



NEW SIGN for the Georgetown Arena was erected last week, by Claude Neon Ltd. Halton Hills Recreation Facilities Supervisor, Pat Sheehan, (left) describes the sign which is 12-by-8 feet, 14-foot high, fluorescent letters and four spaces for active announcements. Donated by the Rotary Club, the sign can be seen from both the east and west, and "from as far back as Canadian Tire" Sheehan observed.

## Public is not involved in Halton's Official Plan

Following is a copy of a letter sent to Halton's planning committee.

1, as a resident of the Town of Halton Hills, appreciate the opportunity extended to us to attend an evening planning meeting. It is certainly true that many citizens of this community cannot readily attend meetings that are held in the day time.

The Planning Committee meeting held in Halton Hills on Wednesday, June 2, 1976, was poorly attended by the residents of Halton Hills. This low level of attendance is not unusual and can, in a large part, be attributed to the public's lack of concern. We should be involved in the preparation of plans right from their inception and not wait until the plans are being implemented before becoming involved.

I am concerned to learn, last Wednesday night, the extent to which the Official Plan had progressed and apparently the public participation is to come only when the draft plan is presented. I get the impression that the Halton Region planning is being done for the citizens of the region. I would prefer to see the planning done by us. Are we being consulted on the policies, goals, and objectives for the plan? If we are not, and it seems to me we are not fully involved, then how can we respond to a plan where the policies, goals and objectives have been set for us, rather than set by us and, furthermore, may not meet the basic requirements for good living.

There is a saying that history repeats itself. It appears to me that we are heading for the European type of central planning in Halton. I gained the impression from

last Wednesday's meeting that our planning department want a type of planning done by them for us. They appear to want the Halton Planning Committee (perhaps they mean themselves) to decide our needs, control production and maybe freeze farm land (take from us to give to others). A series of public meetings over the last eighteen months have strongly opposed any form of land freeze. Planning from the top undermines freedom because it requires us to obey official plans and by-laws. Planning from the bottom up elicits our support from the start and removes later conflicts and disagreement.

I would like to make a suggestion regarding the format of the notice for future public meetings of the Regional Planning Committee. I believe the notice should briefly state the items to be on the agenda, especially such important issues as the official plan. It would also be of help to suggest the time when the public input would be sought. Many of our dairy farmers cannot complete their "chores" and attend a meeting starting at 7:30 p.m.

One last request. In future would it be possible for members of the public to obtain an agenda, a short version or modified form would be sufficient.

Yours truly,  
G.P. Branch  
RR1 Nerval.

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## Column was not a put-down

To the Editor of the Herald: In response to the letters you printed in last week's edition from the Halton Division Girl Guides of Canada, Georgetown East and West Districts and Mrs. Lynda Gilbert, may I take this opportunity to extend my apologies to these ladies.

At no time did I intend a put-down of either the Brownie organization or the volunteers adults that so ably contribute their time and talents to the children involved.

As Mrs. Gilbert suggested, my column was indeed in just

and was more indicative of a harassed mother's failure to cope with the diverse activities of a family, than any lack within your organization. Possibly my one greatest fault, is that of not being able to take life and it's various situations too seriously; I will sincerely try to mend my ways.

If I can be allowed to offer one word of defense for myself may I say that, in the area in which we resided at the time Louisa joined the Brownies, there was indeed a very long waiting list, possibly this indicates the strength of the movement. Also, I did spend three years as a volunteer with the Cub and Scout organization two years as Secretary and one as Chairman. I would not have spent this time if I had not felt that it was a very worthwhile endeavour and also enjoyable.

I made many good, lasting friendships and admired greatly the people who were

dedicated enough to give of their time so generously. Perhaps not so strangely, I found that it was also these same people who were usually present at school meetings and all other endeavours that are so important to the well being of a community.

Lastly, my daughter Louisa, who joined Brownies at the age of 7, is still active and involved

in Guides at the age of 12 - could I, maybe, be doing something right?

Finally, if you are still with me, the reaction to my column assures me that Brownies and Guiding are very much alive and well in Georgetown. May it always be as strong. I have nothing but praise for your sincerity and dedication.

