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Jacqueline Bell (a Grade 5 student at Glen Williams Public School) donned her shades for the singing of "Cool Santa" with other students from the Glen Williams Junior Choir last Thursday. The students performed for the seniors at their Christmas luncheon at St. Alban's with teacher Melody Kolic.

Photo by Wendy Long

Commercial condo owner wants to take town to court

By Dianne Cornish

The owner of two industrial condominium units on Armstrong Avenue in Georgetown has threatened to take the Town of Halton Hills and Georgetown developers Freemar Development and Management Inc. to court.

"I want to go to court. Either the developer (Freemar) or the town will take me (to court) or I'll take them," Derrick Williams said Tuesday during a telephone interview.

An angry Williams confronted town council Monday night showing them a video of a newly-constructed asphalt parking lot with several white mushrooms heaving their heads through the pavement.

"Isn't that cute; they're are even getting red on the bottom," Williams said of the mushrooms that appeared through the pavement in October. "This is disgraceful for us to allow this in the community of Georgetown."

Williams -- a local businessman and 26-year town resident -- came to council after receiving a copy of town staff report recommending that the town give back to the developer the \$15,000 security for site works which it has held since October, 1990. The money is held to ensure that all site works are done to the town's satisfaction before the fund are released.

Williams, who bought the two condos in the 10-unit building for \$150,000 three years ago, remains unsatisfied with recent remedial work done by the developers. The only work that has met with his approval is the fireproofing that has been done between the units.

The fireproofing and other work, including replacement of most of the asphalt in the parking area and a retaining wall south of the building, was done this fall after the developers, town officials and a lawyer representing Williams and

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Monarch headed for OMB

The owner of an Armstrong Avenue resource and recycling depot will be taking his rezoning case before the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). "I will be going forward to the OMB," Wayne Olson, owner of Monarch Resource Recovery and Transfer Ltd., said Monday night minutes after town council rejected his proposal for rezoning.

Town planning staff recommended approval of the rezoning subject to a number of conditions, including the construction of a wholly-enclosed building for the operation. Essentially, rezoning approval will legalize the operation as a scrapyard. The business has been operating in violation of current zoning for just over 10 years.

Mike Norris, a resident of The Sands residential condominium just east of the Monarch site, has appeared before council three times to complain about the scrapyard, which he describes as "an eyesore." He asked council again Monday to deny the rezoning application.

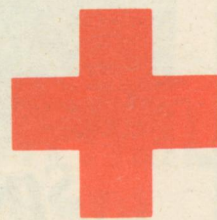
Norris was also critical of town planning staff saying that they had overstepped their authority by doing everything possible to accommodate Monarch's rezoning bid. Councillor Pam Johnston defended planning staff saying: "Staff does the same type of job for everyone."

Give the gift of life for Christmas

The Georgetown and District Red Cross will be holding its Christmas Blood Donor Clinic in Acton on Thursday, Dec. 17 (tomorrow) at the Acton Legion Hall from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

Eligible donors are between the ages of 17 and 71. First-time donors are welcome.

Please bring with you your Donor Card or Photo I.D. Donating a pint of blood is truly a generous yet economical gift. Please give the gift of life. For more information call Geoff at 853-0223.



Georgetown seniors crusade for recreation facility

Ed. Note: For the past four years, seniors in Georgetown have been trying to get a local recreation centre. Over the last two weeks, HHTW staffer Wendy Long has examined the problem faced by the seniors, they're efforts to get a facility in Georgetown and what facilities are available in other parts of Halton Region. Starting here and continuing on page four is an in-depth look at the problem.

By Wendy Long

Many Georgetown seniors wonder if they'll ever have a local recreational facility.

The only municipality in Halton Region that doesn't currently offer a senior citizens' centre is right here - Halton Hills. This has frustrated many of Halton Hills' 3,221 persons (based on Halton Region's 1991 figures) over the age of 65.

"Up til now the town hasn't spent any money on seniors," said Les Mellish, president of the Georgetown and District Seniors Association lobbying for a local government-funded seniors facility. "We're being very patient and working hard and very

diligently to persuade council that a seniors recreation centre is long overdue."

Acton is ahead of the game - the old fire station on Bower Avenue was approved by the town last year as their future site. Toronto architects are presently drawing up design plans for needed renovations. Occupancy, even for meetings, cannot take place until safety concerns are addressed.

The Georgetown and District Seniors Association was formed four years ago for the sole purpose of pushing the town into action and fundraising.

The 800-plus members of the association are exasperated and frustrated that four years of pushing has not yet budged the town to provide a facility in Georgetown, even a temporary one.

"We'd like to make our 800 members a little more visible," Mellish said. "We're continually being asked to prove that it [a seniors centre] can be successful...is Georgetown special?"

The seniors acknowledge that they do want a new

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