

Town parking spaces remain a problem, she says

## Help for disabled lacking?

To The Editor of The Herald:  
As the wife of a handicapped person, I desperately feel the need to let the town of Halton Hills and the community know just exactly what is required in this community to ease the burden the disabled must face in order to lead a fairly normal life.

My biggest complaint, at this moment, is the need for handicapped parking spots. These should be posted at all locations, namely hospitals,

theatres, plazas, doctor's offices, banks, etc. I think you get the picture.

On a recent visit to Florida, I was astounded at the accessibility of every building, whether it be for pleasure or

business. Outside the main door of every building, whether it be a bank, grocery store, even at the beach, parking spots were very well marked:

"Handicapped Parking Only — \$50 Fine".

These signs were very predominantly posted, and the disabled were required only to pick up a handicapped sticker at their local police station in order to use these parking spots. I might add that adjacent to each parking spot was a

ramp for wheelchairs. Everytime my husband wants or has to go out, I'm required to drive him right to the door of wherever he is going, drop him off, I then park the car in the regulation parking lot and wait for him. I then must drive up to the door and pick him up again. This is not necessary. My husband is perfectly capable of driving, but unable to walk any distance at all, without pain and the use of crutches or canes.

If handicapped parking facilities were installed, this I feel would give my husband and I'm sure many more like him, a feeling of independence and of worthiness, instead of feeling useless and always dependent on others.

It just disgusts me that this being the Year of the Disabled, Halton Hills has done virtually nothing to aid the plight of the handicapped.

Each week I read of the donations being made to various causes, it upsets me to no avail, when there is an extremely worthwhile project staring them in the face. Wake up Halton Hills and give a hand to the handicapped in our community.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. da Boden,  
Hillside Drive,  
Georgetown.

P.S. Should anyone wish to make this their cause or project, or to even investigate into the feasibility of such an endeavor, I would be more than willing to contribute my time.

EDITOR'S NOTE: While Mrs. Boden is correct in saying there are few handicapped parking facilities in Halton Hills, we feel it should be noted that town council has observed the goals of the Year of the Disabled by including wheelchair ramps at the new library-cultural centre and by helping launch, with Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson's efforts, the ActiVan bus service. We nevertheless endorse the writer's point that much more can be done.

## Letters to the Editor

### 'Moments of weakness' lead lonely to cults, reader says

To The Editor of The Herald:  
Our natural worshipping, religious inclination has led many people to be caught up in the net of cultism.

Although it is true that cults have been around since the dawn of history, there is no denying that this is one of the most fertile periods of all for cults.

Unfortunately, in most of these cults, man is robbed of his own individuality. We live in a society where the need to get involved has often been overemphasized. Attempting to fill the void which we have

labelled as lack of purpose or meaning in life has caused many to fall into the arms of those who show such obvious concern and understanding for our unhappiness and loneliness.

Those who represent these cults are often very polite and complimentary of character, with a very impressive loving appearance. All you have to do is express an obvious dissatisfaction (a very common feeling for many) and in your own moment of weakness, you may be led astray into an experience of mysticism.

These fast-growing cults

frequently relate to things most of us are to some extent acquainted with. Particularly, the bible.

Cultism affirms true dedication involving the mind and will. The mind is fragile in that it affects our whole being.

These cults all too often have left a person with feelings of drastic conflict within themselves, and consequently their families. Since they demand total devotion and a deep commitment, they will not permit you to exchange ideas or be exposed to alternative ways of thinking.

As one man expressed it, those with strong religious convictions we don't invite, perhaps meaning they may be influenced by freedom of choice. This makes the concern of play over the mind of even greater concern for me. But there are other alternatives. It's been said to find fulfillment in life, fill the lives of the lonely. Compassion for others is a blessing only to those who make them a blessing to others. To care for the lonely, see the love and concern for them through a telescope, not a microscope.

B.V.

### Highland Games Association offers pledge challenge

COPY FILED WITH THE HERALD FOR PUBLICATION:  
To the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band.

Dear Girls:  
As Secretary of the Halton-Peel Highland Games Association, I have been asked to contact the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band and to inform them that our Association hereby pledges the sum of \$2,000 towards your impending trip to

Scotland, said money to be handed over to your band at such time as tickets have been purchased.

