

**Decision already 'cut and dried'?**

# Rest home bidding questioned

Those interested in making a proposal to the Ontario Ministry of Health about providing a 50-bed nursing home facility for Halton Hills received their invitation by advertisements last week in local newspapers.

Deadline for submitting such

proposals is June 5, although a Guelph rest home operator is suspicious that the decision is already "cut and dried".

Katherine Kelly operated a rest home in the Acton area for several years and says she would have been interested in making a proposal had the

matter been under consideration three years ago. Now she jokes, she'd be more interested in moving to Florida.

Mrs. Kelly believes that the facility is needed in Halton Hills but questions the wisdom of the ministry in setting Acton

or Georgetown as the preferred location. She feels it would be better situated between two urban areas where residents could be drawn from both countries.

"I hear they really want to stick it next to the Georgetown hospital and I think that's a poor place for it," she says. "Hospitals are morbid places for those old people and they figure when they're next door to it like that they've just come there to die. If they look out the window all they'll get to see is ambulances coming in and out."

"After the publicity about the Georgetown hospital idea, I think anyone wanting to submit a proposal should get a straight answer from the ministry about whether there's any use submitting a proposal or whether it's there already and they're just following the proper form in apparently opening it up for anyone to try for."

Mrs. Kelly also feels that locating it in Georgetown will virtually cut it off from Acton residents because Acton doctors who have to go to their patients won't send their patients to a facility in Georgetown.

Acton doctors deal with Guelph hospitals and if they have to detour to a nursing home for a patient they're going to want to put them in a Guelph location so they won't waste travelling time since they travel Guelph direction to patients anyway.

Janet Booth and Jeanette

Fernandes both operate rest homes in Acton and both feel they aren't interested in getting into the nursing home area.

"I'm stretched to my limit looking after the rest homes I already have," Mrs. Fernandes says.

"If I had the financial backing necessary to start something like that I'd be expanding my own rest home," Mrs. Booth said.

Georgetown hospital administrator Fred Morris says the hospital will be submitting a proposal to build the facility adjacent to the hospital but they have not finished it yet.

Mr. Morris said he has heard nothing to indicate anyone else is interested in providing the facility.

"I wish I could be as sure as Mrs. Kelly seems to be that we're going to get those beds," he said. "Our bid will be slightly unusual in that it provides both the chronic care and

nursing home beds.

"We have identified a need for the chronic care but that is governed by the Public Hospitals Act and isn't open to the private sector to provide," Mr. Morris said. "In that respect our bid will be slightly different from what those other people submit. We're the only ones that can provide that service and we'll submit our bid that way."

On the matter of Acton doctors being reluctant to use such a facility if it is placed in Georgetown, he said, they won't have a choice. People are put in chronic care by a placement service and if the chronic care facility is there for the area that's where the service will put them.

He also questions whether Acton doctors will be so foolish as to ignore the rest home because it gets put in Georgetown when there's been seven-year battle to get one built north of Highway 401.

## Board approves plan for separate school

**Herald Special**  
The property and planning committee of the Halton separate school board recently chose a plan for Acton's new St. Joseph's School which will give students nine classrooms, a kindergarten, a resource centre and a general purpose room for physical education classes.

The plan chosen was one of four presented by Michael Torsney, a Hamilton architect, said Halton Hills trustee Irene McCauley. The plan has received no board endorsement yet and can also be vetoed by the ministry of education.

Mrs. McCauley said the chosen plan is now being examined by administration staff to see what modifications might be necessary to avoid future concerns not readily identifiable by a layman to the education field. After that is done it will be taken to the full board for their acceptance, probably at the end of the month. Then it must be approved by the ministry.

So far there has been no indication that the building is modular or different in any way from the type of school building use throughout Halton, she said.

## Concern over arthritis rises with campaign

With the recent renewed interest in arthritis, applications for research grants to the Arthritis Society have reached an all-time high. Considered a rather dreary area of medicine only a few years ago, rheumatology is now attracting many scientists.

According to rheumatolo-

gists associated with the Society, the virtual explosion of knowledge about more than 100 different kinds of arthritis has caused great excitement in the scientific world.

