



Paul Dorsey

Letter from  
the Editor

### Belated hello

Michael Hollett left the editorship of the Herald three weeks ago after a 13-month period characterized by substantial changes in the newspaper's appearance, a greater sense of this community as a veritable cauldron of ongoing issues and a growing respect, we believe, among readers who have witnessed many years, even decades, of The Herald's evolution.

If Michael's main contribution to The Herald was a noticeable increase in our appreciation for the weight and importance of the news of the day, then let mine be a reawakening of the paper's community awareness.

Let me go on record here expressing my sincere desire to present Herald readers with a forum for their own ideas and activities as well as a detailed wrap-up of the week's news.

Each week, we receive a number of articles from our correspondents in the area hamlets, from various club members, from sports enthusiasts, and from other interested contributors who appear happy to recount current events and preview forthcoming activities related to their interests.

These contributions, for the most part, represent what weekly newspapers are all about.

Thus, we gratefully accept such informal write-ups and will make every effort, time and space allowing, to feature them on an appropriate page of the paper.

Whether they are finalized typewritten articles or handwritten notes designed to tip us off about ongoing events and issues, they are welcome. Simply drop them by the office or mail them to 103 Main Street South in Georgetown, L7G 3E5. Any questions or other ideas? Phone 877-2201.

It is with a feeling of personal pride that I include in one of my first editions the opening chapter of *It's The Ruggle's History of The Herald*, an idea the well-known historian had devised in conjunction with my predecessor. Ironically, Michael Hollett is now himself a "chapter" in that history, and, though he's not yet 26 years old, he's more than deserving of a position in our "Herald staff hall of fame".

Any readers who have copies of the old Georgetown Herald dating back to the last century or the 1900s prior to '39 would receive a warm welcome and grateful thanks if they could loan them to us briefly for use alongside forthcoming chapters of the Herald history.

Last week's issue saw the debut of our new reporter-photographer, Richard Petrashek.

Currently a Weston resident, Richard comes to us indirectly from the Vaughan Vanguard, where he covered municipal politics in that growing region north of Toronto. Richard's expertise in photography, which occupied him professionally until recently, promises to do wonders for the calibre of pictures in The Herald.

We hope The Herald's readers and contacts will accept Richard into the community as we have welcomed him onto the staff.



Richard Petrashek

### SCISSORS

is pleased to announce that Donna Lambert, formerly of Carmen's Coiffure has joined their staff.

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## Alternate energy sources sought by Halton farmers

**Herald special**  
Halton farmers have a number of energy-saving options open to them, according to a study presented Friday at an energy symposium held at the University of Guelph.

Some of these options, including improved equipment operation, better manure management and more rational use of agricultural chemicals, he called low cost and immediately applicable steps which could be taken now, said Richard Lay, author of the rural development outreach program report.

Other methods such as solar power, wind energy, and other gasoline substitutes will require greater investments or development time, but appear feasible in Halton, according to Mr. Lay.

Ontario already has several applications of solar energy, including the Arkell Research Station where solar grain dryers are in operation, and collectors are being built by the University of Guelph school of engineering to heat barns.

Mr. Lay's study of Halton farms included data from a previous study done in Nebraska which showed simple, home

built solar collectors produce an acceptable return on investment.

#### FUEL ADDITIVES

Distillation of denatured fuel alcohol is a second possible energy saving step which could be taken in Halton, said Mr. Lay.

"Pure ethanol is preferable to gasoline blends for farm equipment application because of its suitability for high compression engines, the absence of gasoline-water phase separation, its higher octane rating, and the independence from petroleum supplies that

pure alcohol fuel provides," Mr. Lay's report states.

While fuel costs are about 13 per cent of a farmer's gross sales, Halton farmers' fuel needs might be met with as little as three to 11 per cent of their cultivated land dedicated to fuel alcohol production, he adds.

Wind engines, having been brought up to date by aerodynamic changes, can both provide direct mechanical work and also drive compressors. A 1977 report for Ontario Hydro and the ministry of energy identified Guelph as a desirable site for wind power development.

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