

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The "picker" is no more but....

When one door closes another often opens and that can be the case with the anti-scavenging laws now applied to area land fill sites. Sadly, we can no longer join the historic ranks of the noble "picker" who have searched the regional dumps over the decades for useful items others have thrown away. Two Prince Edward County performers even wrote and presented a musical last summer in celebration of the "picker" called "Tales from the Wellington Dump."

But, there may be a partial solution to those wishing to dispose of items no longer needed but still have some remaining value or life in them.

Here are two options for people and both include stores that sell recycled building and decorating materials in the area.

Currently there's the Green Home Centre on Bell Blvd. in Belleville. In business for about nine years, the Green Store has been serving Quinte region customers with useful used building materials while at the same time diverting those items from the land fill sites.

A second opportunity begins on July 29 when Prince Edward-Hastings Habitat for Humanity will be launching a ReStore located at 393 Sydney Street in Belleville where recycled, end of lines, scratched and dents, and surplus building and decorating materials will be sold to raise funds to build more Habitat homes in the region.

Those of us needing to dispose of old kitchen cabinets, left over building materials, doors and windows, etc. can avoid the local land fill sites entirely by donating to these organizations. Habitat for Humanity volunteers and employees can even come a pick up your stuff at your homes or places of business.

Currently there are 41 Habitat ReStores in Canada. Belleville's store will join the growing number this summer and make a significant contribution to improving our environment by diverting materials from the area dumps.

In 2005, Habitat ReStores across Canada diverted

ST. PHILIP'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2006

Pork & Corn Roast	Aug. 9th
Turkey Supper	Sept. 20th
Yard & Rummage Sale	Sept. 30th
Christmas Tea	Nov. 25th

10,400 tons of materials from land fill sites and had sales of \$14.5 million. Funds raised through ReStores are applied to building of more Habitat homes.

So another door opens as one closes. Plan on making donations of useful building materials to The Green Home Centre and the new Habitat's ReStore and avoid the land fill issue all together. And, if you have a surplus door or two, either organization would be happy to take them off your hands.

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Prince Edward Learning Centre is looking for Board Members!

If you'd like to offer your time and expertise to this innovative and busy adult literacy centre, they would love to hear from you. Call Christine at 476-1811.

Annual General Meeting is scheduled for June 5 at 7:00 pm. Everyone welcome. 206 Main Street, Lower Level of the Armoury (rear door).