

Letters to the editor... letters to the editor... letters to the editor...**Runners offer support to 'friend'**

Dear editor,

Thank you to the two lovely ladies who seemed to have fallen from the sky on Sunday, April 25. It was a cold, rainy day; a really rotten day for runners. Yes, this dynamic duo caught up to me on the Ninth Line just after 10 a.m. I was really struggling to complete my long run when out of nowhere these two women showed up. They were also just finishing their long run.

It was so great to meet up with them! They are training for their first half-marathon which takes place on Sunday in Mississauga. They patiently listened as I rambled on and on. Not having had any company for such a long duration, it was great to see them. They kindly ran with me along side them and we finished the last leg together.

I didn't catch their names, but once again it just goes to show you what kind of citizens we have here in Georgetown. I would like to thank them again for helping me achieve my destination. Once they pulled up beside me, I forgot all about my fatigue and sore legs.

Best of luck at your half-marathon, ladies! You'll do great! Have fun!

L. Martin, Georgetown

Cadets say thanks

Dear editor,

On behalf of the staff, cadets and parents of 676 RC(Army)CC Georgetown, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the local merchants who allowed the cadets to hold a tag weekend in and on their premises the weekend of April 15-17. Without their community spirit and co-operation, events like this would be most difficult to achieve.

We would also like to give a big thank you to the residents of Georgetown for their generosity. Due to your continued support and generosity to the Canadian cadet organization, we are better able to support the young people, girls/boys, between the ages of 12 and 18, who are looking for adventure, to get fit, meet new friends... for free. Come to the Georgetown Armouries, 91 Todd Road, on any Wednesday night at 7 p.m. or call us at 905-702-2268.

Captain Paula Phillips, CD -
Commanding Officer,
Army Cadets

Appreciation to hospital staff

Dear editor,

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to the professional staff at the Georgetown Hospital, the Rehabilitation Centre and the Outpatient Physiotherapy Dept. of the William Osler Health Care Centre. Their understanding, respectfulness, sincerity, empathy, and untiring and constant excellent care are an inspiration towards achieving my goal of a complete recovery as a new survivor of G.B.S. I will be forever grateful.

