

Elvis is alive and well in Georgetown

By Oksana Buhel

Brampton resident David Usher claims that he is "fanatically into Elvis." The 24-year-old Elvis impersonator has been playing and singing Elvis songs for four years. He is just introducing his talents to the Halton Hills area with the help of Trudy Thomas, owner of Up, Up and Away located on Main St. in Georgetown.

Usher was introduced to his entertainment career by a friend involved with singing telegrams. He was talked into visiting his friend's agent and was booked to do an Elvis impersonation the following night because of his resemblance to the singer. He was such a success, two other bookings followed immediately.

"I was just wearing a black shirt

and pants, I didn't really work on my 'Elvis look,' didn't have much practice and I got two bookings out of it," Usher says. "I thought 'Hey, if I really practice this - if I study his movements, practice his songs, and really try to look and sing like him, then I can really make something out of this.'"

After that, Usher studied the singer's every move. He purchased two \$1,500 custom-made costumes, bought jewelry and grew his hair. He quit his part-time job and Elvis became his full-time occupation.

Usher launched the Elvis cologne campaign for the Hudson Bay Company last year. He also launched the opening of the Elvis movie, *Honeymoon in Vegas*, at the Eglinton Theater in Toronto.

In 1991, Usher appeared on the

cover of the lifestyles section of the Toronto Sun.

Agents in Toronto voted Usher as the top young Elvis last year. "The reason I do the young Elvis is that people want to remember him as young and healthy," Usher explained. "You can see that from the vote done for the U.S. Elvis stamp."

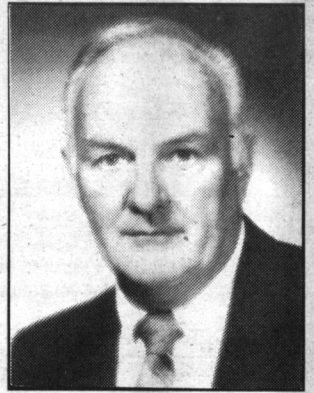
Usher does impersonation performances and singing telegrams for all occasions. His performance is approximately 15-20 minutes long, and includes a variety of Elvis songs. "I also do personalized songs," Usher explains. "I'll sing about people's likes, dislikes, past experiences, their profession and other personal items."

To book Usher, contact Trudy Thomas at 873-2334.



Trudy Thomas of Up, Up and Away Balloons, on Main St. in Georgetown, will help idol worshippers make their dreams come true. Elvis (impersonator David Usher) will be working with Up, Up and Away, delivering special messages. photo by Oksana Buhel/HHTW

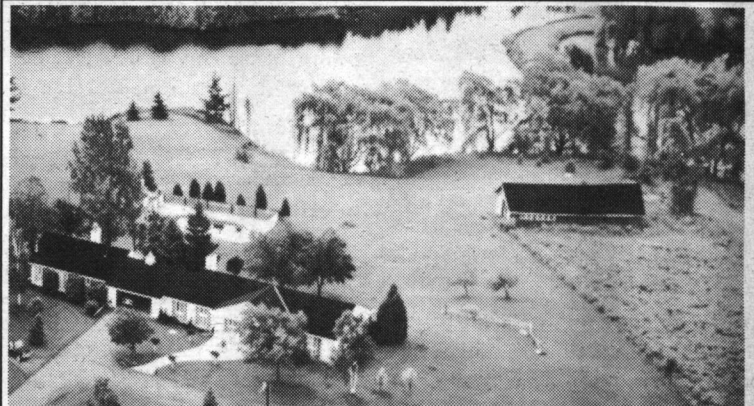
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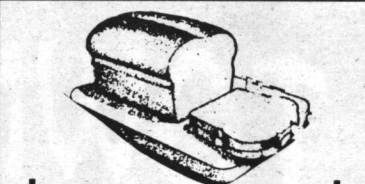
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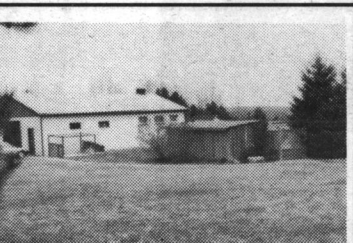
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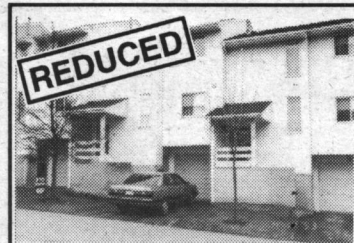
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