## **Business of the month**



The Towne Friar on Mill Street in Acton got a surprise visit Wednesday afternoon by members of the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce. The fish and chip restaurant, which has operated for the past two years, is the winner of the Chamber's Business of the Month award. Recipients of the special recognition aren't notified of their win before the presentation of the award. Posing with the Business of the Month sign, which will be put on display in the restaurant's window, are: Chamber of Commerce manager Terry Jackson (left); Chamber president Bob Malcolmson; Al Cunneyworth, of Al and Al's Red Brand Meats in Acton, winner of the Business of the Month award in November; Ann Evans, co-owner of The Towne Friar; Lesley Case, an employee at Towne Friar and Carol Stechyshyn, administrative assistant at the Chamber. Mrs. Evans and her husband, Cliff, own The Towne Friar.

Photo by Dianne Cornish

## Commercial condo owner still unhappy

By Dianne Cornish

Georgetown resident and businessman Derrick Williams admits he's "frustrated" in trying to get town council's support to ensure that remedial work is done at a 10-unit industrial condominium building which houses two condos that he bought three years ago.

Even so, he vows he'll continue his battle with the town and Georgetown developers, Freemar Development and Management Inc., until site works and other improvements are done to his satisfaction.

"I'm not letting this subject die," Williams said Wednesday during a telephone interview. "I think I know the route I'm going to have to take with these people (town and developers)."

Williams was reacting to a decision made at Monday night's committee meeting of council to return the bulk of the \$15,000 security held by the town to the developers. The money was being held to ensure that all site works were done to the town's satisfaction.

Although the town's administrative staff recommended release of all the funds, Councillor Norm Elliott suggested Monday that \$3,750 be retained by the town to make improvements to the drainage on the asphalt parking lot at the

Armstrong Ave. condominium building. Council approved Elliott's proposal after he told councillors that he believes the money will be sufficient to "improve but not totally rebuild" the parking lot. The committee decision unless endorsed by council a regular meeting Monday night.

Responding during Wednesday's interview to council's action to retain \$3,750 for remedial work, Williams said: "That's not enough to blow my nose.

"I have a problem here and I want it ironed out. This is costing me big money and I haven't got it," he said.

"Tell us what your problems are, as succinctly as possible," Elliott said after telling Williams that the town's range of authority might not be wide enough to address all of Williams' concerns. Some of the concerns might fall more within the realm of "you and the builder," Elliott told Williams, adding that those might have to be settled in civil court.

Williams said the asphalt in the parking lot hasn't been properly installed and has caused drainage problems, such as ponding on the lot. He's also unhappy with a newly-constructed retaining wall at the south of the building.

"That wall is not going to stay up," he said.

A month ago, Williams brought a video to council showing councillors that the new retaining wall was crooked and mushrooms were popping through newly-installed asphalt in the parking lot.

Council was told that a professional engineer, hired by Freemar Development, certified the remedial site work, which was done this past fall.

"In my opinion, to have the work approved by an engineer hired by the developer is a conflict of interest," an angry Williams said. "An independent one (engineer) should go in and do it."

Williams also told council Monday that six shut-off valves going into the condominium building are broken off.

"There's no way of shutting the water off to those units," he said. "The main valve is under asphalt."

Town engineer Bob Austin said the developer has purchased the valves and has assured the town that they'll be installed.

## Parent aid meeting

The next meeting of Parent-Aid will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 13 in the teachers' lounge at Acton High School. Everyone welcome to join our small group of parents for friendly help and support.

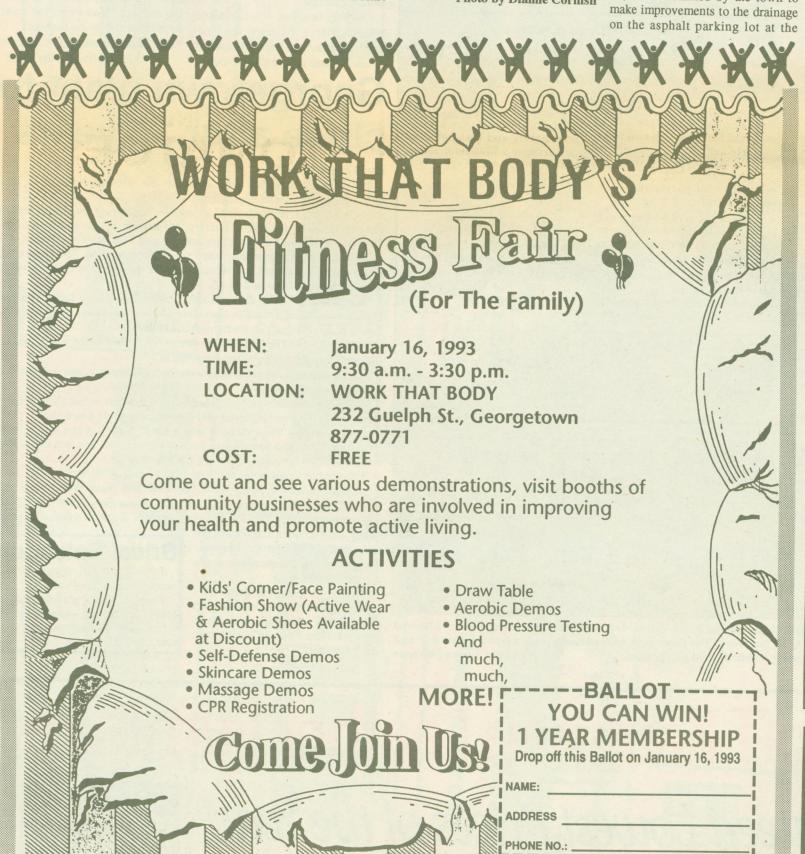
Parent-Aid is a self-help group that is fortunate to have the expert guidance of Harvey Lemon, School Social Worker.

We welcome your ideas and suggestions for future speakers. The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month.

Have your Children's BIRTHDAY PARTY at ACTON BOWLING LANES

call 853-0470

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