

# readers write

## Em Lavender: Appointment or anointment

To the Editor of The Herald:

Reading your account of the elevation of Mr. Em Lavender from the position of Assistant Director of Education to Director-Apparent, two questions come into my mind.

1. Should this act be described as appointment or anointment?

2. When the Halton Board has done so much, why has it failed to select a theme song to open its meetings and inspire its discourse?

I have not been able to resolve the first question but on the second, from the evidence available, it is clear that only a major split at board level has delayed a decision. One party believes Ray Bolger's calypso "We Are Members of a MU-TU-

AL Admiration Society" would do very well while the other party insists on commissioning Mohammed Ali, the only person capable of expressing the facts of the situation with a properly tasteful modesty.

It is justifying for Halton taxpayers to know, on the best of authority, that this Board of Education is the best in the province and that its leadership is appreciated over the continent, if not the whole world. However I think there are some aspects of that leadership which deserve to be specially cited at this point when the Board has "reached its second crossroad in its short history."

1. The administration and consulting hierarchy created by the Board has been the

model for many others. Involvement from the day-to-day contact with classes, they have been able to develop far more innovative practices than would otherwise have occurred. Despite ill-informed criticism, the Board has courageously expanded this force until the ratio of teachers and professional supervisors and advisors is lower than the actual student-teacher ratio in some classrooms.

2. Recognizing the importance of the school's babysitting role in society, the Board has extended the school day for many students by bussing them to schools other than those closest to their houses. They have been spectacularly successful with Georgetown students who at-

tended General Wolfe Vocational School who now enjoy an hour-long bus trip morning and afternoon instead of receiving instruction at Georgetown High School, as they did in the unregenerate days before Halton took over.

3. Amongst the many innovations introduced by the Board, that of teaching mathematics to 100 students with only two teachers has apparently met with approval, for the arrangement continues in its third year.

4. The Board has manifested its moral strength in the Norval school issue. Despite political pressure at the highest level, it has eschewed the easy, popular decision to keep Norval open. The education advantages for the students, able to participate in multi-grade activities in open concept classes, instead of being cramped into three rooms with five grades, outweighed any other considerations. Pandering to parochial sentiment based on community traditions of one hundred years would have been so easy, but the Board did not yield to temptation.

Besides, the expenses of repairing and maintaining the Norval school will be eliminated; the otherwise surplus classroom space in schools too hastily expanded will be filled and the children will enjoy their bus trips and the variety of schools they are now likely to attend between five and 15.

In view of this record of leadership and the unprecedented speed with which the Board has provided for the Directorship which was to fall vacant next year, it is difficult to guess where we may be led next. It is an exciting prospect, particularly for our children.

Yours truly,  
John Bellamy  
Edith Street,  
Georgetown

install before June 1975 if work is not started very soon - the area will become a muddy morass unsuitable for construction vehicles.

Your Works Department's reasons for the delay in this matter would be appreciated, as would be the details of your intended schedule for construction.

Yours truly,  
John E. Mitchell  
For Pollution Probe

## Georgetown's dump not up to it

Following is the content of a letter written to Allan Masson, chairman of Halton Region.

I have been repeatedly assured during this summer that the Georgetown dump would be brought up to the standard of operation required by the Ministry of the Environment in the near future. Approval was given for the site on the basis of certain conditions. Two of these are not being met:

1. No litter check fencing has been installed to prevent trash blowing downhill into the Credit River.

2. The leachate pumping facility has not been installed. Our observations indicate the leachate is flowing from the dump area into the river. It will flow in considerably greater quantities during this winter and the spring of 1975. The pumphouse power supply and pipework may be impossible to

walked down Princess Ann Drive? One has to walk as close to the grass as possible and keep your eyes watching the slopes. The same applies to Charles Street. But really the walk from Park to Church on Main East just defies description. What a dippy-doodle you did there.

I just hope we don't have icy walks this winter. Better for council to plan now to keep the walks free of ice and snow so there will be no broken bones from a fall.

Please build sidewalks for pedestrians or just do repairs to

existing old sidewalks. Many could do with a new surface, or better still have a pedestrian on your sidewalk planning committee who knows what walking is.

Please Mr. Mayor discuss this with your appropriate committee and see what improvements to make.

Mrs. M. L. Taylor  
49 Park Ave.

