

**Draft version tabled**

# 'Funny little corners' halt sign bylaw approval

Mobile signs, home occupation signs and signs bearing the names of farms or families are among the "funny little corners" in the draft version of the town's new sign control bylaw which must be straightened out before the document is presented to the public, according to Coun. Ross Knechtel and other members of the general committee.

Sections prohibiting all of the above uses are included in the draft bylaw presented to the committee Monday night. Members clearly shared the view that bans on such "harm-

less" uses as front-lawn signs bearing a homeowner's name go too far, and voted to table the draft bylaw for a lengthy review.

Already on the drawing board for years, the sign bylaw seeks primarily to control the proliferation of commercial signs along the town's highways. Sample bylaws used by town staff in preparing the draft, however, contain numerous restrictions upon many alternate uses.

**EARLY PASSAGE**

Coun. Harry Levy warned against early passage for such

a bylaw, pointing out that many existing signs in Halton Hills would have to be torn down according to conditions in the draft version. He suggested that sign owners should be given five years to dismantle signs found to be in contravention, and that mobile signs like those rented by merchants to temporarily advertise items or events with flashing lights should be banned.

Coun. Pat Patterson similarly made it clear that he wanted no restrictions placed on farm owners who wish to advertise their farm's name and breed of

livestock on signs outside their homes. Coun. Walter Biehn noted that the draft bylaw would even prevent residents with home occupations from advertising their trade on private property.

In a memorandum to the committee, clerk-administrator Ken Richardson sought direction from members regarding certain aspects of the draft bylaw. Among them is the time period to be allowed after enactment during which owners of signs contravening the bylaw must remove them, and the placing of the authority for administration and enforcement with a municipal official.

Mr. Richardson informed the committee that several area businesses have asked for a chance to review the bylaw prior to its enactment.

In a related report, the town's chief building official and zoning administrator, Doug Sargent, recommended a fee schedule which would require sign owners to pay the town \$1 for a sign valued at \$100 or less, \$2 for a \$200 sign, and so on up to \$1,000. Signs valued at more than \$1,000 would be subject to a \$5 charge, with another \$5 applicable for each additional \$1,000 increase in cost.

"The figure in (this) proposal represent a slight increase

over the current applicable schedule used," Mr. Sargent reported, "but would, I believe, make our sign permit fees comparable to other area municipalities."

The draft sign bylaw does not apply to any sign or

lettering placed in the interior of a building or on any window or door surface. Specific size restrictions would be imposed on signs with regard to the zoning area in which they are placed and the uses for which they are designed.

Signs for political elections, construction projects, trespassing bans, property sales, directional signs less than eight feet square and zoning identification are all exempt from the restrictions of the draft bylaw.



**SKUNK STITCHERY**

Katile Dale seems to have a fondness for the little skunk stitched by Val Reiger. Mrs. Reiger had an exhibition of her crewel work at the Georgetown branch of the Halton Hills Public Library on Saturday. The pieces on exhibit were also for sale.

(Herald photo)

## Merity homes are approved conditionally

A year after an adjacent subdivision project received final approval, the Halton region planning committee has sanctioned the 29-home development proposed for the Edward Street-Delrex Boulevard area of Georgetown.

Subject to regional council's approval today (Wednesday), Merity Developments Ltd. will be granted conditional approval to build the single-family condominium homes on a 1.5-hectare site which will create an extension to Edward and Margaret Streets overlooking Cedarvale Park.

Homes are approaching completion on the large site adjacent which extends parallel to Delrex Boulevard and links with Lane Court. That development received regional approval last October.

"Development is anticipated within this (1.5-hectare) area subject to the local extension of municipal services," Sharon Johnston of the regional planning staff reported. "The public works department has reviewed this application and determined that services can be provided."

Ms. Johnston noted the site's proximity to the Hungry Hollow Ravine Environmentally Sensitive Area and pointed out that the Credit Valley Conserv-

ation Authority has requested conditions of approval to cover pertinent concerns.

If approved by council, the committee's recommendation will see the provincial ministry of housing informed that approval is pending subject to the developer meeting outstanding conditions.

