

Letters to the Editor

Condo residents entitled to opinion

To the editor of The Herald:

It would appear, the Herald in their editorial of May 11, 1983, chose to take a biased view in favour of the Co-Op residents. It even smacks somewhat of prejudice on the part of the Condo residents.

It seems the Haves are not entitled to an opinion about the Have nots. The protests, if allowed, must come from the underprivileged, the minorities or the ethnics in order to warrant any merit. I say even those with substance have a right to speak, surely we are still living in a Capitalist Country, aren't we?

It was stated the renters are like owners because they pay a \$600 deposit and a substantial rent, supported by a vote in community affairs. This must be viewed as a farce. The \$600 deposit is very similar to the last month's rent system in any rental accommodation which is returned upon departure. An excellent incentive to leave if one suddenly becomes short of cash. The substantial rent - well when it is subsidized it loses considerable substantiation, as far as the vote so proudly touted, it doesn't deserve mention in this commentary.

The Homestarts Rep who claims all applicants are interviewed before acceptance, well I would like to know what can be ascertained in a possible two hour interview? Anyone knows you can associate with people for years and never know their interests, thoughts, motives, attitudes or esthetic values.

But speaking of this supposed all encompassing interview, the very point that they feel it is so important is very positive

in identifying the fact that they feel there are individuals who are undesirable, and they are going to discover these undesirable people in just a few hours. (Kreskin should possess such talents).

Finally let us unequivocally state "We are not against the Co-Op program" but in its own

place. We would not purchase and move into a Co-Op development area, neither do we expect Co-Op residents to move into a Condominium area. And to those righteous citizens who protest against our views, perhaps they have room in their neighborhood.

Doreen Carter, River Run



Beryl Mason's beer stein holds 24 beers and a ribbon for honorable mention in the underglaze category. The Bramalea woman took three ribbons recently at the annual Toronto Ceramic Show. A student at the Georgetown Ceramic Studio, Mrs. Mason took first place in the amateurs altered surfaces, finished with fashion hues category and first place for best student piece for a barrel she decorated with a Nova Scotia Motif. She said her carved sketches on the ceramic came from photos she took while on holiday in the Maritimes. This is the first time Georgetown has ever placed in the eight-year old competition. Mrs. Mason plans to put a smoked glass atop her barrel and use it as a table base. (Herald photo)

Property rights at issue

To the editor of The Herald:

Enclosed you will find a letter addressed to the Minister of Natural Resources, the Hon. Allan Pope. As you can read in the letter we are being tied up in political red tape. We are now going to be aggressive.

It is imperative that the people of Ontario know what is going on. Throughout Ontario, any homeowners or farmers having land next to or even remotely close to any type of river, creek or stream will eventually come under regulation of Flood plain mapping. This will be done under the Order of Council Regulation 220-81.

The people will not be notified, or asked for input but it will be done under the 'Motherhood' of our provincial ministry of natural resources through the guise of your local Conservation

Authority.

If one investigates this issue, he will realize how the Government is actually taking our property rights away from us through regulation with out-landish criteria.

In our own particular area in the Niagara Peninsula we have been 'blessed' with Hurricane Hazel, which is only 7' above the water level of any particular storm in the past 97 years.

You may print all information in the letter and please if you need any further information don't hesitate to write.

Thank you in advance for your prompt cooperation.

Sincerely,
Mary A. Fox, President,
Welland Flood Plain Association
of Concerned Citizens
416-733-5999



BRAVO!

Office practice students at Georgetown District High School gave the Red Cross a helping hand recently, typing up 1,400 volunteer record cards for the Georgetown branch. Gathered at the school to recognize the students' aid were (left to right) Red Cross president Erica Thompson, volunteer services chairman Sophie Eckroth, office practice teacher Betty Tamas, and students Janet Banton, 16, and Vanessa Hatchinson, 16.

(Herald photo)

River Run One owners had no say?

To the editor of The Herald:

My initial disturbance about the possibility that my property in River Run One would devalue as a result of subsidized rental housing next door, changed to anger upon insight into a) the manipulations of our Town Council and b) the aggressive coverage given by some of our media writers.

First, the Town passes laws that River Run One and Two should be the same: privately owned, with owners very interested in maintenance and improvement of homes, for resale value as well as personal enjoyment.