Rachel Allard, Limehouse

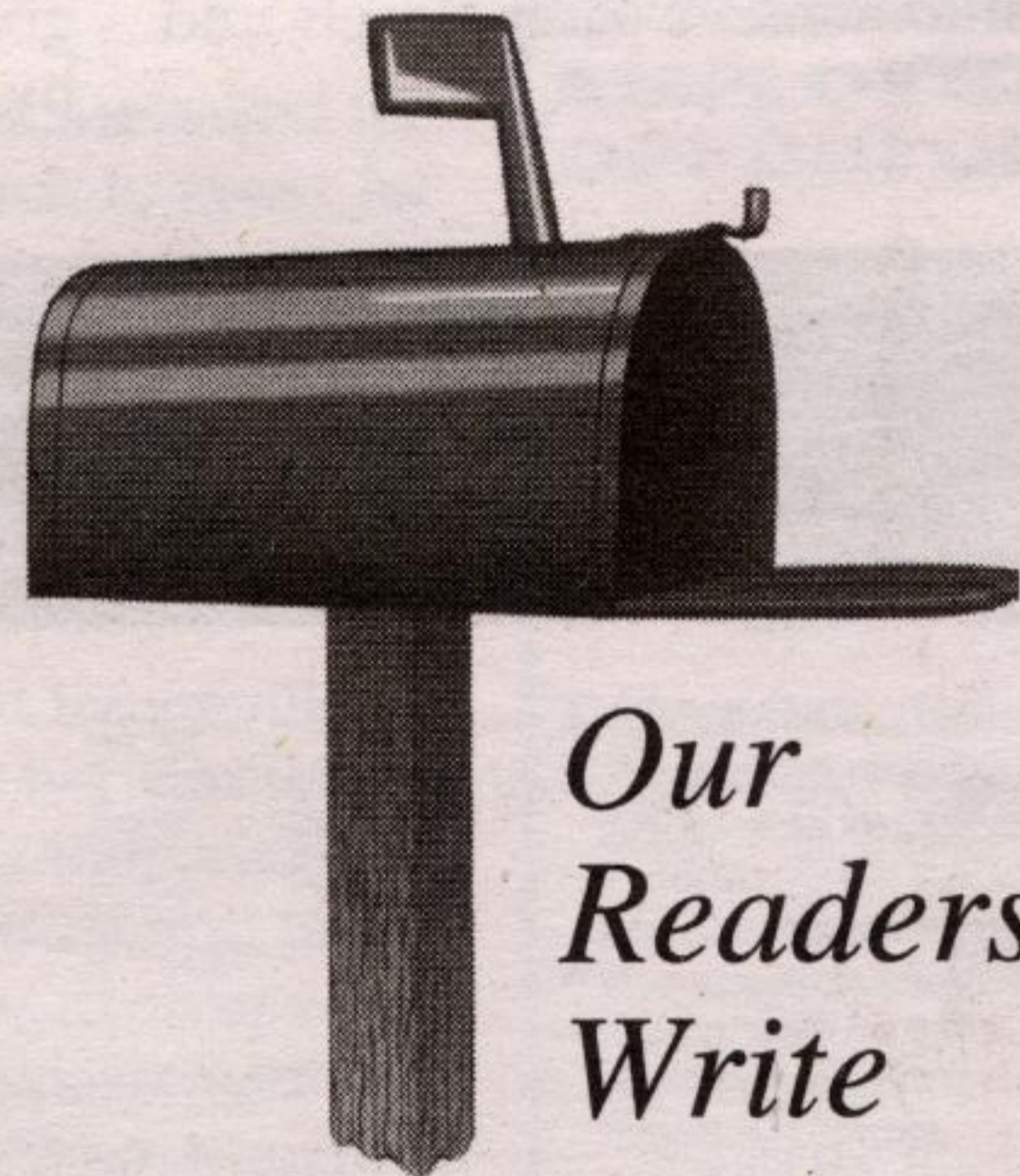
Pesticide use should be banned

Dear editor,

The following is a copy of a letter sent to Mayor Rick Bonnette Re: Pesticide use in Halton Hills.

A recent article in the Globe and Mail (Sat. April 24, 2004) reported on a study that has linked common household pesticide use with cancer and neurological damage to humans.

I quote, "the frightening message came yesterday when the Ontario College of Family Physicians released the most compre-



Our
Readers
Write

hensive study ever done in Canada on the chronic effects of pesticide exposure at home, in the garden, and at work. The review found consistent evidence of the health risks to patients with exposure to pesticides, the study said, naming brain cancer, prostate cancer, kidney cancer, pancreatic cancer and leukemia."

My question to you, Mr. Mayor, is what is the town's policy regarding pesticide spraying and whether or not it isn't time to ban all pesticide use both by the town and by individuals on lawns and gardens?

Why are we endlessly spending money on cancer research for a so called cure, when a cure can obviously be achieved by eliminating one of the causes, pesticides?

So let's call a spade a spade, whatever junk we pump into our environment, will directly affect our health and our children's health in the years to come.

Are we going to let the "pressure groups" dictate to us because they don't like the looks of those "yellow weeds", or are we going to make some contribution toward the health and well being of humanity?

I await your reply.

Norm Hohban, Georgetown

Pay-per-garbage bag system doesn't work

Dear editor,

Your May 5 issue referred to the region's study of a pay-per-garbage-bag system for Halton. Such schemes sound good in theory, but in practice they have backfired, since people can avoid the fees by dumping their garbage "informally".

The experience of other communities indicates that in an area such as Halton,

much more garbage would flow into creek and river valleys, ditches in industrial and rural areas, and the drop boxes of charities. Regional council's decision on this matter will amount to an intelligence test for our politicians that could well prove rather revealing.

Brian Lyons,
Georgetown

Barber Mill development is not needed

Dear editor,

I had to shake my head after reading the recent article about developing the old Barber Mill property. It seems the former mayor of our town in now a "consultant" to a developer. Isn't this the same person who cried foul when developers wanted to build a small pumping station near the Credit river in Norval? It was going to be a blight on the pristine shores of the river and would harm the rural atmosphere of this quaint community.

