

The Royal flush

Last week in this space we explored the naming of streets in Georgetown and how some go by multiple names while others are forced to share.

That tangent will have absolutely nothing to do with this week's opine. However, one of the streets mentioned was Princess Anne Drive, named after the Royal equestrian. Given that our *Hey* question last week was about the monarchy, it seemed appropriate that we explore – you guessed it – more roadways. Specifically, those in Georgetown bearing royal titles.

So, we've already established that we have a Princess Anne Drive in town (two actually, though one astute reader phoned to give me the rundown on why that is so). We also have a Prince Charles Drive, a Queen Street, a King Street (despite the fact that the royals are currently king-less and will be for the foreseeable future) and a Prince Street.

Interestingly enough, if you were to take a look at the names of streets in Georgetown South, you'd find that the majority of the monikers are of Scottish descent.

Argyll Road, Donaghedy Drive, McKinnon Avenue, and Lauchlin Crescent to name but a few.

Seriously, though, if the powers that be are so intent on expanding Georgetown so that it takes on the bearing of another Brampton or Mississauga, then let us at least take the time and do it right.

A first, though highly unlikely, step would be to disallow the shoe-horning of houses in on microscopic, high density lots and the alphabetizing the streets so that we end up with areas like the Alphabet City of Bramalea.

I have had ridiculous conversations in the past with Bramalea residents who, when asked where in Bramalea they live, have responded, "Oh, in the L-section." Unless you know that the 'L-section' is located at Hwy. 410 and Hwy. 7, you'd be at a loss.

The reason that people move to places like Georgetown and similar communities is to escape the crush of humanity and the frenzy of citified life. When the suburbs become as crowded as the city, where do you go from there?

This is not a debate about affordable housing, but of maintaining the community people have worked for decades to achieve. That is what makes towns like this so attractive, not cookie cutter houses stacked eave to eave.

My own Editors-at-Large

Every now and then I get a phone call at home from our unofficial editor-at-large.

In her former years, Florence Smith worked as a news reporter for the Associated Press, and in a volunteer capacity as a Public Relations Officer for a variety of organizations.

When Florence calls, it is usually to question something she has seen in *The Gemini*.

Last week she called to correct my use of the word "laying" in the Jan. 15 *Gem* after I wrote that I had been "laying in bed." She tells me that I should have used the word "lying" as laying implies that someone else put me there (interesting that she didn't question whether or not somebody did in fact put me there, but that is hardly the issue).

Matt Penny, a friend of mine, took issue with my use of the phrase, "frozen ice," in last week's *View From Here*, taking great delight in reminding me that, by nature, ice is always frozen.

Backpedaling, I suggested that slush could possibly pass as non-frozen ice. Again, he corrected me, saying that slush is, well, slush.

Okay, being constantly corrected can become humiliated but, hey, a second set of eyes never hurts.

Jamie Harrison is a reporter with The Georgetown Gemini.

The View From Here

With
Jamie Harrison



EAGER BEAVERS: The North Halton District Scouting Team met recently at The Optimist Hall. Back row, from left: D.C. John Rothwell, ADC Iris Stiehl (Scouts), ADC Bob Bairstow (Training), Donna Thompson (Beaver Service Team), Garnet Burt (Cub Service Team), ADC Michael McCallum (Cubs), Nancy Jackson (Cub Service Team), Elaine Hannah (Treasurer of District Events). Front row: ADC Steve Thompson (Beavers). Absent: George Henderson (Scout Service Team). (Jean Layman photo)

Your LETTERS

Choir 'struts their stuff' for *Joseph*

To the Editor,
On Jan. 14 I had the pleasure of going to the Pantages Theatre in Toronto to see the final auditions for children's choruses hoping to be part of the forthcoming production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*.

Twenty-three children from the Georgetown Children's Chorus were part of more than 300 children participating and, when their turn came to "strut their stuff," my heart swelled with pride at their accomplishments.

They sang beautifully and moved with precision, besides looking very handsome. The competition was stiff and the auditioning panel admitted

that it was hard to select just four choirs from the 15 attending. The Georgetown group was not, alas, one of the fortunate four, but they took their disappointment like the good little troopers they are, relishing the fact that they'd had the excitement and fun of appearing for just a short time on the stage of the lovely old Pantages.

The citizens of Georgetown and district have every reason to be proud of these young ambassadors of song and I believe that a special note of thanks is due to Dale Wood, their choirmaster and Lois Fraser, their administrator, as well as Cheri Lindsay Jarvis and Kerri Allen, who choreographed the segment, and Debbie Tilson and Jack Morrison who helped in the selection of the small group.

If *Joseph* has an extended run in Toronto this summer, four more choirs will be chosen and, who knows, our young hopefuls may yet have the thrill of treading the boards with Donny Osmond and friends.

*Maureen Walker,
Hewson Crescent*

Thanks for Santa Calls help

To the Editor,
The Recreation and Parks Department would like to send a very special thank you to everyone who contributed to the 11th annual Santa Calls program held in December, especially Steve Couchman and the Optimist Club of Georgetown for their organizing efforts. Due to their support, Santa was able to talk to 1,477 children in Halton Hills.

Santa's helpers, including Town staff, were Hank Huhtanen, Leonce Paulin and Paul Devine.

Thanks to all of the principals, Kindergarten and Grade 1 teachers and parents for their enthusiastic participation in this year's program.

Thanks also to Pizza Hut, Pizza Pizza, Fong's Restaurant, A&P and Wal-Mart for providing Santa with the fuel he needed to call so many children.

*Stacey Green,
Recreation Supervisor*

Day's efforts praised

To the Editor,
Regional Councillor John Day's local improvement activities should become the rule of thumb by which true community involvement is measured. He went beyond his duty in order to find out what Georgetown residents and merchants wanted

and needed in a revitalized downtown.

Council Day has done what most elected persons at a regional or local level have not: he asked the people most affected by proposed changes what their needs were, and is attempting to respond to those needs.

*Mike Foley,
Guelph Street*

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(519)853-5040