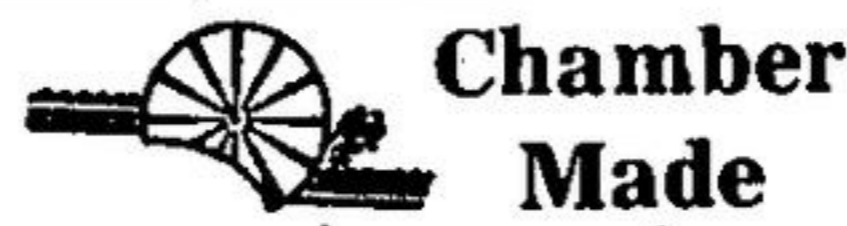


Letter is democracy in action



Chamber Made

By DOUG PENRICE
Herald Special

Looking over the letters to the editor in any newspaper is sometimes very interesting. The letters range from the sublime to the ridiculous and cover every subject, and that is the parts that we get to read. I am sure many of them have been edited to make them legal and suitable for publication.

One letter recently caught my interest. Its intent was to warn readers that democracy was a poor form of government. The author did not offer any alternatives to what we have today. He felt that democracy had many short comings and that dissenters should be kept in check.

This got me thinking about other forms of government and how would they deal with our day to day living problems and how that form of government would react to a

critical letter as appeared in the paper. We have seen from recent events in China how simplistic communists governments react to peaceful demonstrations. They have crushed all forms of free speech, embarked on a propaganda campaign to keep their citizens in line and ignore all appeals from other countries to reform. I don't think they would be receptive to any critical letters to the editor.

The next form of government that many nations practice is a dictatorship. This form of government subjugates all residents to one person's view. Dictators will also squash any discontent to remain in power. I don't think they would react favorably to a critical letter to the editor.

Last, but not least is democracy, which I believe is the best form of government. We have free speech, a free uncensored press, the right to vote people out of office, the right to earn a living as we see fit and many more rights that we take for granted. We even have the right to write critical letters to the editor as was published in the paper.

I am reminded of a quote whose author I do not know. He said that

democracy was like sex, when it's good, it's great, and when it's bad, it is still pretty good. Our freedom is something to cherish and we should not take it for granted.

The Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce represents business in Halton Hills. For further information please call the Chamber at 877-7119.

Stereo stolen

A stereo and speakers valued at \$700 and \$80 in cash was stolen from a Churchill Road South house in Acton sometime between the afternoon of July 1 and the next morning, police say. Police do not know how entry was gained.

M&M meat shops
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Ministry of Transportation Enforcement Officer Gerry Lawrence (above) examines the GMC van's engine while (below) he looks at the same van's brake system during this week's Ministry of Transportation vehicle safety Lane program, held outside the Gordon Alcott Arena in Georgetown. During the past month Halton Regional Police have been issuing report notices to those seen driving cars in disrepair. Drivers have been showing up with their vehicles this past week to have them safety checked. Those who received a notice but don't report will be fined. (Herald photo)



BARBEQUE SWEEPSTAKES

THE FIRST BARBEQUE WINNER IS VI NORTON



Shown here is Vi Norton of Georgetown being congratulated by Bill Kerr of Georgetown Home Hardware for winning the first of three barbeques in the Herald's Barbeque Sweepstakes Contest.



Weekly Winners

\$50 WEEKLY CASH VALUE COUPON FROM.....



Week of June 26th
SHARON SWITZER
Victoria St., Georgetown

Week of July 3rd
MARY HARLEY
Durham St., Georgetown

Don't Forget To Play Every Week!



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ONE OF THREE BEAUTIFUL BARBEQUES FROM.....

OR

A Weekly \$50 Cash Coupon From M & M Meat Shops

See the Contest Page for Details.



the HERALD

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