## Resident appeals walk

I am pleased to see Council is beginning to recognize the need for better sidewalks in Georgetown. I read you are to build a sidewalk on part of Guelph St. so the children will be able to use it to walk to school. Please see the walk is not used as a repository for the snow from the road as happened on Ewing Street when a sidewalk was provided so the children would not have to walk on the road. They still had to in the winter.

I was always under the impression sidewalks were for the convenience of people to walk on. Not so in Georgetown. Now I find they are built for ramps to help cars slide to the road. Have any of you Councillors

A Forsythia bush, in full bloom, was discovered in the garden of Mrs. Arthur Beaumont, Glen Williams, by gardener Albert Nutei. Mr. Nutei brought a bouquet to the Herald office along with the comment, "Spring, the second time around."

A word to gardeners. A late blooming will not harm Forsythia, so enjoy this touch of spring in November.

..To the Editor of The Herald:

Although Acton ceased to exist, officially, with the inception of Regional Government, it appears that it still exists as an underprivileged region, at least in the minds of the majority of our councillors. While I hesitated to object publicly when, one by one, our services have been eroded by the regional system, I find it difficult to accept the jeopardizing of Acton children's lives.

Since school opened in September, the crossing at Mill St., and Willow St. has been unattended by a crossing guard

a large part of the time, and I wonder if we have to have a child killed there before anything is done about the situation. We have been informed by Mr. Pritchard that it is really not customary to have a crossing guard at an intersection where there is a crosswalk, but this is an extremely busy corner, on the highway, where motorists are not noted for obeying the law allowing pedestrians to cross. What do we need to do, to get protection for little ones on their way to school? We only need three crossing guards in

all of Acton, and all of them are at intersections on the highway. Every week, we get news of something we are losing, because Georgetown doesn't have it, therefore we can't, either. For years, Acton financed its own business, didn't ask for help from anyone, and had services superior to those in neighboring towns. Now, suddenly, our taxes are going up, and we are losing services, the most important of which is care for our children's lives. Just what is regional government giving us in return? We have always done

things for ourselves - the band built the music centre, the firemen built the firehall, the scout group committee built the scout hall, public subscription put the community centre on the arena, the library was our Centennial project, built largely by subscription by Acton citizens, who are also helping to build our swimming pool by the same method. Now, we are to be allowed to help the neighboring communities to get the government to do these things for them - thanks a lot!! We had a good town here - a little smelly sometimes,

maybe, but nothing is perfect. Now, we feel that we are being trampled on, simply because we don't have much weight in numbers on council. We are powerless to do anything about the situation, but if a child is killed or injured because of the attitude of our regional administrators, I hope that the

people of Acton will finally be aroused enough to raise a real uproar somewhere it will be heard, and heeded. Garbage collection we can manage without, but not our children!

Irene Watson  
197 Burbank Dr.  
Acton

## Spring now

West Germany likes us

8 München 81  
Efferstrasse 197  
Munich, W. Germany  
Oct. 27, 1974

Letter to the Editor of The Herald

Sir:

Since renewing my subscription to The Herald, I have been receiving two copies. As an "outsider" now living "outside", I would like to second Mrs. Reeves comments. The paper has improved a great deal in the last weeks. I would like to see more Personal, of course.

Yours truly  
Brenda Frey  
Nee Robison

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We would like to emulate our counterparts of fifty years ago but we need more response from the women of Halton Hills. The next meeting of the local council is this Friday, November 15, at 1.30 p.m. in St. George's Anglican Church Hall on Guelph St. and the speaker is Mario Vendetti, town planner. Babysitting is available if you need transportation phone 877-1226. Please come and get involved!

Honey Cornfoot  
Publicity Chairman  
Local Council of Women  
Mountainview Road  
Georgetown

