

Outlook on Halton Hills

Hewitt calls for master plan

By BRIAN MacLEOD
Herald Staff

The town is going to take a good look at future development along Trafalgar Road north of Highway 401.

Councillor Joe Hewitt objected to "what is being created at the corner of Steeles Avenue and Trafalgar Road."

The town has now cleared the way for developers to put a gas station on each corner of the intersection.

Coun. Hewitt said he doesn't want Trafalgar Road to look like "gasoline alley."

"That is valuable land that is going to bring in much needed assessment at a later date," said Coun. Hewitt.

He wants the town to develop a masterplan for development of Trafalgar Road.

Just because there is a commercial use for the land, doesn't mean there is a commercial need, said Coun. Hewitt of the gas stations on

the road. Most of the land is designated highway commercial which allows gas stations, donut shops and antique craft shops and other small businesses.

The debate was touched off after the town approved a zoning amendment for a gas station and donut shop on the southeast corner of Trafalgar Road and Steeles Avenue Jan. 4.

"Let's not be too hasty in approaching things. Let's see what can be developed before we start approving more and more and more," said Coun. Hewitt.

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson agreed with Coun. Hewitt.

"That area is a prominent entranceway to the Town of Halton Hills and I don't want to see it cluttered up at all," she said.

But Mayor Russ Miller sided with Planning Director Ian Keith in defending the free enterprise notion

of development. Trafalgar Road is the most logical place for more gas stations since more cars travel up and down the road from Highway 401, said Mr. Keith.

"It doesn't bother me," to have four gas stations on one corner, said Mr. Keith.

He said the market will decide if the intersection can support four gas stations.

In the last 100 years taverns have come and gone from Trafalgar Road and gas stations will come and go, said Mr. Keith.

"I believe in free enterprise," said Mayor Miller.

If there is a demand for four service stations then it's a good use, he added.

The Mayor said too many controls are being set up and controls can block development.

Coun. Serjeantson's motion to put a halt on gas station construction at the intersection until a master plan for the corner has been designed, was defeated.



A home for Muttsy

Seen here are Mayor Russ Miller and Shirley Lewis, owner of "Little Angels", the new baby store recently opened in the Northview Centre, making a draw for Muttsy, a loveable

light brown stuffed puppy dog (valued at \$120). The winner was Jacquie Wright of Norval. Congratulations Jacquie! (Herald photo)

Halton Hills rings in New Year



Near the stroke of midnight balloons were brought out to New Year's Eve revellers in Georgetown. Seen here from left are Councillor Al

Cook, Trudy Thomas and Mayor Russ Miller. (Photo by Myles Gilson)

People of all ages gathered together outside Acton's Old Town Hall New Year's Eve to welcome in 1988.

About 75 people aged 2½ right up to 90-year-old Bert Davidson took their turn at ringing in the New Year by pulling the long rope leading to the bell atop the Old Town Hall.

Acton's Elsie Loucks served up hot chocolate to the chilly midnight watchers, said Acton Councillor Gerald Rennie, who organized the event.

Acton Fall Fair Princess Sharon Deer rang the bell at midnight but anyone who wanted to give it a shot got to tug on the rope, said Mr. Rennie.

Everyone who attended was given a balloon to release at the stroke of midnight.

Mr. Rennie led the countdown from ten seconds and with a ring of the bell the balloons were released into the night.

"It was a great traditional way to launch the New Year," said Coun. Rennie.

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Trudy Thomas of Up, Up And Away Balloons carries a grouping of balloons to those waiting to ring in New Year's Eve at the Knox Presbyterian Church last week. Those who attended were able to let go of a balloon at midnight. (Photo by Myles Gilson)

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