

Out of reach

The Enterac housing development south of Georgetown should ease the burdens on rising prices of homes.

With little development and in turn, a large demand for homes, housing prices have skyrocketed in Halton Hills.

A study published last week in The Herald revealed that homes have risen in price anywhere from 20 to 40 per cent in the past year.

That's not encouraging, even though interest rates have been the lowest in years. Although it may be easier to arrange financing, the overall costs of owning a home are still high.

Certainly homeowners looking to sell their homes are smacking their lips -- especially if they're moving to an area where housing costs are lower.

But we're concerned with the first-time homeowners. Even townhouses average \$77,000 in Georgetown, an increase of 40 per cent from a year ago.

The Enterac development will hopefully drive down the prices of some homes which have been rising in price because demand has been so high.

There's still some glimmer of hope for residents wanting to settle into a new home in town. Our taxes compare favorably to most neighbors such as Brampton, Burlington, Oakville and Mississauga.

In order to have a community where young couples, seniors, disabled and single parents can live, we need homes that are affordable -- not put out of reach by inflated prices.

Letters to the editor

Gracious sportsmen

Dear Sir,
For the second year in a row, "Shaw's S.O.B. BallClub", has hosted a charity tournament for the kidney foundation.

No 1921 protests

Dear Sir,
In reply to Ms. Greifeneder's letter July 23, some of us well remember the federal Liberal leader's election platform in 1921. McKenzie-King promised a comprehensive health care plan for all Canadians. We didn't hear any protests at that time from the Ontario Medical Association or any other doctors' group proclaiming that this health plan is a provincial matter.

and businesses, whom I would like to publicly acknowledge and thank.

First of all the workers, all volunteers who ran the day, the team members who ran the tournament. Then there were the special volunteers: Marty, Norm and Malcom, who worked all day for us and filled in the gaps which were there to be filled. The wives: Kim and Sue, who did the same. Bob, the St. John Ambulance attendant, who not only did his own job very well but helped out in score-keeping and selling tickets. Wayne, who because of injury is not with the team this year, but who was there all day. And Steve, the park attendant who was there bright and early and stayed all day.

A special thanks goes to the midjet team of the G.M.B.A. for relinquishing their diamond time so we could keep on schedule.

Once again, the St. John Ambulance for being there all day. The teams for playing good baseball, a pleasure to watch and umpire. The fans, who watched, and donated to the kidney foundation.

Lastly, and by no means least, those business and companies who gave us gifts and equipment to help defray the costs and add more money for the cause: Bill Marcolini of M and M Pro-Sports for donating 24 baseballs; Air Canada, for donating flight bags and overnight kits; the Co-op for the lime and huge tub to hold the ice; McDonald's, Burger King and the Georgetown Motel for the ice; Benson and Hedges for the gym bags; and Bill Gower for the P.A. system.

The tournament was a great success. I can't thank all involved nearly enough!

John Luciani
Manager
Shaw's S.O.B.'s

Accessible vacations

Against the odds
PAT WOODS

Have you been able to locate a fully accessible cottage or vacation spot? A registry is being compiled as requests for this type of information have been received. If you know of any please let me know at 877-1436.

The Ontario Ministry of Tourism at 1-800-268-3735 who will send you maps and literature of places to go and events to see can tell you about accessibility for many of the sites they have listed. It is important that you provide them feedback, comments, and suggestions as it is impossible for them to improve or even update this free service without our help.

Computers have facilitated another breakthrough in prosthetics. Currently, doctors are using several stock sizes to provide total knee and hip implants for patients with severe arthritis or other musculoskeletal disorders. These conventional styles should last about ten years for the average elderly person who is not overly active.

information from the patient, an artificial joint will be fabricated by tools controlled by the computer.

At present such a procedure using metallic parts financially excludes mass implementation of this technique. However, new composite materials are expected to significantly lower the cost.

Even the perfect joint, if not installed properly, will not give optimum performance and durability. It has been predicted that computer assisted surgery will become routine.

One type of press fit implant is designed to encourage the patient's own bones to merge with the prosthetic device. This would overcome problems cementing the two parts together. Another problem that may be overcome is the inexact fit of the stem in the bone canal which can cause stress points and irritation.

Regeneration and healing is becoming better understood. Passive motion therapy with the temporary use of braces that guide movement help insure that tissues and joint surfaces heal in the correct shape.

Commonly injured knee ligaments such as the anterior cruciate may respond favourably to the augmentation of synthetics such as high strength carbon-fibre tow or braided dacron velour. Combined with passive motion and guiding braces, the key to success is to encourage the body to invade the implant with new fibrous tissue.

