

OUR READERS WRITE:

Protests statement in Star

To the Editors:
I read with dismay and outright indignation a quote from Mr. George Gray, (chairman of the Halton Board of Health and P.C. candidate for Halton-Burlington in the June 9 provincial election), in the May 11 edition of the Toronto Daily Star, "It is shocking that there are now no nursing home beds anywhere north of Highway 401 in Halton. He said there used to be 10 beds in a private nursing home at Acton but because the premises don't meet Ministry of Health standards, its licence has been suspended although 39 Senior Citizens remain there as boarders."
Mr. Gray in the Toronto Star article, said the situation in Halton Hills deserves special consideration.
A few facts might prove interesting. Number one, Mrs. K. Kelly's licence was never suspended, and the 39 Senior Citizens mentioned are not in a Nursing Home but a Rest Home, an entirely separate entity. Number two, as far back as 1974, Mrs. Kelly's application to increase her Nursing Home capacity to a 60 bed unit was denied in July of 1974 by Frank Miller, then minister of health quote "on the basis the increase was not in the public interest at the time." "At the present, Halton Region has a surplus of 155 nursing home beds, based on the guidelines presently used by the ministry."
At that time, there were approximately seven doctors in Acton serving around 15,000 people, and I don't believe too many Acton or district people were sent to Georgetown Hospital, but used the Guelph facilities. Being a patient there myself (Guelph) I certainly had no desire to be sent to Georgetown.
In 1975, Mrs. Kelly's application to the Ministry of Health with the result of no action as of April 22, 1975 was again noted.
In June 1975, the Ministry of Health again found "it would not be in the public interest to approve request for additional beds at this time."
In Aug. 20, 1974, The Hon. Geo. Kerr, "was most concerned that adequate nursing home facilities be provided in Halton

Hills," and asked Mr. G. Hampson, Executive Assistant, to Dr. F. H. Ellingham, Ministry of Health to review Mrs. Kelly's application as "I believe this is the only nursing home currently in operation in the Acton area of the Municipality."
In April 1975, Mrs. Kelly was told by the Ministry of Health "that the supply of nursing home beds is decided on a county or regional basis, depending upon the need in that particular geographical location."
Now after those years of trying to add much needed beds to a 10 bed nursing operation, I read Mr. Gray's statement "shocking" and Halton Hills deserves special consideration.
Well, as usual, Georgetown gets everything it wants and a new 100 bed nursing home will likely be built in Georgetown, although Mrs. Kelly battled alone for years to add 50 beds to her 10 bed operation and was turned down, time after time, as unnecessary.
Of course, the provincial election on June 9th is a great rip-off, with the tax payers paying the shot and the politicians promising the moon.
It's a wonder, Georgetown didn't load up our old Town Hall and cart it away too. I too, like Alice Doby's fine letter in the Acton Free Press, have fond memories of it.
I hope the next time Mr. Gray makes a statement of Mrs. Kelly's "suspended licence", I won't read it in the Toronto Daily Star, a good 120 miles from Acton.
Yours truly
Sheila O'Rourke
Box 125,
Tara, Ont.

No change in ownership

The Editor,
Acton Free Press,
Acton, Ontario.
I was surprised to read in the Erin Township Council report in last week's issue of the Free Press that the Turner business on Five Sideroad is now being run by Toronto people, and that a neighbor was complaining about an increased amount of noise.
I assure you that there has been absolutely no change in the ownership, management, or operation of this business. Acton Precast Concrete and supplies is still owned and operated as always by ourselves.
As to the noise, I inquired from our nearest neighbor if she was bothered by the business, and she replied that she had been

wondering if we were not as busy because she had noticed less machinery noise this spring. I was pleased to be able to tell her that business is as usual and the amount of noise and activity about the same as last year, when they moved in. In fact, the noise and activity around here has not changed appreciably since before there were any near neighbors at all.
I feel when town folk move to the rural areas, they must choose their new location with care, and then make up their minds to accept the environment they have chosen. In spite of the rough roads, mosquitoes, barnyard smells, party telephone lines, and occasional noises, rural life must have some attractions or it wouldn't be getting so crowded here on Five Sideroad.
Yours truly,
(Mrs.) M. J. Turner.

