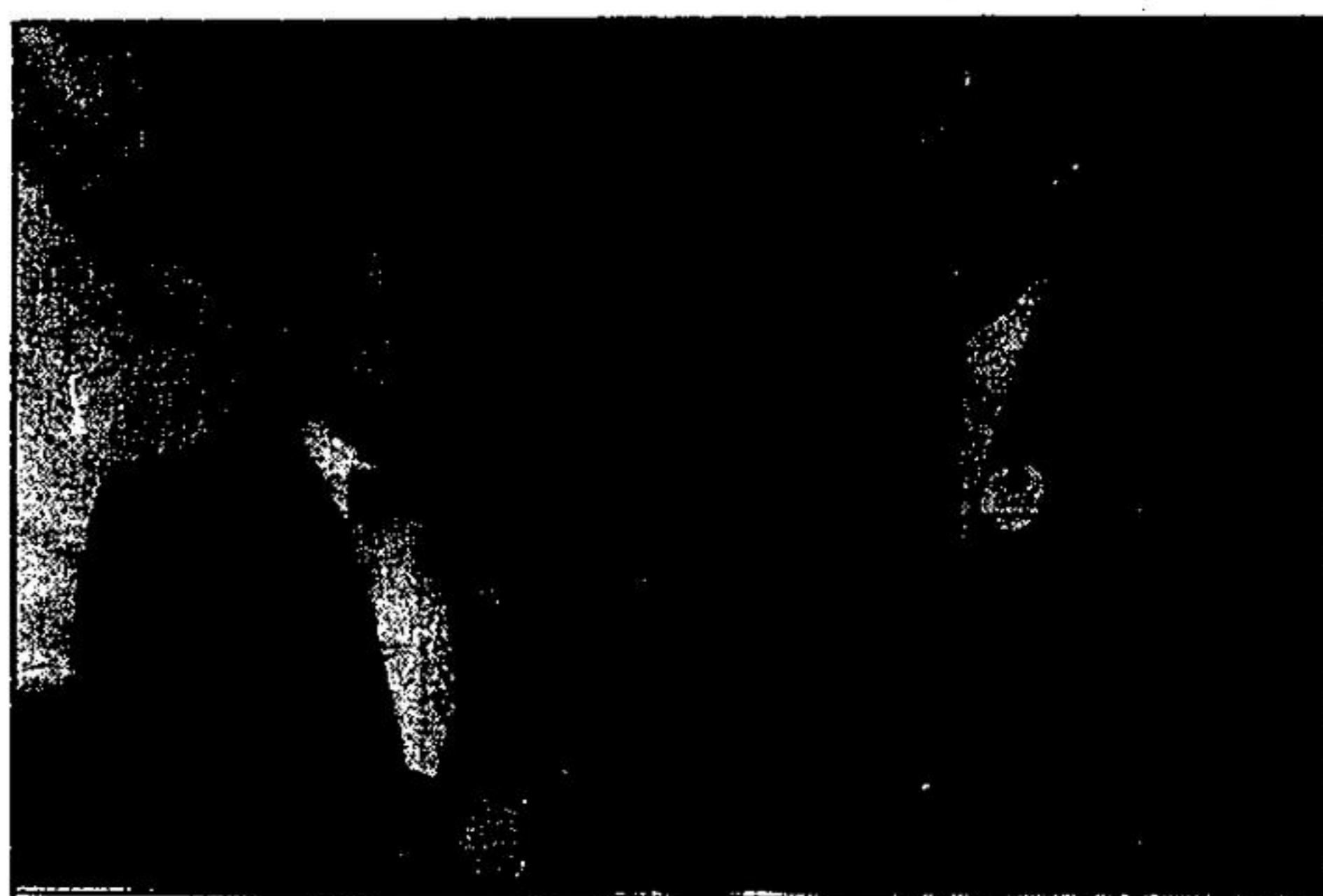




Raising the flag

Mayor Russ Miller joins Ted Gorth (left) and Al Norton (middle) from the Canadian Cancer Society of Halton Hills. The Cancer Society kicked off its April campaign last week with a flag raising and an annual breakfast. (Herald Photo)



United we stand

Steve Williamson, 1988 Campaign Chairman for the United Way of Halton Hills congratulates leader Senator Al Norton from Georgetown. Senator Norton was one of 1988's large contributors to the charitable organization. (Herald Photo)

Chimney fires doused

Two chimney fires in Georgetown homes last weekend kept Halton Hills firefighters busy.

A build-up of creosote was said to be the cause of a Ewing Street chimney fire Friday night. Officials say the blaze that began after 8 p.m. caused no damage to the house.

A second chimney fire was reported Saturday night around 9 p.m. Officials say a turkey box covered with wax that was

thrown into the fireplace likely started the blaze. There was no damage to the Greenmore Crescent home. No injuries were reported in either blaze, say fire officials.

Metcalf court erosion work

Cont'd from Page 1

condition to their approval of assistance was mentioned at a residents' meeting Monday night. The amendment proposed by Acton Coun. Norm Elliott Tuesday was "a total surprise," he said. "The homeowners, as a group, are not happy with council's decision."

"It will present a very nasty financial hardship on some of the homeowners."

But "tonight is going to be a precedent-setting event," said Coun. Elliott at Tuesday's council meeting. He said a decision to fund a full 22.5 per cent of slope stabilization for Metcalfe residents without conditions would lead to a "log-jam" of people asking the town for money.

"Wake up and smell the coffee," he told council and a crowded public gallery. "You've had people who have had wells go dry," and those with building problems, he said.

Georgetown Coun. Al Cook opposed Coun. Elliott's amendment.

"The town has an obligation to help these people," he said. "How would you like it if you were living on Metcalfe Court?"

Residents in the audience blurted out comments that were quickly hushed by council chairman and town Mayor Russ Miller.

Coun. Ann Currie suggested the minimum residential payment be lowered to \$4,000, but no amendment was made.

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson said most people couldn't afford the

\$7,500 payment. But Coun. Pat McCarthy said Coun. Elliott's amendment to the motion to pay a full 22.5 per cent, "is a very reasoned approach to a very contentious issue."

The Town of Halton Hills will pay a total of \$16,000 under the new proposal, said Coun. Lil Bowman. "We're really doing peanuts in my mind," she said. "The homeowners are not at fault. It's not something they did to their backyards to cause the problem."

According to residents' reports, some residents have been cautioned against making major land changes, that would include digging holes for swimming pools. And the recent wet weather has caused more land slippage on Metcalfe Court, says one resident.

A resident of Dawson Crescent

said last week that there is "an unquestionable link" between the town's refusal to act on suggested repairs in the last 17 years and the worsening condition of the slopes. One commissioned report said there could be severe results if nothing was done to stabilize the grade, said resident Ann Geh.

Mrs. Geh said she was told by soil mechanics as early as 1972 that 16 backyards on Metcalfe Court and 18 backyards on Eden Place, and Irwin and Dawson Crescents needed stabilization work.

The total cost of stabilization for the 34 yards would be an estimated \$1 million before the CVCA contributes 55 per cent.

Metcalf Court residents say they will discuss in the next few days what, if any, action they will take on council's decision.

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