

# Seniors can retire in comfort in Halton Hills



LAUNDRY DAY for Evelyn Ross, who lives with her husband in one of the 26 Kin Court apartments for seniors in Georgetown. Like the majority, Mrs. Ross is from the area and was glad to find a place in her own community with friends her own age.

There's a three star hotel in Acton. \$10.50 daily covers the cost of three square meals plus other comforts of home: air conditioning, wall to wall broadband, fresh linen, yard space, a rec room, a colour television...

It's called the Acton Rest Home.

"Acton is losing its identity in Halton Hills, so I chose this name because I wanted there to be something left with Acton on it," explained owner Katherine Kelly who opened the rest home in January 1978, after 18 months of red tape involving the committee of Adjustment, and the fire department, she said.

Eventually granted was a minor variance to an existing zoning bylaw, changing the old Legion hall from being zoned commercial downstairs and single residence upstairs to a multiple residence dwelling.

\$60,000, said Kelly, was spent on re-wiring, new plumbing, smoke detectors, solid doors, fire exits, extinguishers, alarms, an emergency lighting system, plus fire resistant carpets, drapes and paint. "Now it's up to nursing home

standards; I've set an example and I think other rest homes should have to be on par."

Nursing homes, under provincial legislation, house bedridden patients while rest homes are private enterprises where ambulatory people reside, defined Kelly. Also owner of Kelly's Nursing Home, R.R. Acton, she knows the business, and runs both operations the same.

Menus are based on the Canada Food Plan. On a spontaneous visit, chicken dinners, including salad, mashed potatoes, bread, creamed corn, and cake with fruit and sauce were served. Special menus are prepared for diabetics and others with regulated diets.

Linen throughout the well-dusted and vacuumed house was spotless, as were the laundry room, pantry, kitchen, common room, semi-private and ward bedrooms.

George McConaghy "couldn't be happier" that his mother Nellie has made her home there, with the other 25 residents, cared for by a staff of six.

However, Kelly is disappointed that the only visitors to the Acton Rest Home has been friends and relatives of residents, and inspectors including Fire Chief Mickey Holmes, Zoning Administrator Doug Sargeant and Building Inspector Wendell Steinhilber.

"It's a classic case - we get one thing Georgetown doesn't have and the dignitaries haven't even spent five minutes to walk through it."

No, Georgetown doesn't have a rest home, or a nursing home. But here are accommodations for seniors capable of caring for themselves, namely Kin Court on Hyde Park Road and its sister OHC operation of Sargeant Road.

Established six or seven years ago, rent charged at Georgetown's apartments for seniors depends on the size of each pensioners income.

Kin Court on one level, eliminates the obstacles of stairs and elevators, and is conveniently near the hospital. Each unit resembles a one bedroom high-rise apartment, including a small private yard as townhouses do. Spacious landscaped lawns, parking, garbage, laundry and a common rec room are provided.

Recently donated by the Terra Cotta Thimble Club for communal use was a piano. Since the recent death of the

long-term caretaker, Bob Bowman has assumed the custodial responsibilities of Kin Court on behalf of OHC. Besides general maintenance duties and accepting complaints, Bowman goodheartedly undertakes extra tasks such as replacing lightbulbs and tuning the piano.

Most of the residents however are self-sufficient. Some own cars and many regularly attend church, community activities, seniors clubs, and visit plazas. Only one takes advantage of the Wheels on Meals program although others arrange for Homemakers on a temporary basis upon return from the hospital.

"It's quiet here," said Kin Court dweller Winnifred Eason while her neighbour Anne

Dorisson commented, "It's nice to have people my age to talk to."

The general trend of the Halton Hills housing situation continues into the realm of senior citizens' accommodation: there are few complaints about what there is except that there isn't enough.

"The proposed seniors' housing projects which are in the works will solve some problems," observed assistant town planner Ron Burnett of the 89 units to be constructed at the junction of Guelph and Maple Streets, Georgetown. But what about the elderly who are not healthy enough to live independently?

The majority of residents of places for the aged in Halton surveyed are local citizens who prefer to stay close to



their family and friends in their hometown. If accommodations is not available, especially for people who require care, they will have to leave their roots for Milton, Guelph or even further and more foreign towns.

Kelly said that her original intention to establish a second nursing home in Halton was prohibited by a provincial law

saying that within the county one nursing home bed is to be provided per 1,000 citizens. Halton has reached its quota, she said, most nursing homes being located in the south.

No legislation exists however to limit the number of rest homes - mediums between nursing homes and OHC apartments for seniors. No operational regulations exist with the exception of fire safety standards either. These facts scare Kelly, being

familiar with one rest home in particular near Halton which doesn't have a night staff, or more than the bare minimum of fire equipment and other facilities.

"Some people just fill a big old house withold people and call it a rest home," sighed Kelly. "They're just in it for the money. They don't really care about the people and the dignitaries just pass the buck for inspections."



