is able to

participate in a constructive relationship with an adult.

A number of inquiries have come to big brothers about the possibility of finding big sisters for motherless girls or girls in trouble in some way, Westgarth said. The Big Brothers organization he added, would welcome a counterpart organization and would assist in its establishment.

"I know we have girls who are in need", OPP community service officer Chuck Colson said. A Big Sisters organization is "something that we need".

Director of the Guelph Big Sisters organization, Cathy Collett, outlined programs offered in the Guelph area for girls in a variety of parental and social situations.

The girls who need help, she noted, are those with poor self-concepts, who are lacking self-confidence, and lacking a certain amount of adult female attention.

At less than nine years old, girls are not really ready to establish a close relationship with an adult woman, and therefore girls between the ages of 9 and 16 are considered in the Guelph Big Sisters program, she said.

The girls' personalities vary "from one extreme to another". A quiet and withdrawn girl Big Sisters would probably match with a woman who is more outgoing and who could possibly bring the young girl out. But there are not very many women who feel capable of handling a girl at the other extreme, a very outgoing problem girl, she pointed out.

But the problems must be worked out on that one-on-one basis, through friendship, understanding, and giving, on the part of the Big Sister. The Big Sister, she said, should be easy-going, open-minded, someone who can relate to the needs and values of others, and who could be able to control her own emotional involvement. A healthy motivation would be essential in a big sister, she stressed.

Collett outlined a number of alternative ways to begin to set up the organization in the area, providing hints on boards, committees, and programs.

From all indications on Sunday, it looks like Big Sisters is not only needed, but wanted in North Simcoe.



At rummage sale

The Senior Citizens of Midland held a rummage sale last week. A number of ladies came to the Senior Citizen's Building on Hugel Avenue to get bargains in the used but still very nice things for which rummage sales are famous. Here one of the ladies examines one of the frilly items on sale. Staff photo

On Thursday, May 1

Guided walk through Marsh Wildlife Centre

Spring is a time of awakening in nature; a season filled with many new sights and sounds. One of the best places in our area to appreciate the natural world is at the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre.

On Thursday evening, May 1, at 7:30 p.m., and on Sunday, May 4 at 2:00 p.m., there will be a guided walk to the marsh boardwalk led by the staff at the Centre.

Come out to hear and observe the flighty phenomenon of migrating ducks, geese, woodcock, and other birds visible at this time of year.

Explore your environment. The walk is free, and coffee will be served afterwards.

Meet at the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 1st, and at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 4th.

The Happy Cooker

Piano tuner's recipe for bran muffins

by Shirley Whittington
Our favourite piano tuner breezed in last week, checked the kitchen taps he'd re-seated on his last visit, made some sensible suggestions about re-decorating our front hall, and then he knocked our poor old Heitzman out of tune and left us a recipe for bran muffins.

There are bran muffins, and there are bran muffins. Some are rubbery enough to use as tennis balls, and others are so defiantly packed with nutrition and roughage one might be as happy chewing on one of Adele Davis' books.

The piano tuner's muffins, on the other hand are as light and tender as a Chopin nocturne. And here's how to make them:

- 1/4 cup shortening or cooking oil
- 1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 2 eggs, unbeaten.
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup milk

- 1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1 1/2 cups of bran. (You can buy a box of this stuff for 37 cents and add it to cereal or homemade bread. The bran is the part of the wheat that's milled off, to provide nice white, nutrition-free flour.)

Sift the flour, soda, baking powder, salt, and stir in the bran. You can also stir in 1/2 cup raisins or chopped dates at this point.

Combine the milk, molasses, sugar, eggs and oil. Stir the liquid ingredients into the dry ingredients, but don't get carried away. Muffins are better if they aren't disturbed too greatly during the mixing. Stir only enough to combine.

Fill greased muffin tins two-thirds full. If you're lazy those paper muffin tin liners will simplify things.

Bake in a hot oven, 15 to 20 minutes. These are so tasty it is hard to believe they're good for you.

Stay tuned for the next

thrilling message from our piano tuner. He says he knows how to make good Yorkshire pudding too.

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Heavy rains cost Tay \$1,000

The heavy rains which lashed this area a week and a half ago took a considerable toll in time and money. Basements were flooded and roads washed out. For Tay Township to repair the damage to their roads, the bill will run to about \$1,000. John Comber, Tay roads superintendent, reports that the crews worked overtime on Saturday and half of Sunday putting fill in washouts of roads such as the one which took quite a bite out of the Concession Six road.

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Starting April 1st, the public weather forecasts will be given in degrees Celsius, with no mention of the Fahrenheit reading. The public must now realize that 20 to 25 degrees C represents summer comfort, 0 degrees C is freezing, and -20 degrees C is cold. Our temperature readings on the left say you should be comfortable, whether in degrees F or in degrees C.

The inventor of the mercury-in-glass thermometer was Gabriel Fahrenheit, a German instrument maker, the year 1714. His scale provided 180 degrees between the freezing and boiling points of water.

Being a European, he had decided that the point at which sea-water froze should be zero, the coldest temperature to be experienced in his environment. This choice resulted in freezing being at 32 degrees F and boiling at 212 degrees F. We have lived with these funny numbers ever since.

In 1742, the Swedish astronomer Anders Celsius proposed that the scale between freezing and boiling be 100 degrees and thus was born the centigrade scale. (centi means divided by 100). There was some confusion in use of the name centigrade, since it was also used in angular measure, and in 1948 the General Conference on weights and measures decided that the temperature scale would be called Celsius. The Canadian practice will be to write the temperature as degrees C without a period following the C and to refer to temperature not as "above" zero, but as "plus" and "minus".

In deciding to go directly into Celsius, the Metric Commission studied the conversion experience of other countries. In some countries where both scales were reported for a period of years, confusion still exists while in others, where Fahrenheit was dropped suddenly, the public adapted within a period of weeks.

At CKMP radio, we hope to make the change swift to benefit our audience and the public in this area. Good Luck, and Happy Celsius!

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