

PAWS POWER



The Mayor of Halton Hills Russ Miller is surrounded by a weird bunch. From left, Cheryl Lightowers, Lori Kentner and Pam Andres joined in for a promotional shot for Safety Awareness Week. Lori and Pam will be working on a special school group project for the next six weeks, talking about water safety. The PAWS organization (Public Awareness of Water Safety) is funded by the town recreational department in conjunction with the Georgetown Red Cross, represented by Cheryl. (Herald photo)

Man plans to appeal OMB hearing for his urea insulation

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff
An appeal to reduce taxes by more than 35 per cent on an R22 Acton home insulated with urea formaldehyde foam was turned down by the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).
At a recent hearing by the Board, home owner Edward Hilton's appeal was rejected. He told The Herald he intends to appeal next to the Ontario Cabinet.
"I think there's a chance," Mr. Hilton said. "I wasn't happy with the (OMB) decision, although I wasn't surprised."
Built by Mr. Hilton himself in 1978, the Hilton residence on Highway 7 at Concession 5 and part Lot 28 was granted a 35 per cent tax reduction in 1982 assessments by the Ministry of Revenue. This tax reduction was repeated in 1983.
The Ministry of Revenue

assessor estimated that 35 per cent was the value lost to 21 homes in the region insulated with urea formaldehyde foam.
BIGGER
But Mr. Hilton wants a bigger tax break. He estimates his home has a market value of \$120,000 and the cost of removing the urea insulation at \$115,000. To date, he's spent \$8,200 to remove the foam from the top floor of the front section of his house.
"I think the problem is that they (OMB) don't want to set a precedent and are in a bind," Mr. Hilton said. "I'm asking that they set a precedent and that they treat each home on an individual basis instead."
Mr. Hilton's appeal to the provincial cabinet must be made within 21 days of the OMB ruling, but he expects it will take several months before the appeal is heard.

SUING
He has also begun proceedings suing the federal government and the manufacturer and installer of the urea product. Mr. Hilton expects they will take up to five years to be resolved.
The Board dismissed the appeal, calling Mr. Hilton's estimates by contractors "extraordinarily high" and objecting to the fact they were made in document form only and that none of the contractors were present to give evidence.
Mr. Hilton said he hasn't tried to sell the home although he tried to interest his mortgage company in it once but they didn't want it, Mr. Hilton said.
"I know how much I can get for it - nothing," he said. "We're stuck with it because we can't afford to move out of it."

Riviera Club sold to new organization

Herald Staff
A Montreal man has just bought up the former Riviera Club in North York.
Ron Anderson is the new owner of the octagonal shaped building by the banks of the Credit River. He proposes to

call his club The Madison.
Opening night for the club is June 15 and by then Mr. Anderson hopes to have installed a 9 feet by 12 feet screen and disco lighting.
"We'll be trying things that have been tried in

the U.S. before but never down here," Mr. Anderson told The Herald.
Monday and Tuesday nights, he plans to feature the Toronto Argonauts and Blue Jays on the club's large screen. Those two nights will be sports nights and may even include a large video football league in which the audience plays their man with a joy stick.
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights the club will have a disc jockey service for dancing and pubbing. Saturday nights there'll be a big band.
Mr. Anderson said there are plans for Sunday dinner-theatre groups.
"We're trying to bring the club back to the community," he said.

Say 'I saw it in The Herald'.



HUNGRY ONE

No NDP candidate for Halton riding

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff
There's no NDP candidate for the federal riding of Halton, nor are there any nominations for the riding.
"Nobody's stepped forward to this point," Halton riding NDP president Douglas Black told The Herald last week. "To some people, the time of the election is important in their decision whether to run or not."
The Liberal government hasn't made any announcement yet calling for an election and speculation is flying about whether it will be a summer or a fall federal election.
Mr. Black was the NDP candidate for Halton riding during the last federal election. He told The Herald he won't

be running again, but will help the new NDP candidate instead.
Although the party is looking for possible candidates, none have come forward yet and there isn't a nomination meeting scheduled yet either.
Mr. Black said a nomination meeting can be called immediately if the current government gave the election call.
"The decision was

made to hold it off because there are so many questions in the air," Mr. Black said. "Some people find they have commitments that make it impossible for them to run at certain times, and possible to run at other times."
So far, the party has decided not to hold a nomination meeting until sometime in September, he said.

Businesses benefit from Chamber course

Herald Special
A member of the George Chamber of Commerce's board of directors is calling a recent counselling program for small businesses in town a success.
Marg Tanas was extremely pleased with the results of a program administered by the Ontario Ministry of Industry and Trade which began April 9 with a public meeting at Georgetown High School.
There were 26 firms from Halton Hills participating, most of whom

had less than ten employees.
A consultant spent up to three hours with each firm in order to familiarize himself with the areas which offered the greatest potential for implementing change.
The research on each of the businesses took place between April 23 and May 4.
The consultants Andrew Siman and Jim Smith are now presenting their findings to businesses with various options for solving problems and taking advantage of

opportunities.
"Our goal is to show how each of the businesses we advise can increase their sales by up to 25 per cent each year for the next five years," the consultants say.
"Generally, small businesses have three sets of objectives: survival, profitability and growth," they say.
As co-ordinator for the Georgetown project, Marg Tanas says she was impressed with the high calibre of counselling.

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