

Homeowner will call for halt of Law Development building

By Dianne Cornish

An irate homeowner who lives in Law Development's Kingsmill on the Credit subdivision in Georgetown will ask Halton Hills Town Council to put a hold on all construction by the development

company in Halton Hills until building deficiencies are corrected in the townhouse condominiums at Kingsmill.

"I plan to address Town Council, Sept. 21, and ask for a halt on all building by Law

Development," he said Wednesday during an interview with Halton Hills This Week.

The halt, if approved, would include the planned third phase for Kingsmill and possibly construction at the Law Development

subdivision near the intersection of Trafalgar Road and Highway 7.

Just over a month ago, a small group of new owners -- upset about several defects in the building and maintenance of the 70-lot

subdivision -- formed an association hoping to resolve their problems.

About 80 per cent of the units are occupied while construction continues on the site.

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Halton
Hills

THIS WEEK

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Dressed in traditional native costume, nine-year-old Julie Cochrane of Georgetown performs a dance in memory of her godfather, Frank Shields, who died August 19. Julie and her 13-year-old sister, Elizabeth, teamed up Labour Day to present a grand entry and blanket dance at the Sargent Road seniors' complex in honor of Shields.

Photo by Dianne Cornish

Native dancers honor memory of Georgetown man

By Dianne Cornish

The death of "a good family friend" three weeks ago prompted two young Ojibwa girls from Georgetown to honor the memory of Frank Shields by performing a grand entry and blanket dance at the seniors' residence on Sargent Road.

Shields, an upholsterer who worked in downtown Georgetown for 13 years before retiring earlier this year, was the godfather of nine-year-old Julie Cochrane and her 13-year-old sister, Elizabeth. On Labour Day, the girls presented a traditional Dakota Sioux dance in the common room of the seniors' apartment for a crowd of about 30 people.

Julie, who has won two dance competitions at native powwows this summer, explained last week that grand entry dancers "pray for the memory of someone who died and think about that person as they dance."

During the blanket dance, performed around a blanket, onlookers are invited to join in and throw coins and bills onto the blanket in memory of the deceased.

Julie's father, Ed, said Shields was a resident of the Sargent Road seniors' complex and the dance was organized to honor him. Any monies raised at the event will be donated to the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital which posts plaques in the hospital bearing the names of people who make donations or have donations made on their behalf.

The dance for Shields was arranged because he had asked the Cochrane sisters to perform it for him after his death.

"He'll be missed by a lot of friends," Ed said, adding that a

lunch was prepared for those attending Monday's event by Mary Stoyles and other residents at the Sargent Road apartment.

Cochrane said anyone who couldn't attend the blanket dance but would like to make a donation in Shields' memory can drop off their contribution at his home, 23 Rexway Drive, until next Wednesday. All donations will be given to the hospital, he added.

Julie, a Grade 4 student at George Kennedy Public School and Elizabeth, a Grade 7 pupil at Centennial School, have been dancers ever since they were five years old. Their dancing costumes, complete with intricate beadwork, are made by their mother, Jean, while their father does the artwork on their outfits.

Julie whose dancing abilities are recognized and appreciated by many people in native communities across Canada and the United States was recently honored when adopted by the Dakota Sioux nation to represent them at powwows. In late May, she won the dance-off at The Turtle, a large powwow attended by thousands at Niagara Falls, New York. She also danced at the Canadian National Exhibition powwow two weeks ago.

At the end of September, she'll participate in a competition in Dearborn, Michigan.

Plans are being made to hold a large powwow sometime next summer, possibly in Cedarvale Park, Cochrane said. The event will include native dancing competition, native drummers and displays of crafts, as well as native food. Representatives of the Michigan Cree are scheduled to meet with Cochrane in November to make plans for the Georgetown event.

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