

Woman and 12-year old son make sightings on two consecutive Thursdays

Are UFOs disturbing the Glen Williams night?

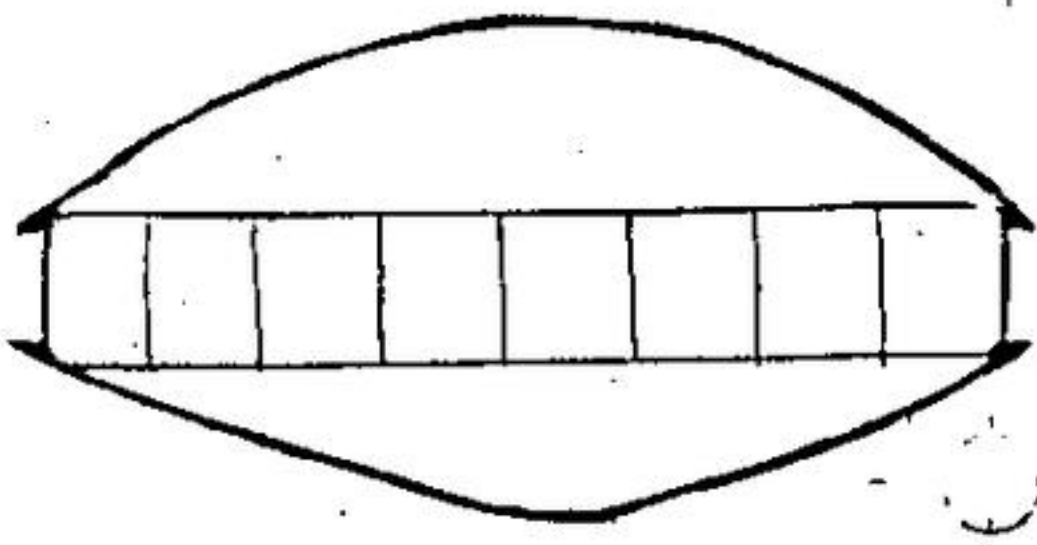
By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

A Georgetown woman and her 12-year old son are still mystified by a nighttime "close encounter" they experienced with an unidentified flying object while driving through Glen Williams April 15.

shaped objects flitting over a field near the Glen Williams cemetery.

Susan (not her real name) holds a respectable job with the provincial judicial system. Through an intermediary, she agreed to tell her unusual story to The Herald Sunday night. She and her son, Ron, said that prior to last month's experience, they had given little thought to UFOs and the subject of extraterrestrial life.

Susan said she doesn't like driving through the country at night now unless accompanied by a friend.



A rough sketch of the hamburger-shaped flying object spotted recently above Glen Williams by a Georgetown woman and her son. While stopped near the corner of Eighth Line and Sideroad 22, their car began to rock and there was a painfully loud roar directly overhead, although they could not see what was causing the incident.

"Nothing like this has ever happened to me before," she said.

"After visiting an aunt (who lives close to the Glen cemetery) I came out of the house around 8 p.m. I noticed a bright light in the sky which kept changing color. As I started driving away from her place, the light followed me, glowing red."

She picked up her son from another aunt on Confederation Street and noticed that the light hovered nearby. Ron saw the object too, and when they returned to the car, they decided to follow it for awhile.

They pursued it through Glen Williams' Wildwood area, eventually turning down the Eighth Line. The object disappeared behind the electrical distribution station at the Sideroad 22 intersection and Susan stopped the car.

"Then the car started to rock and Ron asked me 'What's wrong with the car?'" she said. "We couldn't see anything but there was this loud roar which actually hurt our ears and lasted a few seconds."

Another car approached and the car stopped rocking.

The driver of the other vehicle didn't stop or appear to notice anything unusual, and they drove toward Georgetown. They briefly heard the loud noise again but saw nothing until they reached Highway 7.

"We were heading back into Georgetown and I saw something out the window again," Susan continued. "I didn't want to say anything to Ron but then he said, 'Mom, did you see that?'"