Susan De Faeendis

## Thanks for sidewalk

Following is a copy of a letter sent to Halton Hills Council.

Mr. Mayor and Members of Halton Hills Council.

The Executive and Parents of the Holy Cross Parent's Association would like to express our gratitude to the council members for the construction of the sidewalk on Maple Avenue from Main Street to the Holy Cross School and High School properties.

We feel that students from the three area schools and adults can use the busy Maple Avenue with greater ease and safety.

We thank the Works Committee and the Town Engineer for acceding to our request and we look forward to the council's co-operation in the future.

Tom Hamautar Singh, President.  
Holy Cross Parents' Association.

## Letters to the Editor

### Brownies help young girls learn needed skills

To the Editor of the Herald: I would like to have one final word if I may, on Susan De Faeendis column "It's time for Brownies" and the comments made about this column by the Herald.

I agree it was somewhat "humorous" when her daughter was trying to cook punched eggs but I fail to see the "humour" in "but for those who are uninitiated or fortune enough to have escaped this organization by having hockey playing sons, my congratulations. Is this "humour"? Surely it could have been put down in better taste or even left out altogether. As far as the "pull" and the two-year waiting lists are concerned this has to be a slight exaggeration to say the least. A person who writes a weekly column should know enough to get the facts straight and if she has to resort to exaggeration to make the story funny then she should have written about something else.

Mrs. Lynda Gilbert

## Remarks are exaggerated

To the Editor of the Herald: The most irresponsible journalism I have read to date was "It's time for Brownies" by Susan De Faeendis.

As a mother of a daughter in Brownies I would like to point out:

- 1) Never have I heard of anyone waiting for two years to be able to join Brownies, with or without "pull".
- 2) As a mother I am most encouraged that Brownies help children to learn proficiency in many things including the art of preparing a simple meal. How lovely to have a child anxious to help and cook a meal for mom instead of standing idly by.
- 3) I am sure there are many mothers, like me, who would be simply delighted to see their daughter learning to cook,

overlooking minor accidents on the way.

3) Last but not least, Mrs. De Faeendis obviously is ignorant of the exhausting work of the Brownie leader or her article would not have been so outrageously offensive. Besides their day's work Brownie leaders give of their own free time, without pay. Many hours planning activities for our girls are given.

in this manner.

I trust the Herald will be mature and decent enough to apologize to all the dedicated people offended by this ill-conceived and ill-founded attack.

Betty Fisher.

## Announcement

As of June 1st, 1976. We have sold our business to Mr. Ross Garlick and Mr. Keith Hawtin.

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S. SILVER, President

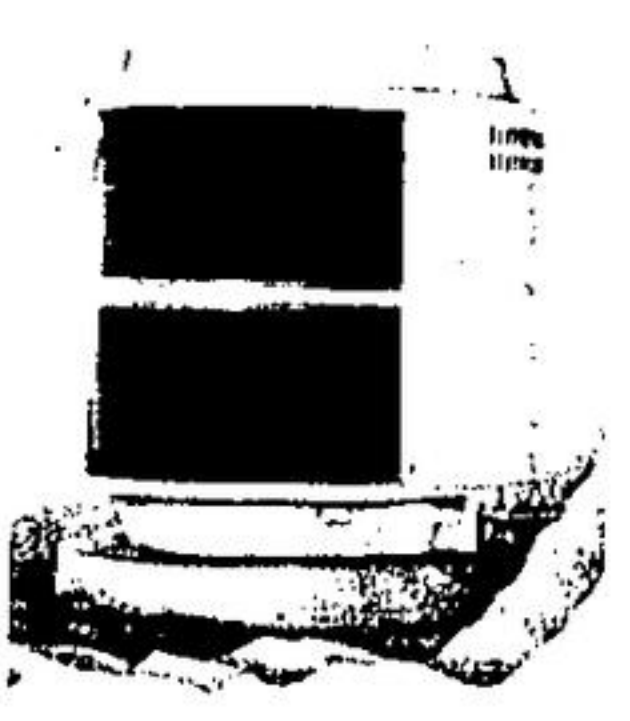
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