

EDITORIAL

Condo picket warranted

A Georgetown business man is preparing to picket town hall in order to get his business condominium on Armstrong Avenue fixed.

For the past two years, Derek Williams has been fighting with town hall to get his building — wrought with structural defects — fixed.

In an interview Monday, the local businessman said the building's walls windows and floors have cracked and that it is not fire-proofed. Outside, a retaining wall on the property is crumbling and the parking lot is heaving.

Williams purchased the 10-unit condo just over two years ago for about \$150,000 and some may argue that he should have better investigated the structure before finalizing the purchase.

But, documentation obtained under the Freedom of Information Act shows that the Town of Halton Hills failed to carry out inspections as the Armstrong Ave. condo was being built.

According to the document, inspections by the Town were not carried out in a number of areas, including footings, backfill, inside drains, fire separations, framing and insulation.

Williams — like any other person buying a structure in Halton Hills — trusted that the town had done its job, inspecting the building to make sure it met Ontario Building Code regulations.

We understand that the town's building inspectors have to rely on developers to notify officials when buildings reach certain stages in their development, but surely those same inspectors know where construction is happening and just how far from completion buildings are.

If this is an isolated case that fell through the cracks then we can — although not entirely — accept the oversight.

But, we wonder how many other buildings in Halton Hills have been built that have not been given proper Ontario Building Code inspections and if the Town's taxpayers are going to be stuck with a bill to get these buildings brought up to standard.

P.O.W.E.R. not advocate of violence

Dear Editor:

I was appalled to see incorrect press reports that P.O.W.E.R. had been involved in an attack on Ruth Grier and her car when she visited WASTEWISE on June 27th. These reports ranged from total inaccuracy to leaving out enough of the facts so that readers might think that P.O.W.E.R. was involved. Some of these reports went out on the Canadian Press wire services and I was even sent a clipping from Ottawa.

P.O.W.E.R. has NEVER advocated violent action! This sort of behaviour does not lead to the solution of any problem. In fact, P.O.W.E.R. has tried to be proactive and has encouraged waste reduction. Some members of P.O.W.E.R. founded WASTEWISE and we are very proud of their success. Ruth Grier came to Georgetown to recognize the excellent efforts of WASTEWISE.

With so many away on vacation and possibly reading papers from other areas I feel it is important to set the record straight. P.O.W.E.R. is always ready to demonstrate whenever it is appropriate but we would NEVER take the route followed by some of the groups from other regions who descended on Ruth Grier.

If the people from the 57 sites want to save their communities they should clone WASTEWISE and put pressure on the provincial government and Metro Toronto for MASSIVE WASTE REDUCTION NOW! A pilot study in Oakville showed reduction of over 55%. Toronto could do the same by 1993. NO GARBAGE = NO LAND-FILLS. What if we all got together and made a change?

Sincerely,
Barbara Halsall
President of P.O.W.E.R.

Chamber reminds MPP about forum

The following letter, written to Halton North MPP Noel Duignan, was provided for publication in Halton Hills This Week.

Dear Mr. Duignan:

On Tues. June 30, 1992 you were kind enough to take time and attend the forum organized by the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce at which the subject discussed was the Ontario Labor Relations Act and the changes currently proposed by the NDP Government.

There is no doubt that the vast majority in attendance made it very clear that they are completely against the proposed changes and I can in fact quote Mr. Ken Signoretti, vice president, Ontario Federation of Labor. The question posed to Mr. Signoretti was "What message will you take back to your organization having heard the comments from this evening's forum?"

Mr. Signoretti's reply was, "I will be telling my organization that the community of Halton Hills is vehemently against the proposed changes to the OLRA."

Having heard this, Mr. Duignan, it is now very clear that your mandate is to obey the wishes of the people of Halton North and advise your party that you must uphold the views of your constituents and vote against these proposed changes.

