

Letters to the Editor

Student opposes BNA closure, Clark's filibustering 'delay'

'Consider the disabled...'

To the editor of The Herald:

Consider the disabled: During this, the Year of the Disabled, it seems appropriate to assess our town and region to see what we can do to make life better for our disabled neighbors.

Consider the following questions:

1. Is a person in a wheelchair able to enter your store? Are there steps up to the entrance?
2. Is the door relatively easy to open? Could a person using a cane in one hand open the door

with the other hand? Could a person with painful arthritic hands open the door?

3. Are the public washrooms accessible to a person in a wheelchair?

4. Are the aisles in your store wide enough for a wheelchair to go between?

5. Can the disabled use public transportation? Will the taxi service assist a person to transfer from a wheelchair into the cab?

6. Is a person in a wheelchair able to get up and down the curb on his own?

7. Are there enough public benches? How far is it from one bench to the next? Many disabled people are able to walk short distances, but need to sit and rest frequently.

8. Are there appropriate leisure and recreational programs for the disabled and for the homebound disabled?

9. Are there volunteers who will visit those who live alone and those who are homebound?

10. Is a person in a wheelchair able to enter your church on his own or are there steps

into your church? Is there room among the pews for a wheelchair or would the person have to sit in the aisle or at the back?

11. Are there any public telephones that a person in a wheelchair can reach?

12. Are there enough volunteers working at the homes for the disabled or are more needed?

13. Do our volunteer community groups provide programs for the disabled throughout the year or mainly at Christmas time?

14. Are the public parks accessible to the disabled?

After you have considered these questions, look at the ones you had to answer "no" to and decide if you can do anything to change the answer to "yes".

There are two other issues I would like to draw your attention to. The first is in regard to Bronte Creek Provincial Park. Many of you have probably enjoyed spending a day there. However about a year ago a senior citizen told me that she attended a senior's picnic at that park. She and many others were very dissatisfied for the following reasons:

1. the washrooms were not situated near the covered picnic areas. Therefore many became very tired making necessary trips to and from the washrooms;
2. there was not an area where the ground was relatively even. Therefore some were frightened that they would trip while walking.
3. there was transportation around the park: wagons pulled by tractors. However the ride was bumpy and many seniors found they ached for days after taking the rides.
4. they were not able to participate in most of the recreational activities provided by the park.

I am not suggesting that every park should cater only to the needs of the disabled and elderly, but they should be considered because statistics tell us that by the year 1985, one in 7.5 citizens will be over the age of 65.

Many of these people will not necessarily be disabled but there is also a rise in the number and proportion of those 85 years and over. It is expected that a high percentage

Continued on page A6

To the editor of The Herald:

No document affects the Canadian people as much as our Constitution. If we are going to change our Constitution we must use a slow and lawful process. We cannot afford to rush into the patriation of our Constitution with amendments. We must speak out against a prime minister who proposes unlawful amendments or process.

Mr. Trudeau plans unilateral patriation of the Constitution. This means that he will amend the Constitution with-

out the agreement of the premiers or the twenty-four million Canadians. Our present Constitution grants the premiers certain powers in Section 92.

Pierre Trudeau plans to arrest these powers from the provincial governments and proceed on his action as if the provinces have no powers.

The prime minister plans to redistribute these powers, giving the federal government priority in most facets of decision making. According to our present Constitution, this

is illegal as the Supreme Court of Newfoundland proved. I support a centralized government, but we must achieve this through proper means.

At the present time, Mr. Trudeau plans to include a Charter of Rights in the new Constitution. All rights not included in this Charter will no longer be ours. Excluded from the Charter would be the right to own property. This appears to be a step towards Marxist style socialism. I do not think that Mr. Trudeau is a communist, but I do feel that the proposed Constitution has some weak points. Let us

express our opinions and correct these weaknesses and not rush anything to meet any deadline. We have thrived under the B.N.A. Act for 114 years.

I oppose the use of closure in the Constitutional debates. I also oppose Mr. Clark's filibustering to delay patriation. Our leaders should forget the gloryseeking and get on with this important job. Our politicians should stop beating around the bush and get to work in teamlike fashion.

Yours sincerely,
Mike Peirce,
Student.

Cubs provide clean-up where town slow to act - reader

To the editor of The Herald:

May I offer, through your newspaper, a collective pat-on-the-back and a thank-you to those cubs and their leaders who are out every Saturday picking up litter along the fence of the Dominion Seed House property. Their efforts have indeed improved the appearance of the highway corridor. As long as visitors keep their eyes on the Seed House property, they may not notice the garbage on the other side of the road.

Last year, I wrote to the town clerk requesting some garbage containers be placed along this strip of stores and

fast food outlets. My letter was forwarded to the town engineer, but no action was taken. I have enough faith in people to believe that they would use garbage containers if they were provided. Right now they have no option but to deposit their empty bottles, boxes, etc., on the lawns, boulevards and parking lots, which, you must agree, does nothing to enhance the appearance of the town.

In the meantime, cubs and leaders: keep up the good work. It is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Margaret Wilcox,
Georgetown.

Fairy stories do come true!

\$30,000 and counting: GLT

To the Editor of The Herald:

Fairy stories do come true. Once upon a time (a year ago to be exact), a group of players set out to raise \$30,000 towards building a permanent new theatre. This week, coinciding with the opening of its last production of the season, "Bedroom Farce", George-

town Little Theatre is happy to announce that donations have topped that magic figure (\$30,026.70 to be precise!)

And whereas the happy ending to this tale has still to be writ - the total public subscription required is \$200,000 - GLT would like to take time out to sincerely thank all who have contributed to its campaign, and to urge those interested who have not yet purchased a seat-plaque to do so quickly. There are only 17 left!

Thank you,
John Roe,
Chairman, Georgetown Little Theatre
Fund-raising Drive: Library Cultural Centre

P.S. And why don't you take time out - and treat yourselves to a laughter-filled evening at "Bedroom Farce"?

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTRE



Weekly update - page A6

Rags read (then ate) our review

Rags, the Georgetown library's live-in mascot and the subject of a new coloring book designed to help raise funds for the library-cultural centre, dropped off the following note concerning Herald editor Paul Dorsey's review of the guinea pig's self-narrated biography, available for \$1 per copy at both library branches in town.

Dear Mr. Dorsey,
I must say when I first read your column, my feelings were hurt - to tell the truth I didn't understand many of the big words you used - my what a mouthful some of them were - made me hungry - mmmmm! I think perhaps you were laughing at me, but I really am a SUPERSTAR, you know. Everybody loves me - yes, I am rather self indulgent, but...I'm sorry you had such a hard time coloring my pictures - perhaps you could come into the library and borrow some of Judi's lovely markers.

Allegorically yours,
Rags.

J. Novak D.T.

J. Kohari D.T.

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