

# OPINION

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## Palace retreat in order

Everyone cherishes a fond memory. It can be anything from a favourite location to a beloved item.

But things change. Perhaps not always for the better, but they change— despite how much we may not want them to.

Take, for example, the ongoing situation in Norval. The owners of The Carpet Palace, a rather nondescript building located at the main intersection (Hwy. 7 and Adamson Street/Winston Churchill Blvd.) have set in motion plans to demolish the century-old building. The owners, George Kanichis and Steve Klintsaris, would like to build a new building on the site which would blend well with the existing buildings in Norval. They contend their store, which has been frequently hit by vehicles and has needed extra support beams to keep it from collapsing, is not saveable.

However, a small group of Norval residents, including former MP Julian Reed and ex-Halton Hills Mayor Kathy Gastle, have launched a fight to save this “historic” building, whose demolition they feel will “ruin the heart of the village.”

Poppycock. First, the building has not been deemed a “historic” property.

Second Halton Hills Heritage, the body overseeing all historic properties in town does not consider this a “historic” property.

Third, refurbishing a building that is in such poor shape currently, will not “ruin” Norval. Was the village “ruined” when fire destroyed the Hollywood Tavern several years ago? No. Norval was, and is, a wonderful community with a rich heritage.

As well, do the owners of this building not have the right to determine its future? They have invested money in this structure, paid for its upkeep and improvements and been good corporate citizens. Do they not have the right to do with their property as they see fit, providing they follow all Town regulations?

We understand the residents’ concerns, but this is not their fight.

### What do you think?

Below are the results of our most recent online poll. For the current poll go to [www.independentfreepress.com](http://www.independentfreepress.com)

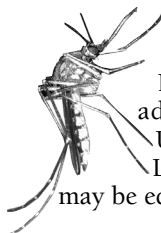
Do you support the provincial government's proposal to introduce a province-wide ban on the sale and cosmetic use of pesticides?

Yes (47%)

No (53%)

## Something bugging you?

Send us a letter!



Letters to the editor must include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited for content and/or length.

E-mail:

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Steve Nease



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Resident frustrated with start to GreenCart

Dear editor,  
I live in Norval and was very glad when Halton Hills announced that they were going to have the GreenCart alongside the Blue Box. I talked with my children to inform them of what we were able and not able to recycle in the Green Cart/ Blue Boxes.

When the first week arrived if they threw out something that would go in the Green Cart / Blue Boxes I would re-inform them of recycling and get them to put it into the Green Cart instead.

April 9 was our first Green Cart pickup. After dinner our cart/boxes had still not been picked up but I thought due to the new company that had taken over that they were running behind and thought that they would pick up the next day (Thursday, April

10). When I arrived home Thursday the cart / boxes had still not been picked up so I called Halton Regional Waste Management to inquire. I was told there were more residents recycling than they had anticipated plus they had a new contractor and was told that our recycling would be picked up on Friday (April 11).

On Friday when I arrived home from, again the recycling still had not been picked up, so I called Halton Region again and they assured me that everything would be picked up on Saturday.

On Saturday (late in the day) my children and I watched a regular garbage truck pull up and, to my shock, all the recycling and green items that we had taken the time to

carefully separate were thrown together into the back of the garbage truck and compressed.

I called Halton Region to inquire why everything was picked up together and what was going to happen to everything that was compressed. The person I was speaking with stated she was not sure but she would have someone call me back on Monday. Well, as of Thursday I was still waiting.

How frustrating it is that I spent so much time getting the children to buy-in to the new Green Cart / Blue Box program only to have the Region not follow through with their end! Fortunately, this past week was much better. The Green Cart / Blue Boxes were picked up in the correct recycling truck instead of the garbage truck.

D. Neilson, Norval

### GreenCarts a step forward to saving the Earth

Dear editor,  
Thank you for publishing the feedback regarding our GreenCarts. However, Katrina Dods’ letter about why she thinks it’s not worth the ‘smelly hassle’ was disheartening, doubly so because she is a young student.

A friend of mine revealed to me that his father also refuses to use their GreenCart for the same reason, and I imagine this reason would also partly account for the 15 to 25% of residents who say they won’t be using them.

There is a slum in Nairobi, Kenya, where people use plastic bags as ‘toilets’. Once they’ve done their busi-

ness, they tie the bag up and throw it as far as they can. There are also places on this earth where people actually live in a landfill, surviving on what they find while picking through the mess. Can you imagine what kind of ‘smelly hassle’ these human beings deal with on a daily basis?

GreenCarts, imperfect as they may be, are at least a good step to get people thinking about what we take from the Earth and how we give it back.

Katrina, I hope you and your family find a way to reduce your waste and use your new GreenCart without too much ‘smelly hassle’.

Sarah Walker, Georgetown

### Lionesses thank supporters

Dear editor,  
On March 29 the Georgetown Lioness hosted our 4th annual Wellness Day Fundraiser at the Gellert Community Centre.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the vendors for donating their time and talent, the Gellert for all their help, the local businesses who donated to our kitchen and door prizes and the community for their continued support.

We look forward to seeing you all at our fifth annual Wellness Day in 2009.

Irene Lloyd,  
Georgetown Lioness Club