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## Election possible at any time, McDermid warns

The Progressive Conservative Youth Federation must be prepared for a federal election at any time and members must not let themselves lapse into a false sense of security Conservative MP John McDermid, says.

McDermid, MP for Brampton-Georgetown, spoke to a group of about 20 young Progressive Conservatives Sunday at their annual meeting in the Centennial Recreation Centre.

The youth federation's executive was acclaimed to office after some additions were made to the group's constitution. The new executive includes Stan Sutter, president; Lynn Golding, first vice-pres-

ident; Don Quinlan, second vice-president; Sue McHale, third vice-president; Trevor Small, treasurer; and Betty Coups, secretary.

Past-president Jay Mathers said the federation's membership which was at an all-time high of about 220 around nomination time last year stands about 100 at present.

During the election the group had about 140 to 160 members, he said.

Sutter said the executive would be looking at policy during the next year, including resolutions, young PCs passed at their recent convention on the Boat People, decriminalization of marijuana, and energy.

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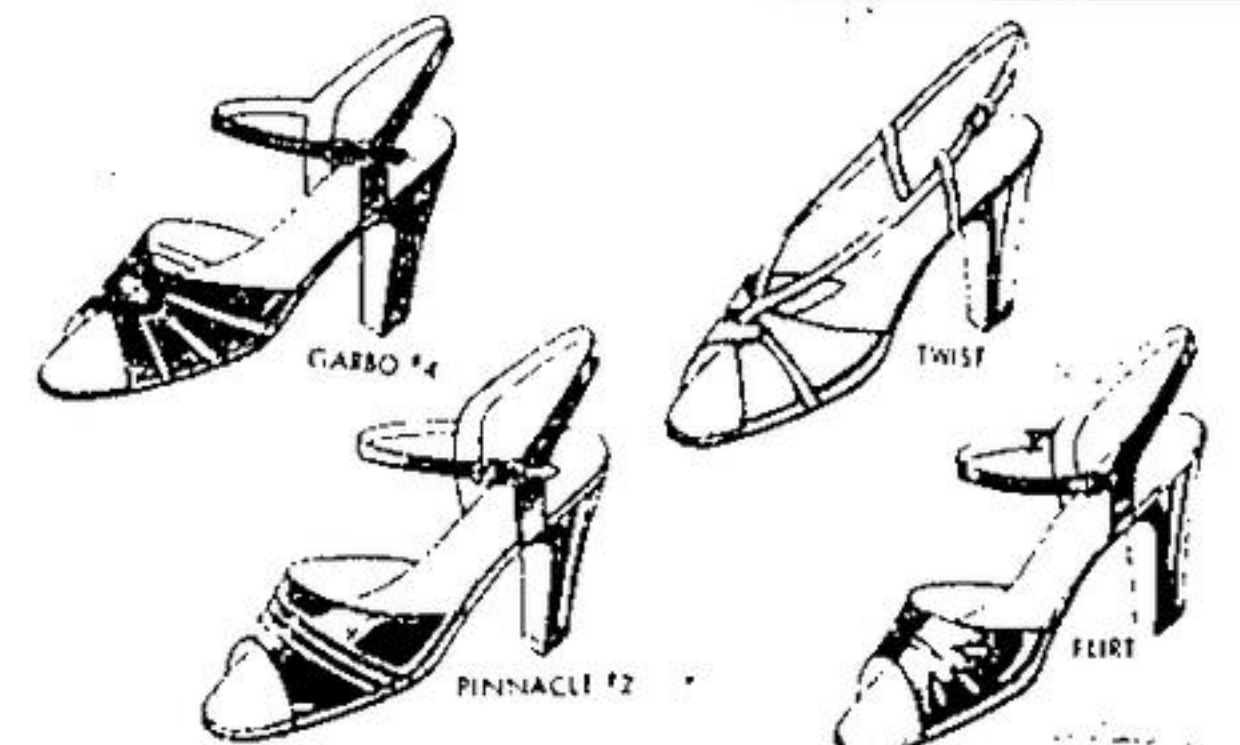
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