

Dale Wood The music man

Whenever the Georgetown Choral Society offers a performance, most people sit back, enjoy the music and go home entertained and possibly inspired.

But for musical director Dale Wood, it's a much more involved process.

After 26 years at the helm of the group, Wood has enjoyed the successes of the Choral Society, and in doing so, has also given the cultural circles of the town much more than he has received.

Working as the organist at Grace United Church in Brampton for the past 16 years, and musical director of Georgetown Children's Chorus since the group started in 1992, Wood also juggles his schedule to be a full-time music teacher—something he has done since he was 18 years of age.

So what drives Wood to dedicate so much volunteer time and effort to the community?

"I simply love it," he says, "I love to see the excitement on the faces of these average people who accomplish extraordinary things. That's where I get my rewards."

Wood says the fact he is working with amateurs as opposed to professionals is certainly a factor.

"They perform for the love of it," he says, "And with that, I see so much joy in their faces when they've made great accomplishments, be they Choral Society members, Children's Chorus or my students. That's what turns my crank."

—By Ted Brown, staff writer

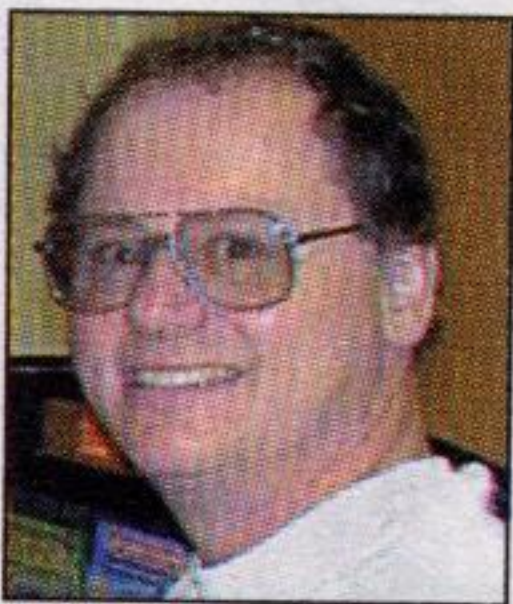


DALE WOOD

Fred Harris

Market Place's centre of attention

It's nearly impossible to walk through Georgetown Market Place mall and not know Fred Harris.



FRED HARRIS

Harris has been the owner of the Lottery and Information Kiosk located in the centre of the mall for the past eight years—an extension of Delrex Variety.

"I've worked there since 1963," jokes Harris, "When we opened it, my job was to sort the pop bottles, and I didn't even get paid for it—except they fed me some supper."

Harris has seen the business—a mall mainstay—grow.

Although the kiosk is primarily for lottery sales and lends out wheelchairs and strollers for use in the mall, Harris is expanding it soon to a full service kiosk with magazines, tobacco and confections.

But sales are only part of Harris' duties.

"People drop by to ask for information, but it's not limited to the mall," says Harris. "They want to know what's happening all over town, too."

"I meet so many great people here," he says, "And with that, I get a real sense of what's happening in the community."

—By Ted Brown, staff writer

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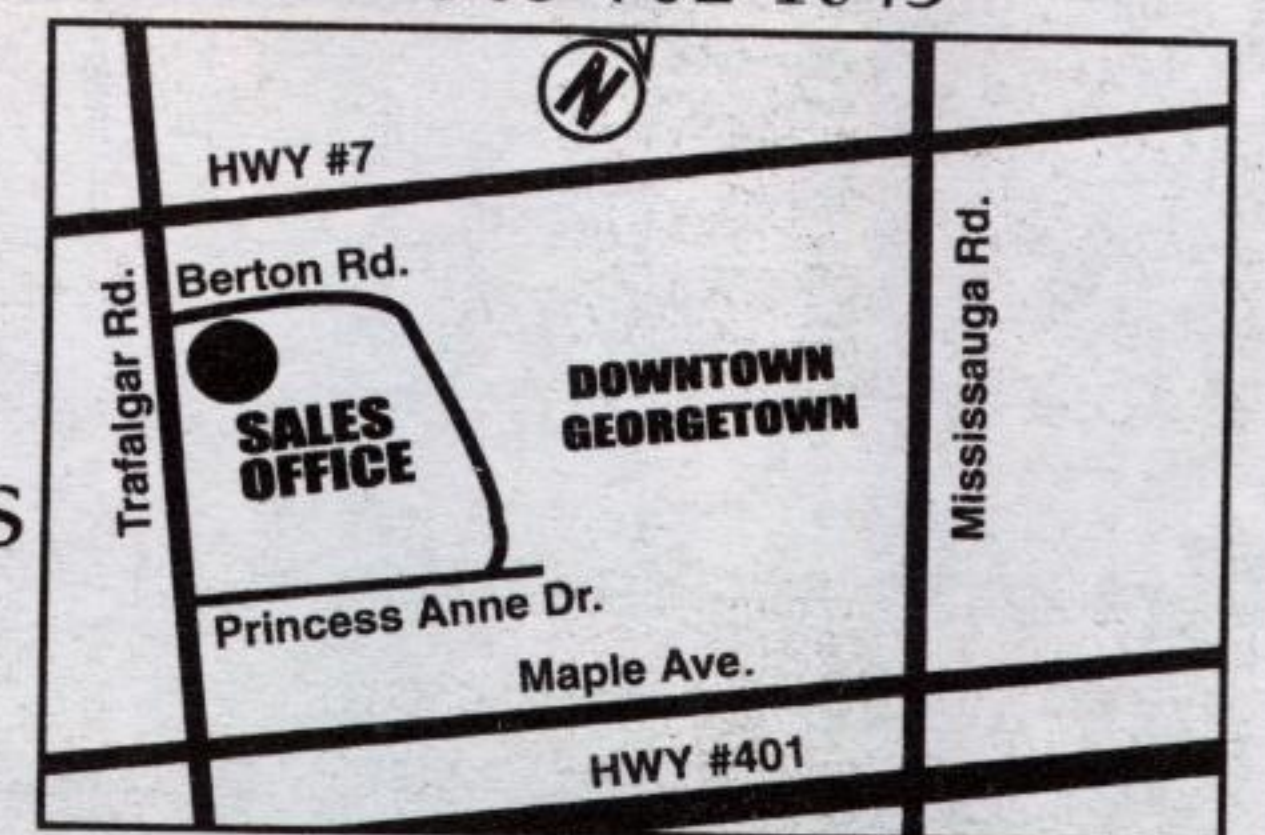
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