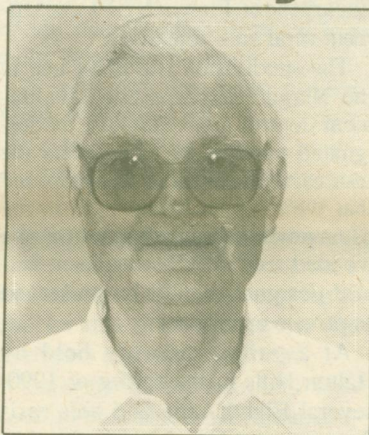
This is nothing more or less than what you promised during your election campaign — so we ask you, will you now carry out the directions given you by this constituency?

The Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce,
John A. Duncan, Vice President,
Chair, Government Issues Committee



Willoughby's Livery is now the home of the Georgetown Legion

Have you got a minute?



Wheldon "Steamer" Emerson

Halton Hills This Week is thrilled to have Wheldon "Steamer" Emerson writing a weekly column. Steamer's anecdotes are always entertaining and usually full of insight into life's lighter moments. Look for Steamer's "Have You Got A Minute?" every week in this space.

In broad daylight, I lost a big black and white holstein cow, on lower Main Street, better known as Cedarvale School for Girls.

Most of the young and reckless boys in town called it "no man's land." If you were caught on the grounds after dark, you could be fined for prowling. A friend of mine yielded to the joys and temptations and was fined twice! With a sly wink he said "it was worth every penny."

The cow that I lost was to be stabled in the old barn that was once part of the original Cedarvale property. The barn was located around Margaret Street, and Cedarvale Court.

Ed Tyers, who once owned the dairy where the Standard Trust building is today purchased the parcel of land from the United Church of Canada, which included the barn. The balance of the property, known as Cedarvale School for Girls, was purchased by the town in 1967 as a centennial project.

If I can just get off the history lesson for a minute, I'm anxious to tell you about the darned cow and its dramatic escape, or better still its

disappearance. It vanished right in front of me.

Would my father-in-law believe an illusionist hidden behind a tree story? Not very likely. This will o'the wisp bovine had been taken in on a truck deal by my father-in-law and my job was to go get the cow, unload it, and to tie it up in Ed's barn.

As farmer's say, the cow was "milking" and Ed knew exactly what levers to pull. This had to be done first thing in the morning and in the evening.

I didn't know how to prime the plumbing to get "co boss" to go "squirt, squirt," and besides I had cold hands. Ed's gnarled fingers and big hands qualified him for the daily task. But before Ed could lay his head against her side to proceed to empty her tank, she had to be found.

When I went to unload her from the truck, she panicked. With one giant leap she was through the truck rack opening and was gone to jump over the moon. I even looked skyward a couple of times in my

search.

Those few souls that I came in contact with while searching withdrew in shocked disbelief when I said I had lost a cow, and it was black and white weighing 800 to 1000 lbs.

Have you ever stood in front of the boss who pays you regularly every Friday night, and tried to explain how you lost one of his valuable assets? Do you know what it's like to be on the carpet trying to give a plausible explanation when you can hear fellow employees howling with laughter behind your back at your misfortune? Talk about ridicule, why my wife wouldn't even let me walk the dog after that.

Bill Cromar saved my cow's hide. He farmed at the corner of lower Main Street and Fifteen sideroad. The cow wandered on to his property. By this time, all of Georgetown knew I had lost a cow. His phone call was to tell me she was safe and sound but in need of milking. I told him I would send Ed down right away.

Letters Welcomed

Halton Hills This Week welcomes your letters. Letters must be signed and include your full name and address. Names will be withheld on request.

Halton Hills This Week reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any letters on the basis of factual errors, punctuation, spelling errors

or as a result of space limitations.

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The Editor
Halton Hills This Week
232 Guelph St., Unit 9
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Halton Hills

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PRODUCTION MANAGER: Kathleen Topolsek
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CIRCULATION MANAGER: Marie Shadbolt
HALTON HILLS THIS WEEK IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED.
PHONE: 873-2254 FAX: 873-3918