This time they got a good long look at the object. Susan drew a picture, describing it as having a row of lights between two glowing saucer-shaped halves.

The object appeared to release another smaller light from its "undercarriage" or tail-end, Susan said. When they arrived home, they noticed a triangular-shaped red object circle above the yard and then disappear.

Halton regional police say there were no UFO reports from the Glen Williams area that evening.

Ron complained later that he felt as if he had been sapped of energy after they returned home from their "close encounter", and recalled he was a little lethargic for a few days

afterward.

"I was pooped," he said. "Usually, I'm a night person: I like to watch late movies, but after that I couldn't stay up."

Ron's drowsiness has since passed and it never affected his mother to the same degree. However, Susan said that just after their first experience, she could have left the car and fallen asleep on the driveway. Both woke up the following morning with sore necks and with a feeling of "pressure" around the head. Ron said his eyes were bothering him and a

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Fisher responds to town's budget criticism

Taxpayers can help us reduce costs - trustees

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

A "needs task force" proposed by Halton Hills school trustees Betty Fisher and Arlene Bruce could be the Halton board of education's most important tool in keeping future costs down, town council was told Monday night.

Joining fellow trustee Betty Walker and the board's assistant superintendent of finance, Ron Warren, to respond to lingering questions about the board's \$132 million budget for 1982, Mrs. Fisher said the task force would be made up not only of trustees, town councillors and educators, but would include businessmen and taxpayers as well.

Similar task forces have worked for other education boards, she said, expressing hope that such a body in Halton might encourage discussions with the province's ministry of education which has severely cut back grants

paid to school boards this year.

Even if the task force is unable to convince the ministry that cutbacks are harmful, she said, "it will at least allow taxpayers to tell us what they want in the school system."

While councillors appeared to welcome the suggestion of budget planning with local and regional governments, they declined Mrs. Fisher's request concerning a motion from Oakville's city council endorsed by Halton Hills' general committee last week.

Oakville has proposed further talks about the school budget this year before it has to collect the annual levy from its taxpayers. Mrs. Fisher asked council not to support the proposal in light of board promises to "work together" in the future.

Town councils and chambers of commerce across the region have condemned the board's budget this year,

which rose 18.5 per cent over 1981's figures. The average ratepayer in Halton Hills will see an increase of more than \$90 in the board's share of his taxes.

Other efforts which will be made in order to avoid hefty increases in the future include maintaining the board's finance committee on a year-round basis to keep a closer eye on how the board's money is spent and to scrutinize cost increases as they appear. Regular reports will keep trustees informed "about where every cent is going", Mrs. Fisher said.

She described the board and its budget as a car headed for a collision and getting hit from the front, sides and back.

The board has been reluctant in the past to "pierce spending ceilings", she noted, and now must do it this year for programs which could have been added earlier. In addition, unlike other

school boards which have been establishing "artificially" high budget increases year after year to build up reserve funds, Halton's board has stuck to a "pay as you go" formula and has nothing to cushion the effect on the ratepayer's mill rate its budget will have.

And then there is lagging provincial responsibility for public education, exemplified in cut grants and the province's insistence that boards pay for special programs outlined in Bill 82, passing the costs onto the taxpayer.

One of the reasons grants slipped in Halton, Mr. Warren explained, is because the province thinks the region is getting richer, noticing that property assessment is rising here. Grants are also dropping with the board's falling annual enrolment.

"There isn't a trustee who doesn't feel deeply what this (budget) increase has done to the taxpayers in Halton," Mrs. Fisher said.

Town budget chairman Harry Levy pointed out that Halton Hills' budget planning is designed to stay within the inflation rate, and he questioned what the board used for its budget controls.

Actual board expenditures rose by 13.7 per cent, Mr. Warren said, a fraction above the 13.5 per cent which the finance committee had hoped for. Board budget cuts, including severe slashing of its priority list, amounted to over \$1.85 million, Mrs. Walker added, recalling the board's difficulty in making the cuts.

