

**Parent and adolescent programs**

**Demand dictates continued sessions this year**

By JANE MULLER  
Champion Reporter

As long as parents continue to need help and support in raising their adolescent children, The Centre will offer programs geared to them and their offspring.

"We plan to run the program on a continuous basis with a couple of weeks off between the eight-week sessions, as long as the demand is there," said Bonnie Duimstra, the community service worker who conducts the courses.

The need for the programs has been illustrated in five previous sessions offered at the Milton facility. The course geared to parents of adolescents was oversubscribed when last offered but those who missed out will have an opportunity to participate in the session beginning Monday, Jan. 14 at 8 p.m.

"I like to hold it to about 12 people," said Mrs. Duimstra of the group.

The parenting program was evaluated recently, resulting in a slight change of format. According to Mrs. Duimstra, there will be more group interaction encouraged throughout the session while still providing instruction.

Topics covered in the course include communication skills, discipline, problem ownership and adolescent responsibilities. Although content is geared toward parents of teens, a number of past participants have had younger children.

"It can help them deal with future problems or prevent them," Mrs. Duimstra explained.

Weekly sessions geared to Grade 7, 8 or 9 students requiring help with problem solving begin Monday, Jan. 21 at 4 p.m. Most adolescents who take part in this program are referred by school guidance counsellors and occasionally by the Children's Aid Society, but self-referrals are accepted.

"I make a home visit so the program can be explained thoroughly to everyone," said Mrs. Duimstra.

Parental permission is a must and their cooperation is necessary. During the eight-week program participants are taught to recognize a problem and turn it into a challenge. They will also learn how to solve problems and achieve beneficial results.

The individual and family counselling Mrs. Duimstra conducts is tailored to specific needs.

"The length and the number of sessions varies. It's all very flexible. I usually contract with families for a particular period of time," she explained.

The counsellor has found this program generally runs at capacity although there are currently some openings. Like the two more structured programs conducted at The Centre, the counselling service is free of charge.

Those interested in the parent, adolescent or counselling program should contact Mrs. Duimstra at 876-1244 to register or make an appointment.

**Town hall opens doors**

An open house will be held at town hall to let residents visit and learn more about what goes on inside Milton Council and what the staff do for the citizens of the town.

The open house is part of Local Government Week which runs from Jan. 14-Jan. 19. The actual open house will be Jan. 16 (Wednesday) from 6-8 p.m.

On hand will be elected representatives and municipal staff to answer any questions.



An October wedding united Elizabeth Feenstra and Leslie Paton in marriage.

**Paton — Feenstra  
Wed in Milton**

Elizabeth Heather Feenstra and Leslie James Paton were married at St. Paul's United Church Saturday, Oct. 6.

The bride was baptized at the local church 20 years ago and it is the same church her parents were wed at. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Feenstra of Milton and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Paton of Bramalea.

The double-ring ceremony was conducted by Rev. Jack Birch. Organist was Barbara Birch.

The bride's sister, Jeanette Feenstra was maid of honour with bridesmaids Debbie Krascek, sister of the groom and Colleen Davis and Bev Broughton, friends of the bride.

The groom's friend, Ken Derstroff was groomsman with ushers Bruno Krascek, brother-in-law of the groom, Wayne Feenstra, brother of the bride and Jose Venagas, friend of the groom.

There were 150 relatives and friends at the dinner and dance held at Milton Curling Club. The groom's brother, Andrew Paton was master of ceremonies. The bride's aunt Jeltje Plantinga travelled from Holland for the occasion and her aunt Fimmy Johanas came from Vancouver for the wedding. Also visiting from Holland were the bride's father's aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. S. Nijholt. Perle Bowen, friend of the groom's family travelled from Quebec to attend.

The wedding cake was made by Mary Price.

There were three showers held for the bride. The hostesses of these events included Jeanette Feenstra and Bev Broughton, Arnie Davidson and Masie McKay and Willie Peddie.

The couple spent their honeymoon at Niagara Falls and now reside in Mississauga.

**Traas — Muir  
Dec. wedding**

Bezek Christian Centre in Campbellville was the setting for the wedding of Mariene Muir and Marinus (Mac) Traas.

The couple was united in marriage Saturday, Dec. 29 in a ceremony conducted by Rev. Bernard Warren. Dennis Kunze was pianist and Daniel Warren played a trumpet solo.

The groom is a resident of Campbellville and the bride resided in Milton. The couple now live in Campbellville.

The matron of honour was the bride's daughter Karen Muir of Quebec City. The groom's son, John Traas of Battle Creek, Mich., was groomsman. The ushers included son of the groom, Jack Traas, son of the bride, Craig Muir, Tom Boer and Gary Rauwerda, sons-in-law of the groom.

A reception was held following the wedding at Bezek centre. An evening dinner at the Herigate Inn, Milton was also part of the occasion. John Traas was master of ceremonies at the dinner.

The couple plan a honeymoon in the south sometime this month.

**Immersion preview**

In an effort to boost the number of students enrolled in Milton's original French immersion program, Martin St. School will open its doors to parents of potential participants.

Parents of Kindergarten students who are interested in the program which starts at the Grade 1 level, can visit Grades 4 and 5 immersion classes. Although the program can be previewed at any time, three days beginning Monday, Jan. 14, have been set aside for appointments.

The program requires six more Grade 1 students in order to continue this fall.

Appointments may be arranged by calling the school at 878-8191.



**Surprise party**

A surprise 25th wedding anniversary dinner and dance was held at Milton Fire Hall, Steeles Ave., Saturday, Dec. 7, in honour of Irv and Sandra Shepherd of 84 Fulton St. The couple's children were responsible for the celebration which was attended by family and friends.

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