

Outlook on Lifestyle

Toys take the heat

They bend but they don't break, and they last a lifetime although they're subject to being propelled countless times through the air, microwaved or treated to a wet round in the dishwasher.

Discovery Toys, distributed by local Georgetown resident Marilyn Stone, make versatility and uniqueness their claim to fame.

"These toys are absolutely incredible," said Mrs. Stone who sells the toys from her William Street home. "They have to be indestructible. They're dishwasher-proof. They're microwave-proof. And their plastic wear can't be snapped," she says and demonstrates, bending a piece of plastic to a nearly folded position.

Discovery Toys specializes in toys for specific age ranges but makes toys for people all ages, said Mrs. Stone.

Mrs. Stone's own two children, Graham, 4, and Timothy, 1, can attest to how popular the toys really are.

Mrs. Stone's home, once a part of the Barber estate, acts as a showroom for the colorful plastic products, books and cassette tapes rounded up internationally for distribution in Canada.

Discovery Toys' general manager is a former executive with Fisher Price, said Mrs. Stone. She believes Discovery Toys was created, inspected and approved on the basis of experience.

"They are unique in the developmental and educational toys line. The main thrust (of Discovery Toys) is to sell high quality toys at a reasonable price," Mrs. Stone said.

Each toy displayed in Discovery's colorful catalogue is designed to hold a child's interest anywhere from one to five years. And the toys are "really, truly reasonably priced," said Mrs. Stone.



Discovery Toys hold the interest of little people like Timothy Stone, 4, but they also make toys for adults. Timothy is shown here

loading up Marbleworks, a game of skill and challenge. (Herald photo)

Discovery has toys and books that keep children occupied during car travel. Some toy sets for everyday use are pieces children can assemble themselves, like Marbleworks, a game of challenging tubes and crannies that carries a little silver ball.

How does a parent know when a child is ready for a certain toy? It's just common sense, said Mrs.

Stone. For example "every parent knows if a kid can swallow a marble, they can't play with (Marbleworks)," she said.

Canada's head office of the American-based company Discovery Toys is located in Halton. For sales and catalogues in the Halton Hills area, Mrs. Marilyn Stone can be reached at 877-1047.

Town council proclaims several special events

Several volunteer organizations will be kept busy celebrating different causes in the next few months as Halton Hills councillors proclaimed four special weeks and a special month at a recent meeting.

The entire month of March has been proclaimed Red Cross Month in town. To mark the occasion, the Red Cross hopes to have its flag raised at the town's administrative offices on Trafalgar Road at the end of February.

March 19-25 has been declared National Physiotherapy Week. During the week, the Canadian Physiotherapy Association will attempt to educate the public about physiotherapy through the use of exhibits, demonstrations, and promotional booths in shopping malls. Hospitals and clinics will also be involved in the week's activities.

April 9-15 is National Wildlife Week. Canadians have been celebrating wildlife during the second week in April since 1947. The idea is to create awareness about the importance of wildlife conservation in Canada.

This year's theme is Habitat 2000: Act today for wildlife in the year 2000.

May 7-13 has been declared Respect for Law Week in Halton Hills at the request of the Optimist Club of Georgetown. The Respect for Law program is designed to focus public attention on the contribution made by law enforcement officers and the need for citizen concern and involvement in controlling crime.

Environment Week has been declared for June 4-10. The theme of Environment Week this year is "Our Common Future."

OUR LANGUAGE

by Jeffrey McQuain

Something sparse is scattered or spread thinly. Synonyms for this adjective are sparse, but you may want to try scanty.

Try cowed for describing someone who's frightened or intimidated. I still remember feeling cowed the first time I saw a bull.

Q. If you get a chance, please comment on if and whether. Which is correct in I wonder if (or whether) she's home?

A. If you're writing formally, whether is better for a "yes or no" situation (as in whether or not). The use of if in such situations, though, is gaining ground. In fact, I wonder whether if is now more popular than whether.

Starling refers to one type of medium-sized bird, dark in color and often

a pest. Watch starling — add a t and the result is startling.

Recoil draws back in fear or disgust. The verb itself, however, isn't fearful or disgusting; you should never recoil from recoil.

OUR LANGUAGE AD-VICE: A raisin company wins today's Ad-Vice Award for the slogan on the raisin boxes: "Good Eating anytime!" Either capitalize the first letter of every word or capitalize only the start of the first word, but avoid being inconsistent. That's a good rule to remember Anytime.

