Noreen Smith, Ingersoll, was one of many adult students pursuing a post-secondary school education. She took course through the Woodstock and Tillsonburg extension centres. (Staff photo)

Seniors head back to school

Besides vocational and volunteer work, seniors are also finding fulfillment in returning to school.

"Enrolment of those over 65 is increasing, particularly in non-degree, non-credit courses," says Dr. Thomas Ginsberg, dean of the faculty of part-time and continuing education at Western. "But it's also slightly increasing in degree credit courses."

Ginsberg says more people are taking early retirement and seeking constructive things to do with their time.

While there's a social function to the campus scene, it's not as important to seniors as to younger people, Ginsberg says.

"Many of these folks are very independent types," Ginsberg says. "They're in these classes because they want to be."