

LETTER

Red Cross Emergency Team wants to train more volunteers

Dear Sir,
Can you take a few moments to imagine what it would be like, for you and your family, if a major disaster, such as a tornado, occurred in Georgetown and district? How do you feel answering these questions?

Would you know how to protect yourself? Your family? If you're a father working in Toronto, and you hear of a tornado striking in your home town, do you know how to find your wife and children? Let's imagine: no VIA rail service and highways blocked. Phone lines - jammed. If you're a mother who lives and works in town and it's 3:25 p.m. on a weekday - where are your children? Where is your son or daughter who may be enroute from a high school out-of-town, let's say, Milton? Where is your son or daughter in elementary school, a "walker" enroute to a baby sitter? What about a senior citizen? How do you get help?

Aside from how to best protect oneself during a disaster, we must think about how we will manage after it's over. Where do we go? How do we get there? If we can call for help, where do we call?

This is where the Red Cross and all our Red Cross volunteers come into the picture. For we are all victims, whether we are volunteers or not. But, there is one essential difference: we are more prepared - for we have received training!

Volunteers with the Halton Hills Red Cross Emergency Response, Training and Preparedness service are continuing in their efforts to be prepared to provide essential services to our residents should a disaster occur in Halton. As this team continually learns new skills, they also continue to offer training to others in our community. It

May 1988, a Level I training course was provided in Georgetown. Our volunteers trained more volunteers! Some of these volunteers then went on to obtain more extensive training in January of this year, through a Level II training course.

Many of us may be unaware of the extent of planning and training being conducted in our area, not only at our Georgetown Red Cross branch, but also under the direction of the Region of Halton. April 7 has been declared by the Town of Halton Hills as "Tornado Awareness Day." Red Cross volunteers will have an opportunity to learn and actively participate with representatives from the Region of Halton in a seminar entitled: "Project Tornado."

On Thursday, April 13, the Halton Hills Red Cross Emergency Response, Training and Preparedness team is once again providing emergency services training for our residents in Georgetown and district. A registration and inquiry workshop will be conducted for all interested persons, in the gym at Cedarvale, from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. at no cost. Coffee will be provided.

Volunteers trained in Registration and Inquiry provide a crucial service. It is imperative that accurate and reliable information be gathered and recorded concerning the condition and whereabouts of disaster victims. Volunteers would register and record personal and demographic information on individuals entering an emergency shelter. Other volunteers would receive incoming inquiries by phone and record family members wanting to know the condition and whereabouts of separated family members. Through a highly

organized Emergency Response Service Plan, set up by Red Cross volunteers, who provide training in Registration and Inquiry under the direction of the Regional Municipality of Halton Emergency Evacuation and Reception Centre Plan, people can be accounted for, given emergency shelter, food, clothing, medical attention and family members can be assisted in their efforts to be re-united with other family members separated during the disaster.

To pre-register for the workshop, please phone the Red Cross office and speak with Bernice or leave a message on the phone: 877-5233 or speak with Cathie, 877-9291.

Think about it, please.

Sincerely,
Cathie Martin, Co-Chairman,
Halton Hills Red Cross
Emergency Response, Training
and Preparedness

Credit Valley Artisans back at Cedarvale

Ever wonder how a pot is thrown on a wheel... Or how different weaves are created in a piece of cloth... The answer to these and many other questions can be found in Cedarvale Cottage.

It was in January that the Credit Valley Artisans were permitted to return to Cedarvale Cottage. Cleaning and painting crews were quickly organized to get the Cottage into tip top condition so that courses could begin. This proved to be no small feat since the Cottage had been vacant since Christmas 1986. However, with everyone rising to the challenge, the work was finished quickly and just in time for the first course to start.

Now, with the sun streaming through the windows and the fresh smell of spring overcoming the smell of fresh paint, the Credit Valley Artisans are opening the doors of Cedarvale Cottage and inviting the community to attend their Open House. The Open House will be held on Sun-

day, April 9 from 11 am to 3 pm. Members will be demonstrating their crafts of pottery, weaving, painting and stained glass. Share your interests with us over coffee and tea and browse through the course display. If you don't see a course that suits your interests have a word with the course coordinator and we will see what can be arranged.