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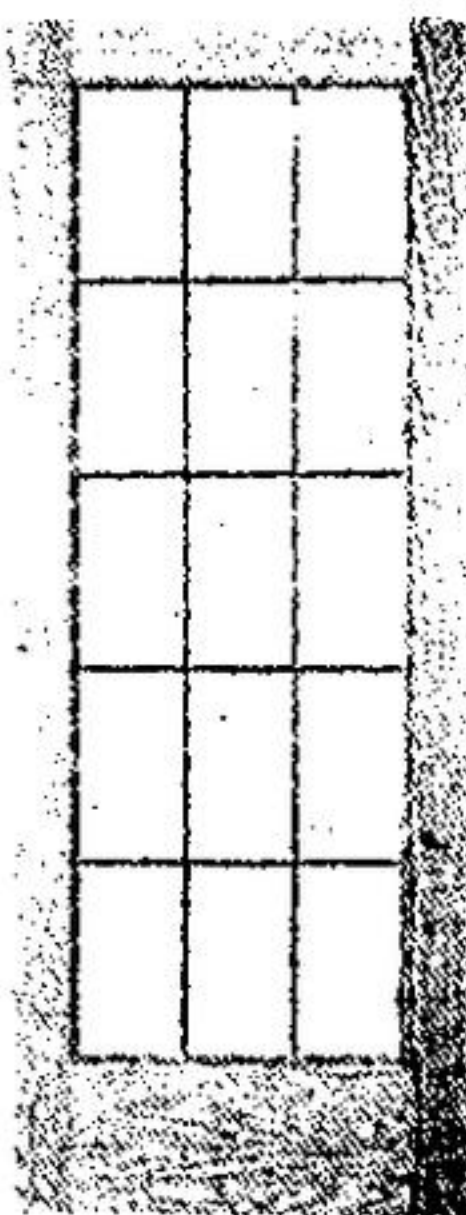
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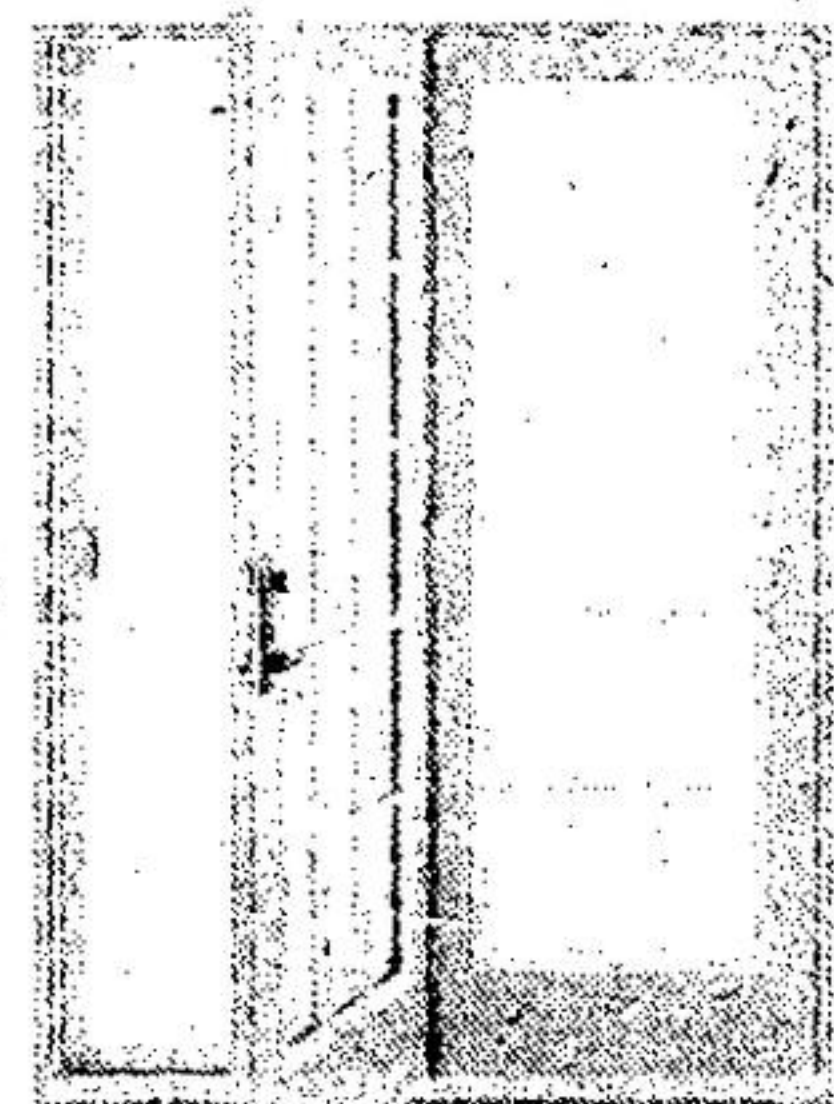
