

# Editorial

## Wastewise a wise investment

Halton Hills Town Council and its administrative arm are to be commended for attempting to toe the line on spending as it relates to budget restraints and in turn further burdening the already tax-laden ratepayer.

Having noted this, however, surely certain programs and projects which benefit the community as a whole should be viewed in a different light rather than from the cold perspective of a dollars and cents myopia.

A case in point would certainly appear to be that of Wastewise (Georgetown's resource management and recycling centre on Armstrong Ave.) and its blue box collection dilemma.

Regardless of one's likes or dislikes concerning individual environmentalists, the harsh fact remains that unless we conscientiously adopt a recycle and reuse mentality and cut back on needless goods, we will soon find ourselves literally buried in garbage.

Wastewise has been unable to accept blue box material for the last eight weeks because of a region-instituted collection system which has also curtailed pickups at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital.

Diane van de Valk, project manager for Wastewise, asked town council last Monday to do a costing study of the blue box pickup at the facility, and re-institute collection service, suggesting Wastewise provides a valuable community service.

According to Van de Valk, through their flea market and non-blue box services, 190 tonnes of material was diverted from the garbage stream in 1992. She estimated this represented a saving of \$28,500 to the town in tipping fees.

This also represents a veritable mountain of what otherwise would have been viewed simply as useless garbage.

Wastewise does provide a valuable service to the community in this respect, but more than that, through its various works and philosophy shows there are alternatives to the throw-away mentality which afflicts us all at one time or another.

Surely in this instance, Wastewise should be viewed as indeed, a wise investment for the town.

## Pre-formal fashion show

To the Editor:

People in Mr. Genore's G.D.H.S. OAC Business Administration class are sure to succeed once out of school. This class has turned an assignment into a win-win situation for everyone.

Their assignment has turned into the fashion event of the year. Billed as a Pre-Formal Fashion Show, the class has targeted a large group in the community who will be selecting dresses for their big event. Parents and students from Centennial, Stewarttown and Mackenzie Smith who also will graduate this year, as well as the students from Georgetown and Acton high schools should not miss this opportunity to preview the best dresses in town.

The show is sponsored by Elizabeth's Fashions, who always do an excellent show. The marketing group has also considered making this affordable for the students'

budget.

The other way we all win as a community is that the proceeds will be donated to P.O.W.E.R. As you are not doubt aware we will most certainly be back at a hearing this year in our battle to STOP THE DUMP. Since the private company expected to be dumping garbage by now we should feel good that we have been able to significantly delay their plans. With the kind of support that the high school students are offering, I am sure that together we will win this battle.

Tickets are available at Elizabeth's, G.D.H.S. from P.O.W.E.R. or at the door. See you there, Monday, March 29th, 7-9 p.m. at Georgetown District High School.

**Barbara Halsall,  
President of P.O.W.E.R.,  
Georgetown**

## The People's Corner

### Turner offers a glimmer of hope

To the Editor:

Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner's bid for the post of Prime Minister and leader of the Progressive Conservatives comes as no surprise to those who know him, and his chances may be better than a first glance might suggest.

His timely book, "Garth, Just what the hell is going on in Ottawa," offers many tantalizing attractions to those of us who have been pushing for the Reform Party and massive changes in government direction. The big question in my mind is whether, if elected, he would be willing or able to turn those words into actions within the confines of his party.

The book is like a one-man royal commission. It delves into just about every aspect of our system of government and shows just how rotten the system is. He doesn't stop with criticism, but goes on to offer solutions. The fact that many of these solutions coincide with the Reform Party is not surprising because he has long espoused his beliefs in the same ideals as reformers even though he has criticized the party itself. And this is what has me worried.

If he is going to follow the normal style of other politicians of condemning something or someone for what they are rather than what they stand for in order to be a good party member, then we have to wonder how successful he will be in making any of his suggested changes.

His book also points out the problem of bias reporting in the national press where opinions, rather than facts are aired or printed. Reformers will agree wholeheartedly with this. But then in the book, he makes some false accusations against the Reformers that seem to be based on press reports rather than facts. He talks about Preston Manning being the key person to pick candidates rather than a democratic vote. He also mentions that some of the executive of the Halton-Peel Reform Party had approached him to be a candidate. I was one of them.