READING THE HERALD together are Acton Rest Home resident Cassie Watson and RN Jackie Welsh, who is on call 24 hours a day.



UNDER THE DRYER goes Acton Rest Home resident Gladys Hoffman, with the help of staff member Helen Chaisson.

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## Bus crash Cont'd from 1

owned by Basline Construction of Mississauga.

The uncontrolled intersection of Erin St. and Credit St. in Georgetown was the scene of an accident June 15 at 10:55 a.m. when a truck driven by Ron H. Preston of Guelph was in collision with a car driven by David S. Meal, R.R.1, Limehouse.

Police estimate damages at \$200 for the Meal vehicle and \$25 for the Preston truck. An unknown driver was the cause of an accident June 19 at 11:30 p.m. on Trafalgar Road, about a half-mile south of 10 Sideroad when, according to police reports, he veered into the opposite lane and struck on the left rear a car operated by Harry C. Noble, of Toronto, causing \$100 in damages. It then continued travelling north on the highway.

Steeles Ave. west of the Ninth Line was the scene of collision June 16 at 5:10 p.m. when a car driven by Sarine Hawke, R.R.1, Hornby, was in collision with a car driven by Andrea Huberty Oakville.

Police estimate damages at \$150 to the Hawke vehicle and \$200 to the Huberty vehicle.

Main St., Georgetown, about 78 feet north of Mill St. was the scene of a collision June 14 at 1:05 p.m. when a car driven by Michael B. Ryall, 20 Arletta St., was in collision with a car driven by Betsy Ruth Cornwell, R.R.1, Georgetown.

Police estimate damages at \$50 to each vehicle.

The intersection of Mill St. and Back St. in Georgetown was the scene of an accident June 16 at 3:25 p.m. when a car driven by Robert B. Grievie, 16 Tweedle St., Glen Williams, was in collision with a car driven by Michle A. Leeming, 174 Rexway Dr. Damages amounted to \$400 to the Grievie vehicle and \$150 to the Leeming vehicle, police estimate.

The crosswalk opposite 92 Guelph St. in Georgetown was the scene of a collision June 17 when a car driven by Maurice R. Beaver, Guelph, was in collision with one driven by Doreen Lodetta Brunt, 18 Rosefield Dr.

Police estimate damage at \$200 to the Beaver vehicle and \$100 to the Brunt vehicle. Parking lots were the scene of the final two accidents reported by police.

The parking lot of the McGibbon Hotel was the scene of a three-car accident when a car driven by Laurent J. Gagnon, 66 Main St. was in collision with a car owned by John E. Toobey, 367A Guelph St. and another owned by Pearl M. Reding, of Brampton.

Police estimate damages at \$500 for the Gagnon vehicle, \$250 for the Toobey vehicle and \$700 for the Reding vehicle.

The Georgetown Market Place parking lot was the scene of a collision June 17 when a car driven by Margaret A. Hunter, R.R.1, Terra Cotta, was in collision with a car owned by Thomas Monks, 12 Uplands Cr. in Georgetown.

Police estimate damage at \$150 to the Monks vehicle but nil to the Hunter vehicle.



HUNGRY DADS stand around the barbecue while their sons explored a clearing at Camp Vincent in Halton Hills during a Father-Son cookout held by the 8th Cub Pack of Georgetown. Flipping hamburgers over a hot barbecue are Don Guelstl, left, and Marc Marcell, second from right.

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**BUSINESS MEN IN THE NEWS**

Earl Ryder has been part of the Georgetown business community for the past 10 years. In that time, his philosophy of business hasn't changed and still remains, "Give the customer an even break." Earl and his wife, Laverne, of nearly 33 years have four children, Judy (Mrs. Mike Payne) of Georgetown, Jane (Mrs. Jim Harris) of Trenton and Bob and Terry, who still reside at the family home. Over the years, Earl has served as a director of the Retail Merchants Association and endeavoured to ensure that anti-inflation measures be top-most in the retailer's mind.

No one is more interested in avoiding the innovations to the retail industry which have coincided with the high inflation rate. At Ryders, extended store hours are avoided as well as credit cards and unfair rental agreements which only add to the consumer's cost. This shows up in Ryders' pricing. If the reader examines Ryders' advertising, it is apparent that prices range from 10 to 15 percent below most stated list prices on most current large items, with discounts from list of 25 percent and more, common on clearance items. In fact, prices of quality colour TV's and stereos are lower now than at any time since Ryders' inception.

No one seems more determined to bring to the consumer the most reliable merchandise at the best possible prices. In colour TV's this means brands such as Quasar, Toshiba and Hitachi and in component stereos this means Sansul, Toshiba and P.E. by Dual.

Few have been more active in training young people to replace the technicians that have left the Georgetown area. Three apprentices have undergone training at Ryders, with two graduating as fully qualified technicians. This gave Ryders sufficient help to service the makes they sell, or have sold, with little time to spare.

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