

The People's Corner

Upgrade town staff

To the Editor:

Re: Proposed two acre Stormwater Detention Pond (CESSPOOL) for Metcalfe Court/Regan Crescent/Delrex Boulevard Ravine

So our illustrious town staff strike again! A developer needs to be accommodated so we again have total surrender to the developer's wishes, with little thought of the impact on the town.

Why did it take this council from 1990 till March 1993 to inform its citizens, and even then, only a select few, that it had agreed to allow requirements to another existing residential location, namely the above mentioned ravine?

It is our understanding that the solution to Milran's problems had to be found "within the subdivision". The council has adopted an extremely liberal interpretation of this, in allowing Milran to put this cesspool on land which it did not own at the time, and which is not even in sight of its subdivision. How can this be construed to be "within the subdivision?"

Council is setting a very dangerous precedent with this action.

Apparently council has set aside \$100,000 to study the storm water treatment requirements for Halton Hills next year. Why then as council approved this piecemeal approach, without any environmental study or consideration for any alternative proposals, for the treatment of Milran's storm water? The affected residents were certainly kept uninformed and prevented from offering any alternatives till it was too late for any recourse.

If this had been Metro Toronto council, this situation would never have occurred. Perhaps it is time to upgrade our township staff with experienced, competent people who will be able to handle the more complex problems that

Halton Hills will experience as it grows and subsequently give council better advice on dealing with sophisticated developers. Mr. Keith has every reason to be concerned about the perception in the community, especially in this area of putting the Planning Department on the payroll of the developers!

Mr. Mayor, during the last election, you complained about the "Special Interest Groups" in Halton Hills. Perhaps you should give some thought to why this phenomenon has occurred. If the residents of Maple Avenue had any faith that the Planning Department and town council would uphold the town's own zoning by-laws, there would be no need for RAIDD.

Unfortunately, given the confidence of the developer on Maple Avenue, and the confidence of Milran Development to sell lots in Stage 2, with a closing date of 1993, when it does not yet have approval for Stage 2, your citizens have every reason to organize to protect themselves.

The Metcalfe Group was unable to disband, as given our treatment by town council with a problem caused by the incompetence of a previous town council, the question has never been if but when, we will again have a try at least, to defend this ravine against the town.

Wake up, Georgetown North! If the council is allowed to set this precedent you could be next. What is to stop the developer on the Eighth Line deciding that he does not want a cesspool spoiling his development and transferring it beside Cedarvale Park, for example?

"Special Interest Groups", Mr. Mayor? Hardly surprising with the treatment the residents of Halton Hills receive from this township staff.

**John and Muriel Heaton
Georgetown**

Community interests ignored

To the Editor

Re Metcalfe Court/Silver Creek Stormwater Detention Pond

As a resident of the community, I am concerned council has not recognized the interests of the community, regarding this proposal.

1. Construction of the above will take place on environmentally sensitive ravine lands, and, to my knowledge, a full environmental assessment has not been undertaken to review the pond's effects on the area. This process, has not been the subject of broad public participation.

2. The potential long-term use of the affected lands for recreational purposes will be negatively affected by the proposal. It is imperative council involve the Recreation and Parks Department, and Planning Department, to evaluate this concern.

3. I understand that in two years time, the proposed Storm Water Pond will become the responsibility

of the town. No information has been provided on the long-term financial obligation the town will be assuming, or on how proper maintenance and monitoring will be implemented. If this project is to become a public responsibility, then surely it should be subject to the same examination that any other similar public project is required to meet.

In my view, a full scale assessment of all alternative sites and strategies should be undertaken to assess the community's overall needs for Storm Water management, and request that the findings be made public.

I strongly urge council to defer any decisions regarding the Metcalfe Court/Silver Creek Stormwater Detention Pond proposal, until all these, and numerous other concerns have been fully addressed.

**L.M. Saul
Georgetown**



Harrison Public School students grabbed their garbage bags and tackled the litter at Cedarvale Park Thursday afternoon. From left to right; Ruth Faas, Jennifer Davis, Emilie Blouin, Lindsay Quackenbush, Adam Densmore and Jonny Hancock. Students collected 22 bags of garbage during the cleanup. photo by Oksana Buhel/HHTW



Staff at the Canada Employment Centre for Students prepared for yesterday's seasonal opening. From left to right, Karen Allin, Angela James, Bill Keay and Kathryn Marshall, will be calling local businesses trying to find jobs for the expected hundreds of applicants. The centre is located at 232 Guelph St. in Georgetown, in the Guelphview Plaza, telephone 877-7797. photo by Oksana Buhel



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable Daniel Raymond spoke to the junior kindergarten class at George Kennedy Public School in Georgetown Wednesday afternoon, answering all sorts of questions and showing a video about the RCMP. During the entire month of April, George Kennedy School focussed on Canada and its symbols. Raymond's presentation ended Education Focus, the two week educational period organized by the Halton Board of Education. photo by Oksana Buhel/HHTW

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