It seems now that votes aren't important that development along the Credit river is a good thing, as long as it is not in Norval. I wonder if she would be so gung-ho if the plan was located at the old dam in Norval? As long as it's up the stream, I guess it must be okay. I

don't have a problem with using the property for artists, etc, but do we really need a 14-storey condo, when development in town is already going like wildfire, water is in short supply and our valleys are being encroached upon at an alarming rate?

What troubles me as well is the fact that the former mayor has the political experience to know which hoops she must jump through to get this going. I smell another trip to the Ontario Municipal Board coming.

I just hope our new council can see through this attempt to jump on the developer's bandwagon and put a halt to this unnecessary condo development and leave our rivers and valleys alone before they are all gone for good.

Barry Simpson, Georgetown

Reader: Fight the hospital ob closure

Dear editor,

Re: May 7 editorial, "Bye, bye baby"

I agree with you 100 per cent! Both my husband and I are from small towns (my husband grew up in Georgetown) and when we were expecting our first child, despite the fact that we were living in Mississauga at the time and had access to the "state of the art" Credit Valley Hospital, we used every connection we had to get an obstetrician in Georgetown so that we could deliver our child in the community we knew we wanted him to grow up in. We are now living in Georgetown and expecting our second child in November. Naturally, we are quite upset to find that this child will not be born here.

I have heard so many stories from friends about their experiences at other larger hospitals, where you are treated more like a numbered patient than a member of the community. My experience with the birth of my son at

Georgetown hospital was so superb that I sent thank you letters to my doctors and the wonderful nurses in obstetrics. Their expertise was invaluable but most of all they were kind and caring.

I cannot believe that just because there are not enough births a year in this growing community of 51,000 that we have lost one of our essential services. What will Mr. Bell next deem is not an essential hospital service for this community? And when does the minister of health step in to protect our growing community?

I don't want to stand idly by and let them take away from our community. If there are others out there that agree, please write to the paper, to Mr. Robert Bell, and to the minister so they know how we feel. And let's show them that just because we may be smaller than other towns, we are a community and we stand together.

Kirsten Mills, Georgetown

Magic show was magical

Dear editor,

An evening of mind-bending illusions and magical tricks proved to be an extremely successful event for local literacy group Literacy North Halton.

Award-winning illusionist Ted Outerbridge played to a packed house at the John Elliott Theatre in his breathtaking *Magical Moments in Time*. Proceeds from this event will go towards LNH's Read*Spell*Write program which offers adults with low literacy the chance to upgrade their reading, writing and basic math skills.

LNH would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets and the following supporters: Thifty Car Rental, Home Hardware, Georgetown Toyota, TD Canada Trust, Paul C. Armstrong Insurance, Minuteman Press, Closelink Communications and Figures.

LNH are currently recruiting for volunteers, please call LNH at 905-873 2200.

Sharon Foster, marketing manager
Literacy North Halton

CFUW: Thanks for the help

Dear editor,

The Federation of University Women's Club - Georgetown would like to thank the people of Georgetown, Acton and the surrounding community for their enthusiastic support of our annual book sale. Special thanks to the following sponsors: Young's Pharmacy, Johnson Associates Realty, Carol McMurray, Acton Sobey's, Halton Hills Library, Shopper's Drug Mart (South Georgetown), Wastewise C.R. Centre, 3rd Georgetown Cubs and Scouts, M&M Meat Shop, Sherwood Digital Copy Centre and Doreen Stephens Books. And to the organizing committee; Ann McGrath, Maxine Baker, and Penny Cawker. Much appreciated.

Linda Walton,
book sale convener

Easter baskets sales were a success

Dear editor,

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank John Digby and the staff of the Royal Bank (Mountainview Branch) for their efforts to raise money for the Paul Franks Memorial Fund. The funds raised, \$474, touches so many lives in our community. Many thanks to the residents of Georgetown who purchased tickets for the Easter baskets. Your participation made this fund-raiser a big success, and brought the total of the fund-raiser to \$5,304.

At a time like this, it makes us so proud to be part of a small community that cares and gives their all.

As a person who has been the recipient of such efforts in the past, I know first-hand how much these efforts will mean to the people this money will assist. Hats off to everyone who participated.

Mary Franks, Georgetown