Objects to town hall project

Editor of the Acton Free Press
Dear Sir,
Recent stories in your paper concerning the old Town Hall in Acton compel me to write this letter.
In my humble opinion our Town Council was entirely correct in recommending the demolition of this crumbling edifice on Willow Street and the fact that they have been swayed by a number of signatures on petitions, mostly school children, is not to their credit. Since most of the school children who signed either have no idea or care about the cost, I feel it was dishonest and deceitful to have them sign petitions and wave their little signs at the Municipal Offices. There is an urgent need for this property and it could be put to better use at less cost to the Taxpayers as an enlarged Fire Hall and parking lot.
In the same issue there is a complaint from the Downtown Merchants concerning loitering and behaviour of some of our teen-

agers and young adults with the comment that we cannot afford to hire too many Police Officers to patrol the area.
Surely in this era of the increased cost of everything we should be very careful of our priorities and the reconstruction of tired old buildings should be very low on the list.
Let us not forget that even money obtained from grants from various foundations is ultimately our money as these foundations are generally funded by the Government who picks our pocket to get their money.
I for one, and maybe the only one, would not like to see one dollar of tax money spent on this project.
Yours very truly,
Neil W. Campbell,
Acton, Ontario.



CAROUSEL PLAYERS, a group from St. Catharines, visited Acton Public Library Saturday and performed Norse Saga for the benefit of about 25 children. Chris Kelk demonstrates why the group calls this production "Participation theatre" by involving Kathy Harris, Peggy Anker and Chris Harris in the action.

This Canada will never die

The Breezes Trailer Park,
Fairy Lake,
Acton.
138 Willowridge Rd.
Weston, Ont.
M9R 3Z7
May 6, 1977
Dear Editor:
As a Scotsman I have been listening to the arguments that Quebec puts up for separating from the rest of Canada. Language predominates.
I would like them to know that since I arrived I have heard every language spoken, not just English or French. I would point out that it took a lot more than the English and French to build this country into the great nation that it is today. The builders came from every corner of the world. They brought with them the ability to embrace the laws and the language of the country, without losing their native tongue or their culture which has added to the greatness that is Canada.
This is one Scotsman who is very glad to be in a country that seems to have the only stable government in this sick world today. I wrote this poem in tribute.
I remain,
Yours respectfully,
John Herron.
This Canada
This land of mountain, river, plain,
This land that proudly bears the name
Canada home to all.

This land of timber, lake and snow,
Intrepid men helped make her grow
Millions heard her call.
This land of promise nature blessed,
Nurtures freedom at her breast
Among the nations standing tall.
All races fused as one great nation
Endowed with wealth this God's creation,
"This Canada" best of all.
This sun-kissed land of nature's child,
Of virgin forests undefiled
A hunters paradise.
Of rushing rivers, game galore,
With nature's bounty more and more
This land in all things suffice.
A fairyland, industrial giant
Adamant but not defiant.
A voice the world respects,
This voice that speaks of lasting peace
With hope that war and strife may cease
"This Canada" violence rejects.
This land where men can live as brothers,
Unprejudiced of race or color
Here where they are free.
Free to say what they must say
Free to plan their destiny
Here freedom is the key.
With flag unfurled, and anthem written,
Freedom's song all nations listen
Soars towards the sky.
Canadian hearts now swell with pride
This spirit let no man deride
"This Canada" will never die.
John Herron

"More power to you" in the town hall rescue project, writes a "tourist" in a letter to the Editor. However the letter is not signed and so it cannot be published. Would the writer please contact us and make his or her identity known?

Can FBDB help you?

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programs for business**

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