

# Maple Avenue house attracts prospective owners

By BEN DUMMETT

The Herald  
Representatives from Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce and the Acton 197 Royal Canadian Air Cadets have expressed interest in the house at 333 Maple Avenue in Georgetown.

The house is currently owned by Burlington developer Zupet and Associates. The company is behind the development proposal to build two 15-storey condominiums on the property at 327, 333 and 339 Maple Avenue beside the North Halton Golf and Country Club.

The company, earlier this year, demolished the house at 327 Maple Avenue to make way for the project, if eventually approved by town council. It chose not to save this house arguing the house was in complete disrepair due to vandalism.

In July, the company made it known it was willing to donate the house at 333 Maple Avenue to a non-profit organization. The donation depends on the house being moved from its present location.

Tom Hower, chairman of the chamber's building committee recently asked the company if the chamber could use the house.

"The chamber's, (current office in the Gordon Alcott Memorial) Arena is too confining," explained

Mr. Hower.

He recently had a meeting with Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller and the town's Director of Recreation and Parks Department Tom Shepard, to discuss the possibility of obtaining land to re-locate the house. No decision came out of the meeting, said Mr. Hower.

Mayor Miller confirmed the meeting and said the town is willing to work with the chamber to locate a site. Mayor Miller is a member of the chamber.

The mayor made assurances that the town would not be donating any land to the Chamber or selling any land to the Chamber. "But we're willing to work with them to help them find a site," he said.

In offering to help the Chamber, the mayor suggested that an agreement could possibly be found in which the town could share in the use of the house to be used by various local organizations.

Mayor Miller also suggested another possible arrangement could be that the town would help the Chamber obtain a severance on a piece of property and in return the town would have first option on the property if the Chamber ever gave it up. The mayor will be meeting with the Chamber in early September to further discuss the idea of a site.

Fran Whiting, chairman of the cadets' sponsoring committee said Zupet and Associates has told her the Chamber has "first dibbs" on the house. But if the Chamber couldn't come up with a site for the house, the air cadets would be next in line for the property.

The group is currently in negotiation with the Beardmore Tannery in Acton to find out if the company would be willing to donate a piece of property on which to locate the house, said Ms. Whiting. The company's initial response was favorable, she added.

Mr. Zupet said a decision on who the house will be donated to will be made soon.

Meanwhile, town councillor, Pam Johnston said during Monday's council meeting she understood that over the last

couple of weeks equipment stored on the property at 327, 333 and 339 Maple Avenue, while the Halton Region Public Works Department was carrying out road construction alongside the property, had been taken by neighboring residents. "It concerns me when people are showing a lack of respect for other people's property," said the councillor.

Coun. Robert Heaton shot back saying people in the neighborhood believe the developers showed no respect for the area when they demolished 327 Maple Avenue.

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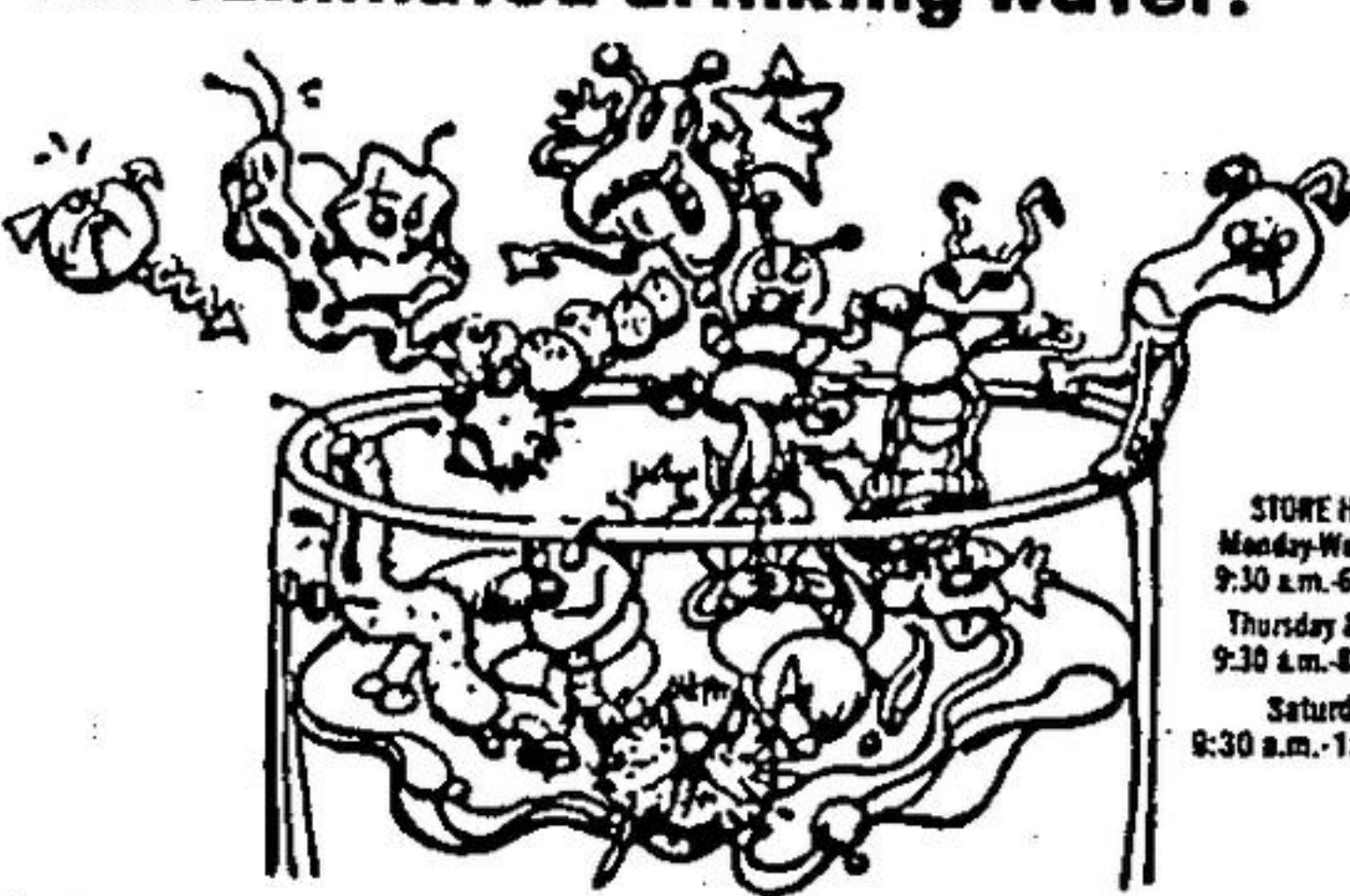


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