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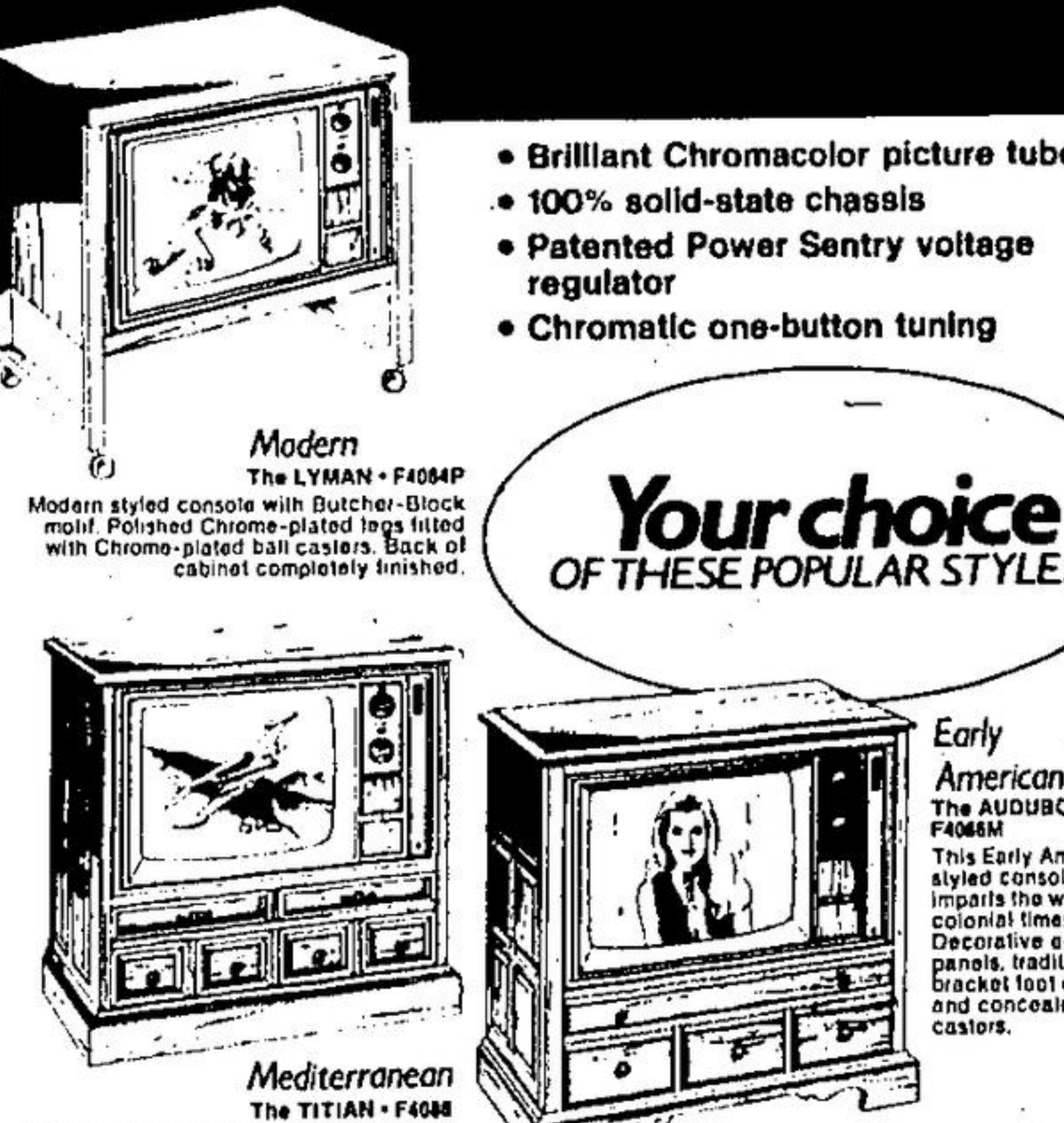
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**Remember.. Think..**

**PARTICIPATE**



**REMEMBRANCE DINNER NOVEMBER 16TH**

**Parade Times**  
**GEORGETOWN NOVEMBER 17TH 2:30 P.M.**  
**GLEN WILLIAMS NOVEMBER 17TH 12:30 P.M.**

**DIGNITARIES**  
Bill Shields, Ontario Command RCL  
Tom Hill, Halton Hills  
Jim Snow, Ontario MP

## Girls' pipe band was busy

To the Editor of The Herald:

Several phone calls have been received by some members of the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band ranging from private citizens, to members of the news media, to town representatives. Spot questions were asked and this, of course, cannot give the full picture of the band. Consequently there have been several pieces of incorrect information presented to the community. The following resume will, we hope will clarify any misunderstandings.

The Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band was formed in 1942 and first appeared in parade in the summer of 1943. From 1942 to 1963 a grant of \$300.00 was requested and received from the town of Georgetown. In 1964, a request was made to Georgetown council from the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band and the Georgetown Citizens Band to have a grant set at \$2000.00 annually with the pipe band drawing \$500.00 and the Citizens' Band \$1500.00. The plebiscite was put to the people of Georgetown for vote and was passed.