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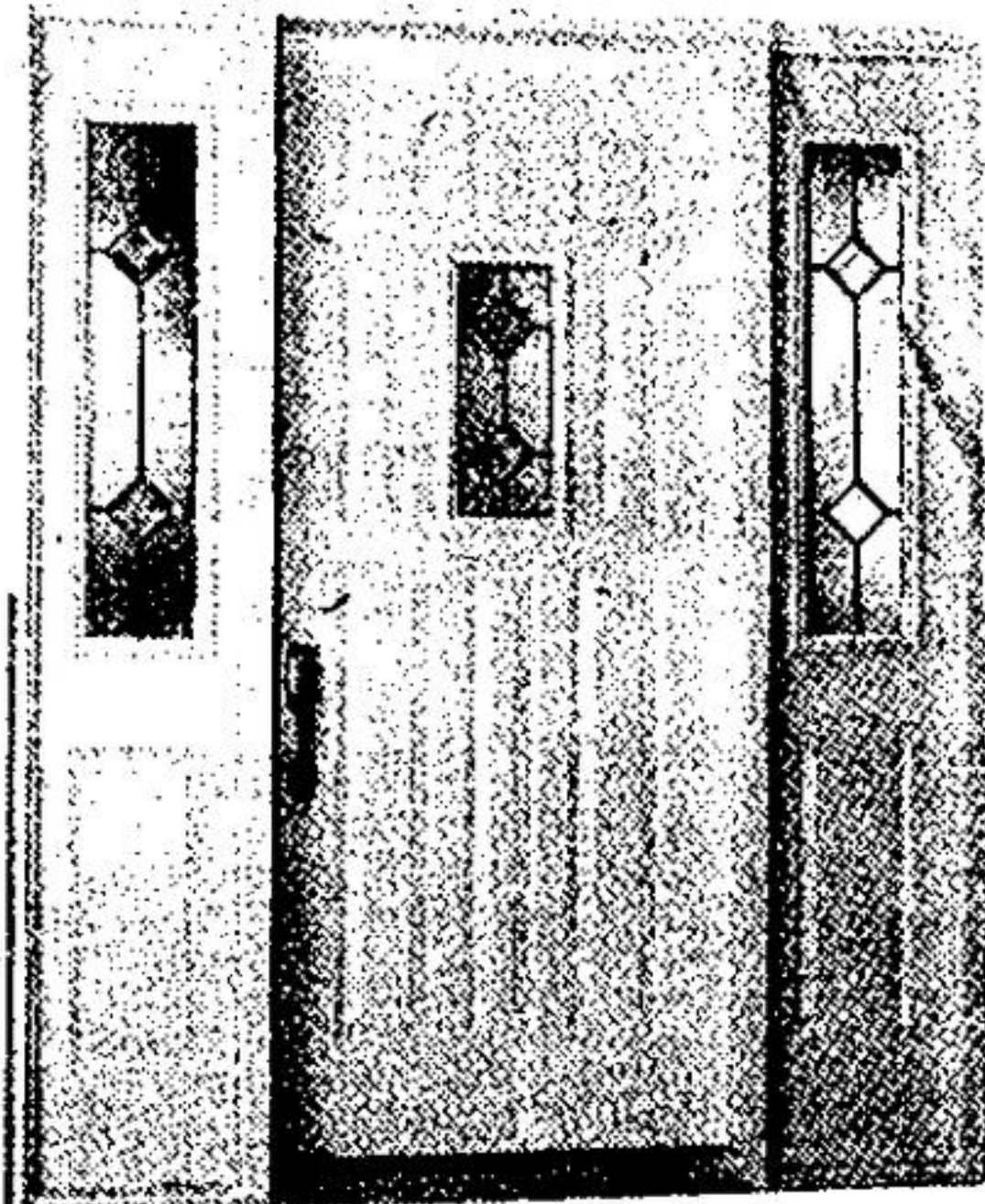
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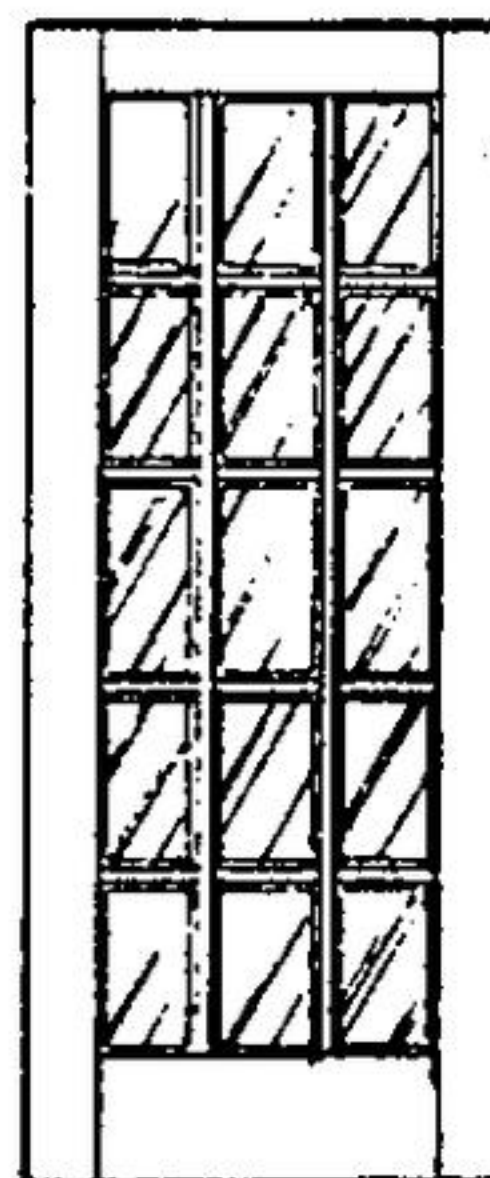


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