Mr. Warren assured Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson that the cuts do not directly affect school grants which the board allots. These, he said, are based on the number of enrolled students each school has; but increases this year only covered inflation.

One thing which the proposed task force may deal with will be cutting down the board's administration. As programs are dropped, enrolment declines and



FROLIC IN THE FOREST

(Herald photo by Ani Federian)

Backed by a veritable lawn of green trees and perky flowers, Grade one students at Kennedy Public School put on a musical play called Bambi. Parents came out in full force to see their children perform in a gym colorfully

decorated with hanging clouds, rainbows, butterflies, flowers and caterpillars. The decor was a creative and attractive backdrop for the programs put on by the Grades 1 and 2 students of the school.

Town can't refuse to pay school levy, but councillors want chance at review

Reaction to this year's Halton board of education budget appears to have lost none of its furor in the Oakville and Halton Hills council chambers. Halton Hills general com-

mittee members last week endorsed a resolution passed April 19 by Oakville councillors asking the board to consider further cutbacks of its \$132 million budget this year.

Oakville agreed to shelve the board's request for it to collect the board's share of the total tax bill. Milton council has not voted on the Oakville proposal and Burlington "received and

filed" it. According to the Education Act, municipalities cannot refuse to collect the school board's share of the levy. Halton Hills hopes to have its

tax bills printed up and ready to send to residents by May 17 and discussions with board officials to trim their budget further will have to be carried out by that time.

"The municipality doesn't have the right to refuse a levy," Halton Hills treasurer Ray King told the general committee. "But, that doesn't prevent you from sitting down to discuss it."

Halton Hills' share of the board's budget is \$7,663,592, an increase of \$1,578,312 or 26 per cent. Taxpayers in Oakville will pay \$23,513,489 toward the school board's budget, up 24 per cent from last year.

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Capital forecast for '83 may add \$1 million to town HQ fund

Town budget chairman Harry Levy envisions a rise in next year's capital budget of only six per cent as he unveiled the town's long-range capital expenditure plans Monday night.

The document, covering 1983 to 1986, was unanimously endorsed by council and at

least, one member praised Coun. Levy for keeping increases low.

There is still a chance, Coun. Levy said, that the town will borrow \$1 million within the next four years to pay for a new municipal administration building, as well as another \$429,000 to help pay for a storm sewer in

the Guelph Street-Armstrong Avenue area.

In a report presented to council, Coun. Levy said even after borrowing these amounts the town will remain under the Ontario Municipal Board debt guidelines.

Expenditures anticipated in the four-year forecast amount to \$13,371,950. In

1983, it is estimated that taxpayers will pay about \$1.2 million for capital projects, rising to \$1.44 million by 1986. Council has agreed to maintain the town's current policy of only spending to the limits of provincial transportation ministry subsidies for road projects eligible for government assistance.



SAFETY-MINDED POSTAL DRIVERS

The Transportation Safety Association of Canada has been around for about eight years and Georgetown mail truck drivers have been members for six of them, logging thousands and thousands of miles without a single accident. Recently, the association recognized their spotless safety record and the men received special pins to wear with their uniforms. Georgetown's finest are (front row, left to right) Bob Freestone, Norm McGowan, Bruce Bridle. (back row) Ron Knight, letter carriers' supervisor Steve Matjanec and Paul Atkinson.

(Herald photo)

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'Toughlove' draws enthusiastic crowd

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff Writer

The hardest thing for parents to learn is to say nothing, say two counsellors associated with Toughlove, a self-help group for parents.

You insult your child's intelligence by saying something a thousand times, Jeri Elliott, a professor of social work at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto, said.

The wife and husband team of Jeri and Tom Elliott were out Monday night at Limehouse Public School raising parent awareness. About 150 parents paid \$5 a couple to hear what this couple had to say about raising children.

Too many parents are servants in their own homes, manipulated by their own children, and that's not how things should be, Mrs. Elliott said.