In 1973 a letter was sent to Georgetown council explaining the necessity of a major re-equipping of uniforms, and how the savings over the past several years totalled only a small percentage of that required. The pipe band's 1973 grant was increased to \$1500.00 total. In 1974 our annual letter of request for a grant was sent to Halton Hills council for the sum of \$1500.00, in order to continue the re-equipping programme. This request was approved and the \$1500.00 grant was received.

The band membership is 22 pipers and 10 drummers (including juniors) for a total of 32. Until the past few years the membership fluctuated between 20 and 30. Using 25 as the average for the years 1943 to 1963, cost per member was \$12.00. Using the same number (25) for the years 1964 to 1972, cost per member was \$20.00. For the year 1973 with 22 members cost per member was \$53.53. For the year 1974 with 32 members cost per member is \$49.37.

The grants requested and received annually are used solely at for the purchase of new members' uniforms and replacement of worn out pieces for present members, (b) the replacement of worn-out bagpipe parts, (c) the purchase

of drums and replacement parts, and (d) the payment of a drum instructor. (The drum trainee pays the band 50 cents a lesson while training, to help defray the cost.) It is not necessary to hire a pipe instructor. Pipe Major Mrs. V. Hulme is qualified and teaches the band at no charge.

In contrast to the band buying the drums, the pipers are required to buy their own pipes. The main reason is hygiene. Bagpipes are a personal instrument. The piper blows into a leather-bag reservoir which cannot be sanitized. Also, most of the pipers play for their friends at private functions. However, the band will buy bagpipes for anyone wishing to join and payment by the member can be made in minimal installments at no interest. There is no charge for membership to the band.

Over the years the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band has carried Georgetown's name to most of southern Ontario and as far east as Quebec City. In 1972 and again in 73 they were invited to lead the Royal Winter Fair Parade through the city of Toronto. Not only do they play at parades and functions, they also take part in pipe-band competitions and have shown themselves well. In the 1973 Canadian National Exhibition Pipe Band contest, they tied for fifth place out of thirty-two entries.

Their calendar for 1974 is as follows: Feb. 23, Indoor Games, Denison Armouries, Toronto; Mar. 16, Indoor display, Georgetown High School Cafeteria; Apr. 13, Toronto Indoor Games, Moss Park Armouries, "3RD Prize, Grade 4"; May 19, Ontario Place, Three performances on the grounds; May 25, Lions Convention, Sudbury, "First Prize for pipe bands"; May 29, Cadet Inspection, Georgetown Armouries; June 8, Canada Flag Day, Sney Creek; June 8, Lions Beer Garden, Georgetown Arena; June 15, Parade and tattoo, Lindsay; June 22, Flower Festival Parade, Brampton; July 13, Highland Games, Brantford, competition; July 20, Founder's Day, Erin; Aug. 10, Highland Games, Fergus, competition; Aug. 14, Parade of the Pipers, CNE Toronto; Aug. 15, Playground parade, Georgetown; Aug. 18, Downtown sidewalk sale, Georgetown; Aug. 25 Ontario Place, second performance;

Sept. 7, parade from Square One to Port Credit; Mississauga; Sept. 7, Lions Beer Garden, Georgetown Arena; Sept. 14, Fall Fair, Milton; Sept. 27, International Plowing Match, Halton; Oct. 5, Fall Fair, Georgetown; Oct. 6, General Brock's Memorial Service, Queenston, Nov. 16, Santa Claus Parade, Bramalea City Centre, Nov. 17, Remembrance Day Parade, Georgetown; Dec. 17, Santa Claus Parade, Georgetown.

The money from parades pays for the band's transportation and meals. The remainder subsidizes the grant. Other moneys to help run the band are raised by draws and an annual Christmas dance. In June of this year an arrangement was made to supply a florist with rolled newspaper to supplement funds.

I have been in contact with the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band for several years, and the past year and a half have been their chief executive. I am proud of each and every one of them, for their dedication is inspiring.

Yours sincerely,  
G.S.B. Callaghan,  
President  
The Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band



ROBERT ROSSET, a Grade 9 student at Georgetown District High School was first to correctly identify the water tower and receive \$5 for his efforts in last week's Herald contest. Val accepted the call at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday morning at the new classified action number, 877-8822.

## Safety of Acton's children believed to be in jeopardy

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