Drop in and discover the facilities and courses offered by the Credit Valley Artisans. Cedarvale Cottage is just up the hill at the end of the main parking lot in Cedarvale Park. For further information on the Credit Valley Artisans contact Frank Anthony, President, at 877-5856.

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THE HERALD

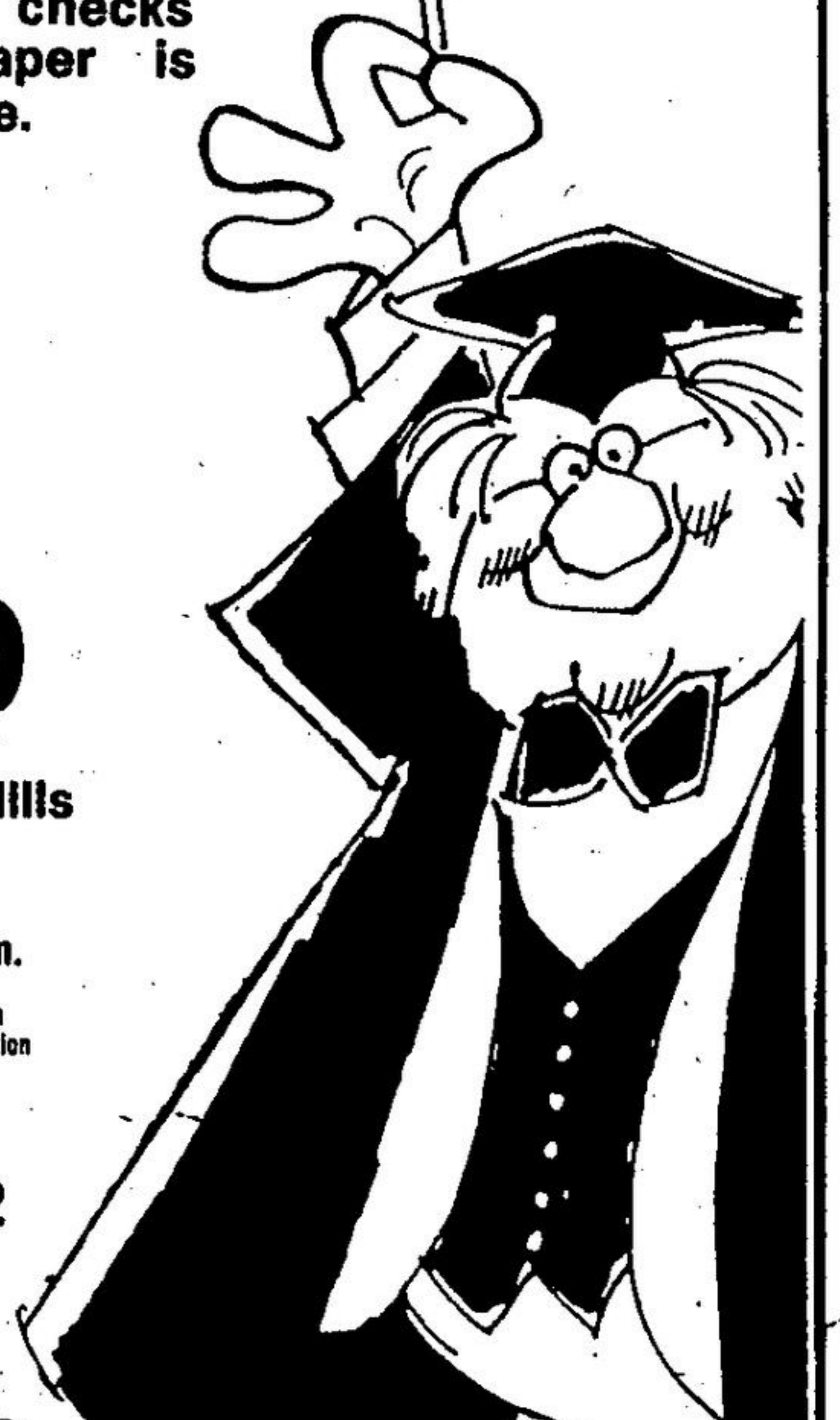
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Established 1866

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