Then a Co-op is allowed to buy all the Phase Two houses and only a minor change in bylaw is needed to allow this. So Town and Co-op go ahead and only long after the affair has become irrevocable, Town sends Phase One owners a notice of the so-called proposed change, while calling for objections or approval.

So, in ignorance and good faith, one files an objection, based on the possibility of devaluation

of property. One is told after filing the complaint that the whole matter is done anyway, (Herald, May 4). To add to this grief, one is jumped on for having "this siege mentality (which) represents a formidable mind barrier of prejudice" (Herald editorial, May 4).

I have absolutely nothing against the persons of "the new residents who have not yet moved into their new homes". Probably I shall be grateful for the good neighbours they will hopefully prove to be. What I do object to, is being manipulated. At no stage did River Run One owners have any say in the matter at all and the hypocrisy of many of those who object to our objections (are they going to live in a Co-op?) just strikes me as being very similar to the siege mentality I was accused of!

One last comment on your May 4 editorial: those "many" co-op residents who "pay the full monthly amount because they are attracted to the concept of co-operative living": so would I be, if

"about \$550 a month" - Herald, April 20 - was all I had to pay for a 3 x 6 x 9 metres of property plus private patio plus communal garden. I should be so lucky! Because of "the concept of co-operative living"?

I fear that in the enthusiastic representations made on behalf of co-operative living in order to make acceptable the idea of subsidised housing in the Canadian midst, some truths are stretched. And don't accuse River Run condo owners of a "siege mentality" when their sole sin was ignorance of politics!

Sincerely,
Gabby Nilson,
Lynden Circle



CLEARING UP

Doing their part for the Bruce Trail which is frequently used by the GDHS Outer's club, they participate in the "Go to Blazes Day" last Saturday at Cyprus Lake provincial park. Activities included clearing the Bruce trail from Tobermory south to Cyprus Lake and marking the trail. Involved in the weekend were (back row, left to right) Mike McMurray, Carl Bourrassa, Diane Bransch, Gottfried Bransch, Brian Kemp, (front row) Margret Ohla, Cindy Johnson, Chris Bertlesen, Glen Edwards, Dave Heller, Gina Brown, and Ian Brown.

Time to assess

It's been ten years since Halton region and four other regional municipalities were formed by the provincial government.

And Burlington Mayor Roly Bird thinks the province should take a long look at what regional administrations have done for taxpayers.

Regional governments aren't going to go away, Mayor Bird told the Halton's finance and administration committee last week.

"We're going to have to live with them. But even (Burlington South MPP) George Kerr wants a critical review."

The Mayor's recommendation which will be reviewed by regional council today (Wednesday) was among a number of points he raised at the meeting about the region's management.

VARIANCES
He also wants reports on regional budget variances after the first six months of a fiscal year and every four months after that. Quarterly reports, Mayor Bird says, should also be submitted on the region's activities and goals.

Regional staff should also review the number of employees added to the Halton's payroll over the last ten years. He asked that notes be included explaining inter-department movement of staff and increases or staff cuts in other areas.

Mayor Bird wants to know what sort of mill rate increases taxpayers have shouldered in the ten years of regional government and other increases since Halton adopted uniform sewer and water rates.

Finally, he wants to make comparisons between the size of budget reserves Halton keeps and those of other regional municipalities.

Reviewing the regional administration can only add to elected representatives' knowledge of the system, Mr. Bird argued in a submission to the committee.

Councillors should not

Ocean Warmth Affects Coastal Marine Life

Warmer than normal sea temperatures in the Pacific Ocean have greatly affected the waters off California, according to scientists of the Marine Life Research Group

always rely on advice they received from staff, but should have the background to make informed decisions on staff recommendations.

Inspector transferred

Inspector Kent Laidlaw of the Halton Regional Police Force has been transferred from the Duty Inspector's Office to the position of executive officer to the Chief of Police.

Paul Neilson joins up

Halton Hills and Milton each have one more member representing their interests on the region's Business Advisory Committee.

Action's Paul Neilson has been named to the committee for a one-year term.

The realtor joins Georgetown's Rick West, an independent insurance agent who will serve on the committee for a two-year term.

Other committee members from the public-at-large are Burlington's Harold Hopkins (Royal Bank) and Arnold Emmett, Monarch Construction; Oakville's John Follows and Ken McConnell (a consultant) and Milton's Stuart Matthews, a newcomer from Marley Tile and Bruce Dolson, from Rockwell International.

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