The body's immune system is undergoing careful study and many researchers think this is the area which will produce results as far as controlling arthritis is concerned. It is a widely held view that much of the damage of inflammatory arthritis is caused because this immune system does not "shut off" as it normally should, with the results that the body goes on producing very powerful agents which, in effect, eat into the joint structure itself.

The role of heredity in arthritis is being studied and it is felt that predisposition to rheumatoid arthritis is hereditary. It is also felt that problems with the body's immune system can be hereditary as well.

These two areas seem to be

the ones which hold out the greatest promise as far as further understanding of arthritis is concerned, but there is renewed interest in the areas of the understanding of inflammation, the role infection plays in many kinds of arthritis and, finally, there is a great deal of study being done in the area of pharmacology to produce new drugs which will aid in the control of arthritis.

The Arthritis Society has received a total of 91 research grant applications from scientists in Canada. The Ontario Division of The Arthritis Society is seeking to raise more than \$3 million in 1981 in order to support the Society's programs of research and medical manpower development.

Free information about arthritis and the Society is available by writing to: The Arthritis Society, 920 Yonge St., Ste. 420, Toronto, Ont., M4W 3J7.

## Car Check Week's coming

"Care, Savings and Safety" is the theme suggested by the Canada Safety Council for its "Car Check Week" April 2 to 8.

These three go together if drivers want a simple formula for long, economical motoring. Today's society demands smaller, lighter, more fuel efficient vehicles, but many drivers have not yet realized that closer attention to vehicle maintenance is required to ensure that all systems operate properly.

One instance has been documented where a driver neglected such basic maintenance as oil changes altogether. When the vehicle was a year old, and failed to start, it was found to have the original factory oil filter and original oil. Maintenance costs to that point would have been around \$200. The result was a complete engine failure and a repair bill in excess of \$2,000.

Even with such minor items as oil changes, careful attention to routine maintenance constitutes more of a saving than an expense.

Our example shows how money can be lost through neglect. Let us just imagine the loss had it been steering or brake mechanisms that required attention. The loss may have been both money and lives.

The number of accidents that result from mechanical defects is variously quoted as between six and ten percent of all traffic accidents. Yet these are the accidents most easily preventable without any particular action on the part of the owner other than attending to basic, routine maintenance.

And, if a quote for \$20, \$50, or even \$200 seems a lot to pay, the Canada Safety Council suggests that thought be given to all possible consequences before driving away.