Lastly, holding casts may be replaced by a computer display that reveals the body's contours and can pinpoint pressure points, therefore, allowing a brace to be made that reduces chafing.

By DR. JOHN M. DRICKAMER

We recently celebrated Father's Day. Maybe Dad got a new tie or T-shirt or experienced a few extra luxuries for a day. That is fine. But now that the hype and hoopla are over (and the merchants are counting their profits), it might be good to take a serious look at the role of husband and father.

We hear a great deal about the rights of women and children. But when it comes to husband/father, all the talk is about responsibility. Too often that means responsibility in the sense of blame.

Men are losing respect for themselves as we hear from all sides that men are uncaring, insensitive, evil, violent, abusive, aggressive, exploitative, etc. There are a lot of very bad men, who through stupidity

and/or wickedness do make very poor husbands and fathers. But let us not lump all men together.



Clergy Comment

A recent study reported that women were not being presented fairly on television. But is not the same true of men? Think of the major male roles in recent years on television or at the movies. Men are often presented as basic nincompoops (Archie Bunker/George Jefferson) or as basic bad guys (even if their 'violence supposedly serves a good cause).

Neither of those pictures is anywhere near reality for the vast majority of men. Most of us are neither sitcom idiots nor grim-faced killing machines.

Other anti-family propaganda has tried to obliterate the distinction between husband and wife, between father and mother. But that distinction is very real, whether or not anyone wants to admit it. God created the human race with a real difference between male and female and with a real purpose for what difference. The purpose is family life.

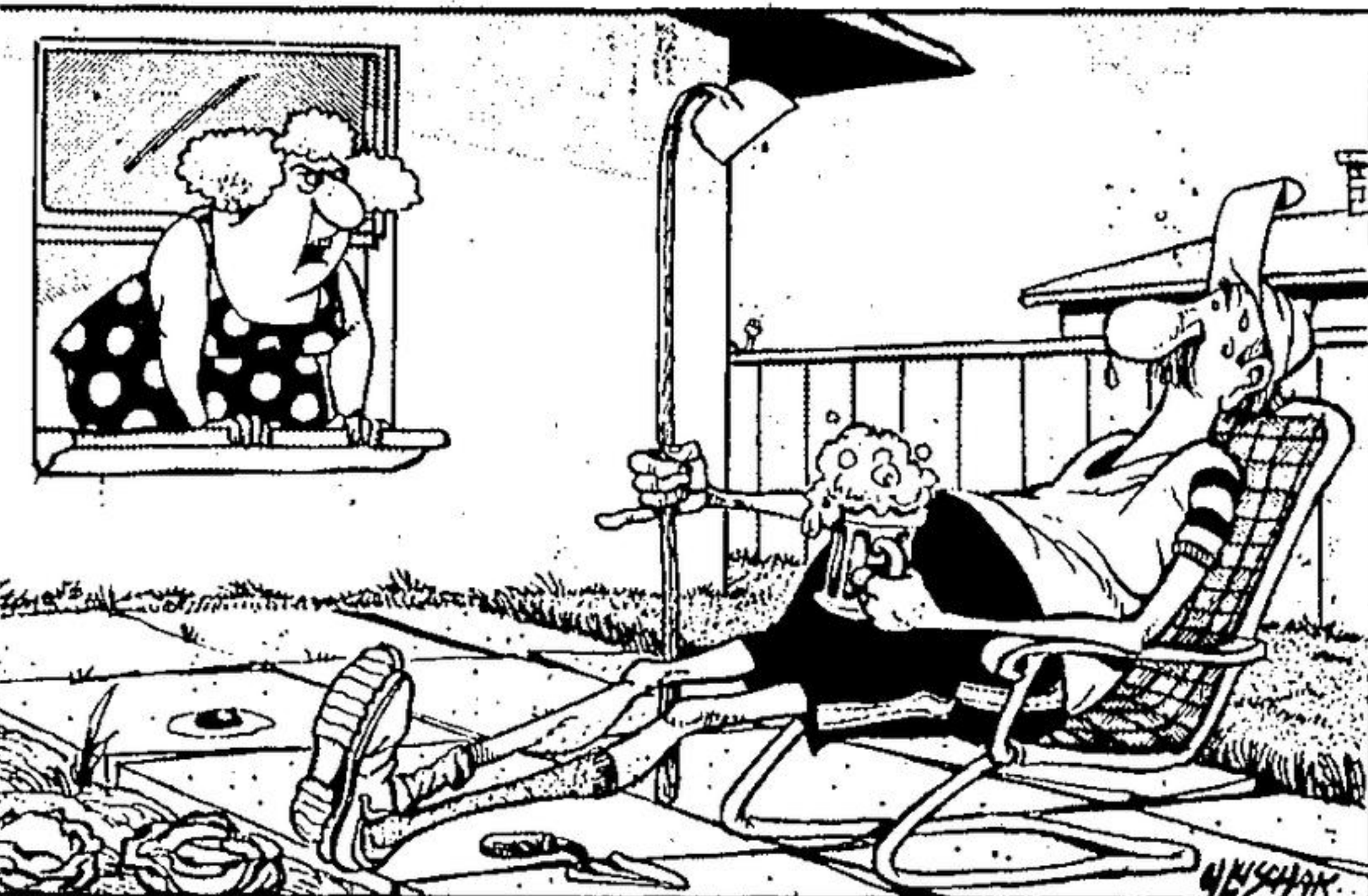
The Bible has a very high view of the role of the husband and father. Read Ephesians 5:21 to 6:4. The husband is to be as loving and self-sacrificing toward his wife as Christ is toward the church. And he should try to be as wise as the Lord in raising his children.

