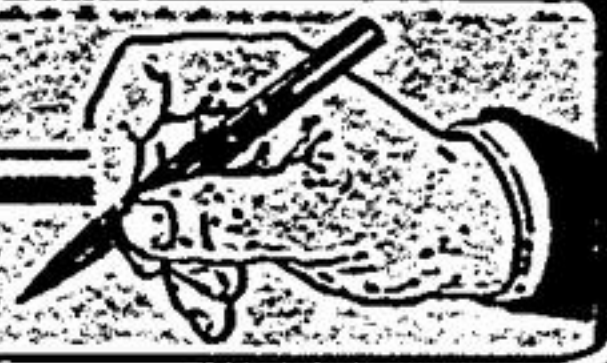


Editor's
Mail



Building 'perfect' for preschool use

Dear Editor:

I find it particularly insulting to the intelligence of community residents that the town is trying to decide "other uses" for the Women's Institute on Woodbine Ave.

The building consists of a small cloakroom, a large open area, a kitchen, a stage and a basement workshop. What other uses could there be for such a building?

Let us talk about the "real" estate issue, the sale of the municipal offices as well as the property on which the historical building stands.

We are all aware that the property would be more desirable to a purchaser with the addition of a second access off Woodbine Ave.

The access would, of course, be Buttonville Cres. just north of the Women's Institute. That lane now gives access to St. John's Cemetery behind the building, as well as houses and the ravine.

All of the above would no doubt be destroyed by any development in that area.

The building is perfect for the uses that it now houses. To

change the site would destroy a community landmark and a vital community service.

Please do not destroy a useful historical building, just for the sake of a more lucrative offer on your current property.

Let Markham lead the way in the province, as it has over other issues, in its concern for our children.

Do not destroy an excellent preschool and its facility and then moan about a shortage of space to the province.

Here is an opportunity to set an example in the province with your concern for preschool children.

Don't wait for a federal, then provincial study when the opportunity exists to do something positive now.

All the groups involved with the Women's Institute will remember for many years the action that is taken by council in this matter.

Perhaps that should be your first thought while deep in contemplation at the (new municipal building's) Reflecting Pool.

Vicky Buchanan
Unionville, Ont.

Icy review has theatre group responding hotly

Dear Editor:

Your Nov. 21, 1987 issue of the Weekender published a review by Elizabeth Wyatt of our current production of "Having A Wonderful Time, Wish You Were Her".

Her snide, vituperative critique leaves me flabbergasted.

In the face of continuous laughter, applause and cheers, two standing ovations, compliments to the cast and ourselves, rebookings by guests, and dozens of inquiries about future shows, I am forced to conclude that only by plugging her ears, closing her eyes and holding her nose at this affront to her theatrical sensitivity, could Ms. Wyatt have remained oblivious to the audience's enthusiastic response.

Ms. Wyatt's capacity to assess and subsequently recommend entertainment to your readers should be seriously questioned.

Perhaps the key word is entertainment.

"Having A Wonderful Time, Wish You Were Her" is by no means a literary classic, but neither are such box office hits as "No Sex Please We're British," "Move Over Mrs. Markham," and "Not Now Darling."

These and many others employ, with varying skill, the same improbable situations with sexual overtones that delight audiences everywhere, simply because they pretend to be nothing more than fun and nonsense.

Our objective is to offer guests a fun-filled evening and generally

speaking, we achieve that objective.

We do not take it upon ourselves to uplift the cultural expectations of society with moral messages, wordy think pieces or works of weighty social comment.

We leave that to the professionals who appear to be funded out of the public purse or to the has-beens and might-have-beens that invade community theatre seeking self-aggrandizement while intimidating the local citizenry with blatant artistic snobbery.

We seek to provide an atmosphere where our customers relax, set aside their daily preoccupations and laugh along with their friends.

We try to choose plays which, comparatively speaking, are without vulgarness or obscenity. We have adhered to these principals and believe we do know our business best.

Ms. Wyatt's diatribe is biased and opinionated to the extreme.

It is a negation of her function which should be to act as a constructive influence.

Nevertheless, it is our audience's opinion we value, and to the best of our ability, it is their opinion by which we shall be governed.

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