The members of our Association agreed unanimously to make this pledge to your band to show appreciation for all the time and dedication the girls have put forth to make the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band a pipe band that the people of Halton Hills can be and are proud of.

Through The Herald we offer the challenge of making a pledge to the band to all the other organizations in town who have received the benefit of the pipe band over the years and also to those citizens who

may just have enjoyed the music.

Yours very truly,  
HALTON-PEEL HIGHLAND GAMES ASSOCIATION  
E. S. Miller (Mrs.)  
Secretary.

Any rabbit can swim if it has to. But some, such as the marsh rabbit that inhabits the Atlantic and Gulf coastal states from Virginia

to Alabama, take to water almost as readily as ducks. Marsh rabbits have been known to outswim dogs.

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# Rud makes major career shift; brings valuable experience to Fobert's sales team



RUD WHITING

"Halton Hills is simply a great place to live and I love it very, very much."

That may not be such a surprising testimonial coming from Rud Whiting, the former Liberal MP whose community work makes his a welcome face throughout town, but it does underline the exuberance of a fellow who, at 51 years of age, "shifts gears" to start a new career with Fobert's Real Estate in Georgetown.

"I'm extremely happy to be with Fobert's," he told The Herald in an interview Friday. We have a great camaraderie here among the staff and it's reflected in the confidence the company enjoys with the general public.

Most recently, Mr. Whiting was in charge of office, residential and commercial space leasing with Rex Heslop Associated Companies International, also headquartered in Halton Hills. Last year, he enrolled in Sheridan College's (Brampton campus) real estate program and, books in arm, went to night school for almost six months.

Now he is delighted to be associated with Fobert's, the town's largest real estate agency and joins a staff of 22 fellow sales representatives.

While new housing starts are down in town (as they are throughout the country), housing resales are generating a brisk business for Fobert's and there is a kind of "tingly" excitement as real estate people and residents await the outcome of the Georgetown Urban Area Review, which could bring a refreshing gust of new residential development to the community.

"There is a real estate market in Halton Hills and we appear to be on the verge of new growth," Mr. Whiting said. "It's a fine place to live and bring up a family."

"The town has so much to offer from a shopping point of view — and from a general living point of view. If people stop and look, they can see they can do all of their shopping right here and avoid the big malls while getting personalized service and comparable prices."

Mr. Whiting's new job isn't limited to helping customers in the market for homes. Fobert's representatives are also trained to direct clients to their listings for commercial and industrial space and the company's market area sweeps across town, into Brampton and north to Erin. Nine years of working with Heslop Associates in devel-

oping new office and residential projects means Mr. Whiting is well-versed in land development, an enviable addition to any real estate addition. Municipal planning processes tend to be often frustratingly slow, albeit efficient and thorough; it helps to be familiar with bylaws and council procedure leading to final approval of a major building project.

A native of St. Lambert, Quebec, (a suburb south of Montreal Island), Mr. Whiting moved to Oakville with his parents in his mid-teens. Between 1965 and 1972, he served as a Liberal MP for Halton riding (which at that time included Georgetown, Acton and Erin).

"Where that political experience helps me is in dealing with people," Mr. Whiting said. "It's something that gets in your blood — you never really lose it. And one of the functions of political office is dealing with people and their problems."

To use a current term for spirited individuals who help community projects reach their intended goals, he is a "mover". The annual Rud Whiting Celebrity Golf Tournament helps raise money for people stricken with muscular dystrophy, while off the greens, he's busy with

the local Kiwanis organization and has been involved with the construction of the town's new library-cultural centre. Chamber of Commerce members in Georgetown know him as one of their directors.

Regardless of the gloomy economic outlook, people are still interested in buying houses, Mr. Whiting noted. A house can still be a good hedge against inflation.

In the future, he said the town will have to address the problem it has with the lack of industrial land, particularly in Georgetown.

"Many of the best commercial markets are within 50 miles of Halton Hills," Mr. Whiting explained. "We seem to be right at the centre of everything — Toronto, Kitchener, Guelph, Hamilton, Brampton and the rest of southern Ontario are easily accessible."

But William Nielson Company Ltd.'s proposed expansion in Georgetown will not only create jobs in town, Mr. Whiting said enthusiastically, it could also encourage other industries to take a look at Halton Hills.

"The Nielson's expansion could cause other companies to say, well look, if Nielson's is putting in a new operation, maybe we should look at that town, too."