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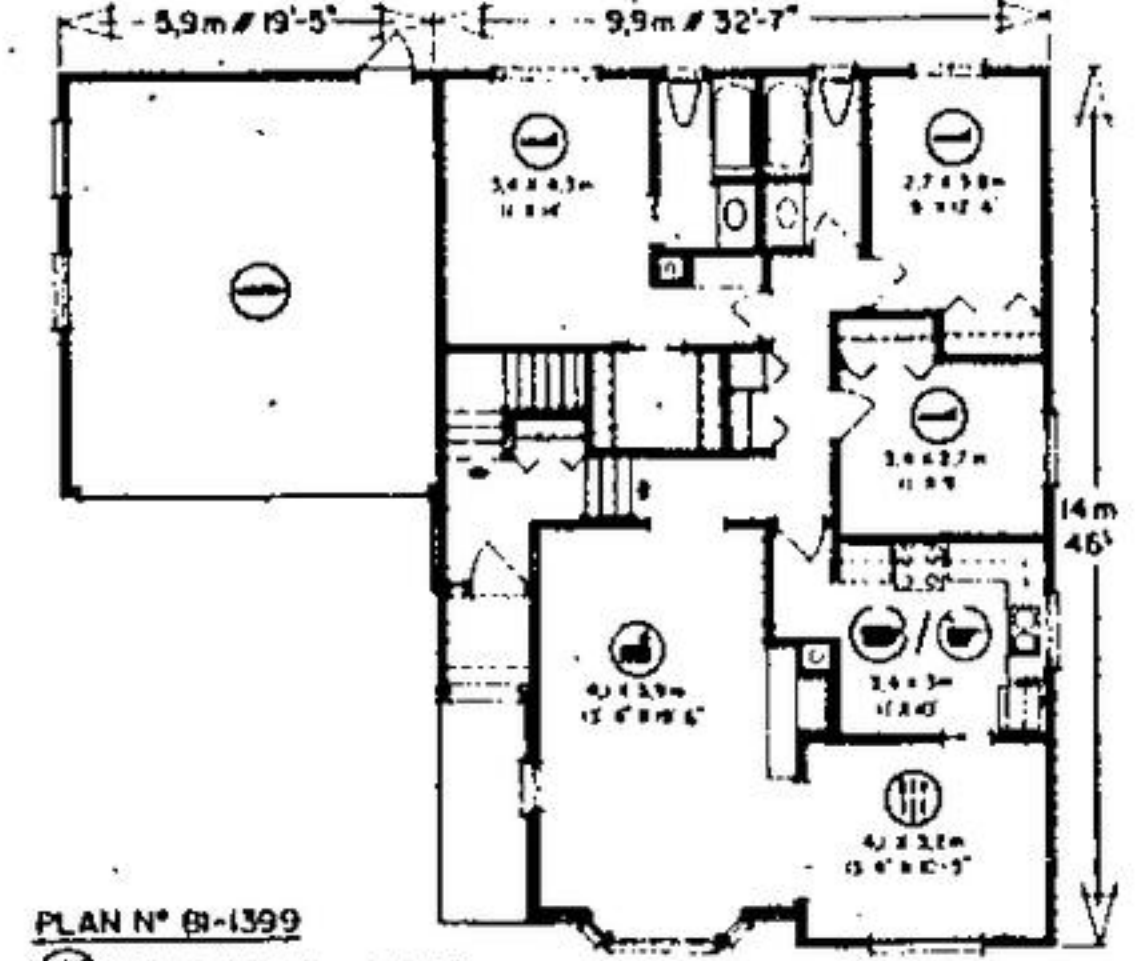
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## Home of the Week



### SPACIOUS SPLIT ENTRY DESIGN FOR A WIDE LOT

This spacious and comfortable split entry home design provides almost 1,400 square feet of finished floor area, for present use, and almost as great an area, in potential, for future development, in the unfinished lower level. The solid-appearing exterior is finished in brick veneer and horizontal channel siding, and has projecting front-facing windows and an adjoining two-car garage. The garage is set back to allow ample driveway and visitor parking. By increasing the length of the garage by approximately 2 feet, an interior garage access door leading directly into the entrance foyer could be provided, if desired. The roof could be alternately finished in either shakes or traditional shingles, according to individual family preference and local costs.

The weather-protected main entry leads into a spacious reception foyer and outerwear storage area, from which lead twin hall stairways - the left-hand one leading down to the unfinished lower level, the right-hand one leading up to the main living level.

The main landing opens into a short hallway, from whence traffic moves naturally to the right and into the long rectangular living room. It features a raised-hearth, zero-clearance fireplace, for energy-efficiency and convivial "at-homes", and a wide, front-facing bay window for view and natural light. The formal dining room adjoins the living room, and separates from the kitchen via convenient pocket door.

The well-planned kitchen-dinette combination provides a step-saving work triangle, generous cupboard storage and abundant countertop work surfaces. Adequate space is provided in the dinette for the installation of a standard-sized dining suite, however, the area invites the custom installation of built-in banquette-style nook furnishings.

All three bedrooms are positioned to the rear of the floor plan for freedom from disturbance when entertaining. Each has generous closet storage and excellent exposure for view and natural light. The large master bedroom has a three-piece ensuite with tub and a full walk-in closet.

The unfinished lower level provides a roughed-in fireplace and roughed-in plumbing for a three-piece bathroom as a basis for the future development of additional recreational facilities and living accommodations - thus greatly increasing the total finished floor area.

Plans for design No. 81-1399 may be purchased either by the single set, at a cost of \$110.00 for the first set and \$20.00 for each additional set, or by the package. A five-set plan package, including the first set, is economically priced at \$165.00 and an eight-set package, also including the first set, is only \$200.00.

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