

# Lose cool at Region

Temper flared at the region Wednesday afternoon during a lengthy debate on a proposal by Burlington Mayor Roly Bird to decrease the mill rate by using reserve funds. Calling the move "financially irresponsible", the region's Chief Administrative Officer Dennis Perlin tried to dissuade staff from taking the step, explaining a corporation should not cut away at its reserves. But Mayor Bird objected to Perlin standing up during the council's discussion, stating he was out of order. Later, Perlin said he was hired to be a "strong" CAO and he has a responsibility to

look at the long term ramifications of an issue. "I don't usually interfere, but I think I have a responsibility to rise and disagree on crucial matters," said Perlin. "I don't mind if people put facts on the floor, but when it's not facts, I have to stand up." During the confusion, Burlington councillor James Grieve said he "regretted the political posturing" going on in the meeting. But Mayor Pete Pomeroy, supporting Mayor Bird, said the political process was being "shortcircuited." "Politicians have the right to speak after

presentations by staff," said Pomeroy, pointing out staff had the opportunity to speak three separate times that day. "I take serious objections to staff saying to council that we're fiscally irresponsible," he added. "If you're going to short-circuit the political process, you might as well get rid of us and let staff set the policy." Burlington councillor Pat MacLaughlin commented that when council agrees with staff "then we'll listen; when we disagree we want them to shut up."



Bruce and Jean Leitch celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on the weekend, with over 200 friends and relatives. The popular couple live on the Fifth Line of Erin Township.

## Leitchs celebrate golden anniversary

Over 200 friends and relatives were on hand this past weekend to help Bruce and Jean Leitch celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

The RR2 Acton couple were married on March 29, 1933 in the Presbyterian Manse in Acton, by Rev. Binnie. They have also been active farmers, even today working hard on their Century Farm on the Fifth Line of Erin.

When not working, the couple enjoys gardening, flowers and travelling and are members of Trinity United Church, Acton. Mrs. Leitch is a member of the Bannockburn W.I. They raised two daughters,

Annie Saunders and Beverley McLean, both of RR2 Acton, and have three grandchildren, Norm, Steve and Valerie Saunders.

A dinner was held Saturday evening for close friends and relatives and about 150 dropped into the Saunders home Sunday for an open house. Guests came from as far away as London, Toronto and Barrie to wish the couple well.

Sunday afternoon, Edith McEachern and Lena Mason poured tea, and Jesse Leitch and Joyce Sprowl did the honors in the evening.

# NORTH HALTON

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### Household Hints

From Pauline McNally

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