When I had the chance to talk with Preston Manning about this situation, Manning made it quite clear that he would do nothing to either persuade or dissuade Garth from running for that position. He told me he would make no deals with anyone and the choice of a candidate was entirely up to the local riding association.

The other interesting thing about

the book is the outright condemnation of another book "A Capital Scandal." The fact that both his book and this one share so much of the same information on the problems in our present system has been ignored. Instead he has concentrated on certain parts of the book with which he takes issue - especially the part that talks about him as a well-intentioned MP who got dragged down by the system.

Despite these factors I believe Garth has the potential to introduce some much-needed, sweeping changes. His recommendations offer people like myself, who have completely lost faith in the govern-

ment's ability to bring us back to fiscal sanity, a glimmer of hope for the future. My sincere hope is that his shots at the Reform Party and other government critics are not a sign that he has been in Ottawa long enough to catch the virus that precludes anyone from considering other peoples thoughts and ideas.

If the Tories don't give his candidity and ideas serious consideration it will be a sign that we can expect more of the same from their old-liners and that will trigger another surge of growth for the Reform Party.

**Mike Pembry  
Terra Cotta**

## Guest column

### Why not Garth?

By Rosaleen Garneau

On March 20, the editorial of this paper asked the question Garth, Why? I find myself asking the question Garth, why not?

Although I have not pledged my support for Mr. Turner in his bid to become prime minister, I have to admire his determination to effect the running of this country.

As is evident in his book, "Garth, Just What the Hell is Going on in Ottawa?" he is more than a little frustrated with the lack of power ordinary members of parliament possess.

It seems to me the opportunity to move from the back bench forward would be irresistible. Mr. Turner would feel compelled to try to place himself in a position in which he could bring about change, particularly if he does not see himself as a career politician.

He would want to seize the moment rather than spend countless years in a job he considers to be close to useless, playing the political games and hoping that the possibility of a higher post would present itself at a later date.

I don't know why this paper is criticizing Mr. Turner for not being a career politician - I find it somewhat refreshing. He is not weighed down by political allegiances, has more freedom to say what he thinks and to deviate from party lines.

By throwing his cowboy boots into the ring, as you say, Mr. Turner shows he has spunk. He deserves credit for his convictions, regardless of what one might think about his policies.

A number of the political elite have shied away from the race for fear of defeat, but this "neophyte politician" dares to buck the system because he believes he has solutions to Canada's woes.

Mr. Turner may still have a lot to learn about politics and I'm sure his bruised idealism will take a further beating as the campaign continues. Nevertheless, he offers a certain amount of inspiration to those of us who complain, yet are reluctant to become involved.

At the end of the road Garth Turner will likely not find himself in the top job, but he may very well initiate serious discussion, if not action, on a number of interesting proposals. He may also find himself in a cabinet position, should the Conservatives win the election and he avoids stepping on too many toes.

At the news conference in which he declared his candidacy, Mr. Turner, expecting criticism such as that which appeared in the above mentioned editorial, aptly quoted Winston Churchill: "It's not the size of the dog in the fight that matters, but, the size of the fight in the dog."

## ~ 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. Letters should be addressed to The Editor, Halton Hills This Week, 232 Guelph St., Unit #9, Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4B1.

## For Pete's Sake

I THINK THESE LECTURE RECORDINGS ARE GETTING A LITTLE OUT OF HAND!!

3/27



CAN YOU SAY SOMETHING ELSE, MA'AM? I NEED YOUR LEVEL...

by Roe

## Halton Hills THIS WEEK

Halton Hills This Week, Weekend Edition, is published every Saturday at 232 Guelph St., Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4B1, and is printed in Oakville by Q.E. Web Printing. In the event of typographical error advertising goods or services at wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell which may be withdrawn at any time. PUBLISHER: Ken Bellamy EDITOR: Colin Gibson OFFICE MANAGER: Jean Shewell CIRCULATION MANAGER: Marie Shadbolt HALTON HILLS THIS WEEK IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED. PHONE: 873-2254 FAX: 873-3918