That is a tall order. I mean, Jesus is a tough act to follow! Even the best men fall far short. But God still wants the husband/father to be respected by his wife and children. If for no other reason, he should be honored for the burden of that responsibility.

It is important in our society to recover the real role of the father. Mothers and fathers are equally important but in different ways. They are not just two individuals who happen to be doing the same thing, vaguely called "parenting". Mothers and fathers are different and have different contributions to make to family life.

There is no space here to prove the point. But recent studies have shown, for instance, that church-going fathers seem to lead to a dramatic drop in drug abuse among children and a dramatic rise in their future religious involvement.

Real men are very important for family, for society, and for eternity.



"THE CUTWORM DOESN'T TAKE BEER BREAKS!"

Halton's History
from our files

30 years ago

Georgetown's new community swimming pool opened Aug. 5. The Lions Club sparked the decision to start building the pool. That decision was made in June 1955.

Georgetown Revolver Club members were at work cleaning up their new property. Among those present were Art Suddaby, John Bolt, James Redmond, Sam Meitzer, Eric Londeboro, Ray Robson, Ray Bell, Ron Mendham and Jack Crichton.

Halton's population has jumped almost 50 per cent in the last five years. A 1951 census showed the population to be 43,715. The 1956 figure is expected to be over 70,000.

Varian Associates River Drive plant will be enlarged by 1,000 square feet. The new space will house special development engineering projects.

15 years ago

A fire gutted the lower storey of Norval's Credit River Boat Company. The cause of the fire is unknown and owner Bill Pomeroy did not know the extent of the damage.

The Georgetown No. 6 water well started gushing cold water at a rate of 2,000 gallons per minute. "It is one of the better wells I have ever seen or heard of," said a spokesman for Hydrology Consultants Limited.

Jill Barker led 18 swimmers in a Streetsville swim meet. She had three firsts, two seconds and was a member of the winning relay team. Other strong swimmers were Wendy Bouskill and Ted Kewley.

Ed Serjeantson is the acting president of the Georgetown Tennis Club. He took over the position from Doug Williams who moved to New Zealand.

10 years ago

Georgetown was hit by a small tornado. The tornado lifted a sports car with Herald sports editor Colin Gibson and his fiancée Susan Frawley in it, and flung it 12 feet across Main Street. They were not seriously hurt.

Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill resigned from the Glen Williams Cemetery Board after twenty years of service. The new chairman of the board is John Doherty.

Coun. Ernie Hyde's daughter, Ann, married John Kozlowski of Dundas. Rev. Hall Llewellyn performed the ceremony.

5 years ago

Seven Moore Park children raised \$57 for the Canadian Cancer Society. In a Hyland Avenue back yard they had a mini fair. Ten-year-old Jane Campbell said they saw a McDonald's ad urging children to have a carnival.

Jeff Inglis will probably be part of the Calgary Stampede lineup after two years at their training camp. The 6'5" 260-pound graduate of Acton High School had a set back in 1979 when he dislocated a kneecap. Nikki's Pools Mariners continued their winning streak with two more. Dependable pitching from Danny Forefellow and clutch hitting by Robert Roass helped them in their last victories.

CLARIFICATION

In a column on this page last week, staff writer Ani Pederian commented that she would never hire student painters to do work for her again as a result of problems she experienced.

The Herald wishes it known that Ms. Pederian's comments did not pertain to individuals or student painting enterprises in Halton Hills. In fact, Ms. Pederian resides in Mississauga and experienced difficulties with students hired from that area. Her comments were not meant to be a reflection of the work or abilities of student painters in The Herald's coverage area.

As always, opinions expressed by Herald staff in their columns are not necessarily those held by The Herald.