Urging parents to use common sense to reassess

themselves in the home, Mr. Elliott, a counsellor with the Toronto board of education, said it's best at the beginning to say nothing until parents are really ready to say something. "Start small," he advised.

"It's like planning a surprise party. Really plan it out with your neighbors, or don't do anything," he said.

Neighbors are important in Toughlove. Besides making parents realize their problems in child-raising aren't unique, joining forces with other Toughlove parents in the community gives parents support to stand up to children who have taken over a household.

Advising parents to go after the little things instead of the big things, Mrs. Elliott said that if a child isn't putting his dirty laundry in the laundry bin then the parent shouldn't do it for him. The child has to learn that if he doesn't follow the rules of

the house he won't have clean socks.

Children have to learn to be responsible for themselves and their choices. Giving children choices and making them realize that every act has consequences is important to their growth. Parents shouldn't protect their children from negative consequences, they said.

"Let them learn by natural consequences that there are limits," Mr. Elliott said. "That is so much better than 'naughty boy' or the use of bribery."

Parents can engineer it so that children learn from negative experiences in a safe way, especially when it comes to life-threatening situations like playing with the stove. Both counsellors agreed there are safe ways to get the message across without the child having to suffer burns to learn a stove can be hot.

Children have to learn

there are limits, Mrs. Elliott said. But they should also be made aware of options open to them if they don't want to accept those limits. If they only get \$5 allowance and



they want more money, the children should be made aware that they have the choice of mowing Mr. Brown's lawn or helping Mrs. Smith with her flowerbed. Mom and dad shouldn't rush to their pocketbooks.

"Parents have lost touch with their gut," Mrs. Elliott said. "If behavior is acceptable to you, go with it," she advised over and over again. "If you can't live with it,

don't do it. You have to be comfortable with it," she warned.

Thirty years ago, parents didn't need this kind of advice to raise their children. They had grandparents sharing the child-raising responsibilities. With the old folks stuffed away in homes for the aged now, the nuclear family is facing problems with its youth.

The sixties, with their permissive methods of child-rearing, taught parents that if a child's freedom of expression was stifled, the child would become a crazy neurotic. So children were allowed all sorts of freedoms until they were manipulating their parents, Mr. Elliott said.

Toughlove fights that kind of situation. Acknowledging that children need to express themselves, Toughlove says yes to creativity as long as it falls within the bounds of civilized behavior. Tantrums

are not acceptable. Only civilized behavior gets rewards.

Calling the peer group more powerful today than at any other time in history, Mrs. Elliott said adolescents no longer listen to their parents, but to their peers.

To combat peer pressure, parents have to be consistent in their dealings with their children, giving them love and support yet standing firm to them when house rules aren't respected.

The support of other parents can help parents stand up to their kids where they may have always before given in.

Parents can work together to solve problems in child-raising. "Ten cool heads are better than one hot head and give you distance and objectivity that you can't get because you're too close to the problem," advised Mrs. Elliott.

Toughlove neighbors can also hammer out deals with children, acting as go-betweens for parents. While negotiating, they also make a child aware he has choices and that if things go bad again in the household what those choices are. This way, children learn the reality and seriousness of their choices.

Imported a year ago from the U.S. by the Elliotts, Toughlove is a philosophy of child rearing pioneered in Pennsylvania by David and Phyllis York.

Brought to Halton Hills by Halton board of education trustees Betty Walker, Betty Fisher and Arlene Bruce, the seminar was well attended not only by parents, but by teachers, principals and school counsellors. Parents interested in setting up

Toughlove support groups in Georgetown, Acton and Esquesing will be returning to the Limehouse school next Wednesday (May 12)

IT MUST BE SPRING!



It was springtime at Kennedy Public School Thursday as flowers and trees came out in full bloom. Successfully charming parents at the school concert put on by the primary grades were Sherri Pearson, 5 and Andrew Turner, 6. Over 400 parents packed the school gym to see their youngsters on stage. (Herald photo by Ani Federian)