A planner's view

Town housing crisis looms on the horizon

Halton Hills will have a crisis on its hands soon, the town's planning director warns. Not a pessimist by nature, Ian Keith sees a housing crisis on the horizon.

"If we don't respond in the next couple of years, we can talk crisis in a year or two," Mr. Keith warns, noting house prices have gone up by \$30,000 in some instances because of the shortage of housing in town.

He's hoping the 841 home development in Georgetown South will offset that pressure for housing in the community of 34,000.

Although the population of Halton Hills has remained relatively stable over the past 10 years, it hasn't been able to keep up with the demand for housing.

That's because there are more and more single people and single parents looking for accommodation.

Mr. Keith gets calls asking him if there are any residential developments coming on stream and he has to say no. People want to move to Halton Hills and are having trouble finding housing, he says.

The Georgetown South development is the largest residential development the town has had for a long time. It will put 841 homes for sale in a two phase building project by Enterac Development Corporation.

"We have a serious problem both in rental accommodation and ownership housing. There are very small vacancies," Mr. Keith said. "The town needs elbow room to grow and the services that accommodate development. That's why I'm so pleased to see Georgetown South proceed."

"We could have had a confrontation on that, but if it meant jeopardizing the development, we would have been the big losers," Mr. Keith said.



Ian Keith

In Acton, the situation is different, the planning director says there's no residential development capacity there because of a water supply problem.

As well, all of the lands for development have been developed or have plans on them.

"There are no vacant residential lands now and what lands can be, are waiting for adequate water supply from the region," Mr. Keith said.

There's an outstanding dispute over which way future development in Acton should go. The dispute over Acton's east and west boundary has gone to the Ontario Municipal Board, but the hearing was adjourned last year.

"I think we're going to have an

answer to Acton's water supply problem hopefully soon, and a resolution to the OMB hearing thereafter," Mr. Keith said. "There's evidence the demand is there and Acton can use the housing."

According to the development files of the planning department, there are six residential and one industrial applications for Acton.

The Danville subdivision application for 52 semi-detached and townhouse homes was received in 1977 and although the draft plan was approved, the applicant has never followed up on it.

The homes were to go up at Highway 24 and Wallace Street and needed Official Plan amendments as well as zoning amendments and site plan approval.

P. Civiero wants to develop 22 lots on Lot 29 Con. 3 and applied for an Official Plan amendment in 1979. The property is outside the town's current urban boundary and there is a dispute over expansion of that boundary.

The same is true of a residential development on 26.8 hectares owned by Rinarin Ltd. on Part Lot 28, Con. 4; on 26 acres on Part Lot 26, Con. 4 owned by Goldfan Holdings; on 37.9 hectares owned by Kesmark on Lot 27 Con. 4; and on a 13-lot development by Cedar Road Developers near Acton High School.

All of these should be resolved once Acton's water problem, a regional problem, has been solved, Mr. Keith says.

Development process takes up to five months

Provided there are no major difficulties with the application, the development process takes five months. What happens to your application during that time? The following explains why it's not a five minute job.

Once the town's planning department receives your application, they notify council then they must circulate it to about 15 to 25 town, regional and provincial agencies, especially those they think may be affected by what you want to build.

"If we have all the replies back in two months, that's pretty good," Planning Director Ian Keith said.

They report to councillors a couple of weeks later, on what the agencies had to say about the application, who then recommend a public meeting be held into the application.

They must advertise the public meeting and so, a month later, it takes place. It may generate a lot of public interest or none.

Planning staff take notes during the meeting of public concerns, and invite written submissions as well. Within two weeks' time, they usually have prepared a report for councillors which either recommends council refuse the application or recommend draft approval with conditions.

If council refuses the application, the file is closed or the applicant goes to the Ontario Municipal Board for a hearing. If recommended, the development must get regional approval.

There is a 35-day appeal period in which the developer can appeal conditions of approval to the Ontario Municipal Board.

By the end of all this, five months will have passed. Note that before a building permit is issued, an approved site plan must be obtained. Site plan looks at flooding, parking, and landscaping.

Role changing

The problems of the storekeepers in Acton is a problem of the times, the town's planning director sympathized.

Storekeepers have been complaining because the town isn't growing, their business is also not growing.

"I get the impression Acton's business district's role has changed in that as people have become more mobile, they do their shopping in Brampton or Milton," Mr. Keith said. "That wasn't true perhaps 10 or 20 years ago. The local businessman has lost to the power of the major markets around Acton."

It's a fact of life for the town's businessmen and there's nothing they can do about it except shift the role they play in the market, say appeal to the daily needs rather than the monthly needs, Mr. Keith suggested.