

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Councillor is in tune with the times

Dear Sir:
A number of citizens have been writing about taxes and complaining about a lack of responsible actions at council. We would be remiss not to recognize the recent actions of councillor Rick Bonnette and his efforts to reduce costs.

Councillor Rick Bonnette of Acton introduced a motion to council which was successful and the position of Adult Services Supervisor in the Recreation and Parks Department was not filled.

The salary range of the unfilled position was \$32,000 to \$42,000 and this is a step forward in reducing

the tax increases in Halton Hills to the cost of living increases.

Councillor Rick Bonnette seems to be in tune with the times when he states "The town is facing hard times and we have to bite the bullet."

The press did not report if anyone on council was against the motion but it would make interesting reading in the future to know who votes against cost reduction motions.

Subsequently, Ben Dummett of the Herald was critical in his column of the manner in which the decision was made. Ben, there is

no right way when it comes to cost reduction programs. This business of getting taxes down is just in its infancy and is a delicate baby that cannot stand any flak at this time.

With regards to Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson and her implication to you that people want lower taxes and your comment "hardly a response that inspires confidence." I want you to know that it is very inspiring response to many of the taxpayers of Halton Hills.

D. Morrow,
Norval

Public should be involved

Dear Editor:

Many of the residents both in town and in the rural area are becoming increasingly alarmed by the sudden flurry of development proposals that are cropping up in our midst.

Development does have its place in our community but some of the present proposals are just totally inappropriate, both in size and location.

What is the purpose of zoning? Is it just a temporary measure to lull unsuspecting residents of a given area into a false sense of security with regards to their chosen lifestyle?

Is our council in power to represent all of us or to help the self-serving interests of the developers?

Do you know how your area councillor feels about development in your area? Ask him/her! Call them and find out how safe and secure your area may or may not be from intrusive and over-development.

There have already been problems with existing developments with regard to water, policing, snow clearing, mail delivery, inferior building practices, etc. ...

Come out to council meetings, speak out, find out who is voting for what and where, and then see how

this will affect your lifestyle.

As taxpayers we need to stand together as a group and fight for orderly well-planned development. This can not be done from your livingroom, you must stand up and be counted before it's too late.

It is time to support all the groups that are springing up all over town and in the rural areas. Please don't sit back down in your easy chair and hope your neighbour will go out and represent your interests - he may be thinking the same thing!

Everyone has a right to live somewhere and my objective is not to prevent this, rather to see that it is done where and when such development is appropriate.

You can find out all you need to know regarding council meetings: i.e. time, place, procedure to follow if you wish to address council by calling the clerk at the civic centre.

Please make an honest effort to attend some meetings, remember, it's your own, your tax-paying dollars and your RIGHT to participate in its future planning.

Your concerned neighbour,
Mrs. Patricia Loughnan.

Residents labelled loud, misinformed

Dear Sir:

I grew up in this area and for the past several years have spent part of every vacation in Halton Hills. Thus, it is with great interest that I have been following the one sided war over residential development in the area.

It is my understanding that there are rules and regulations in place that govern the type of development allowed in this region. If a

developer meets these requirements, his plans are approved and the development goes ahead. The Beechbrooke proposal has conformed to the guidelines and was initially approved by the N.E.C. Yet, your headline in the Wednesday Herald claims that: "ratepayers complain developers favoured over residents." How can there be favouritism if the developer if the developer has

followed the approved guidelines?

It would appear that there is a group of hysterical residents who simply don't want development even when the development meets the parameters agreed upon. Perhaps they should expend their energy to change the rules if they feel that they are lacking, instead of tying up the democratic process with group demonstrations based on misinformation and selfish interest!

I hope that council will bear in mind, when they vote on the Beechbrooke Development, that they are being asked to consider if the proposal meets the guidelines for development and not be swayed by the agitated high pressure tactics of a few loud, misinformed residents.

Yours in favour of good development in Halton Hills,

Barbara E. Rutten,
Orleans, Ont.

Residents proclaim innocence

Dear Sir:

I would like to refer to a statement in Ben Dummett's article concerning the property at 327, 333 and 339 Maple Avenue. In particular the paragraph in which he quotes Councillor Johnston as having said that equipment had been taken from these properties by neighboring residents.

I have to agree with Councillor Johnston when she says, "It con-

cerns me when people are showing a lack of respect for other people's property." It concerns me when people show lack of respect for my property, as they not infrequently do.

However, as my wife and I are the only neighbors immediately adjoining the above properties, and have been for more than a quarter of a century, I must ask you to allow me space to make it absolutely clear that this accusation does not apply either to Dr Ball or myself.

Yours very truly,
Ernest Ball,
Georgetown.

Reporter thanked

Dear Lisa Rutledge:

On behalf of the Doctors and staff of the Clinic, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for writing the recent article about the four orphaned kittens.

We received several enquiries in response to your story and have now placed those four and two other abandoned kittens in new and caring homes.

Thank you again, we all appreciate your interest and concern.

Sincerely,
Jane McKay
Acton Veterinary Clinic

C.C. Mayor R. Miller
Councillor P. Johnston.

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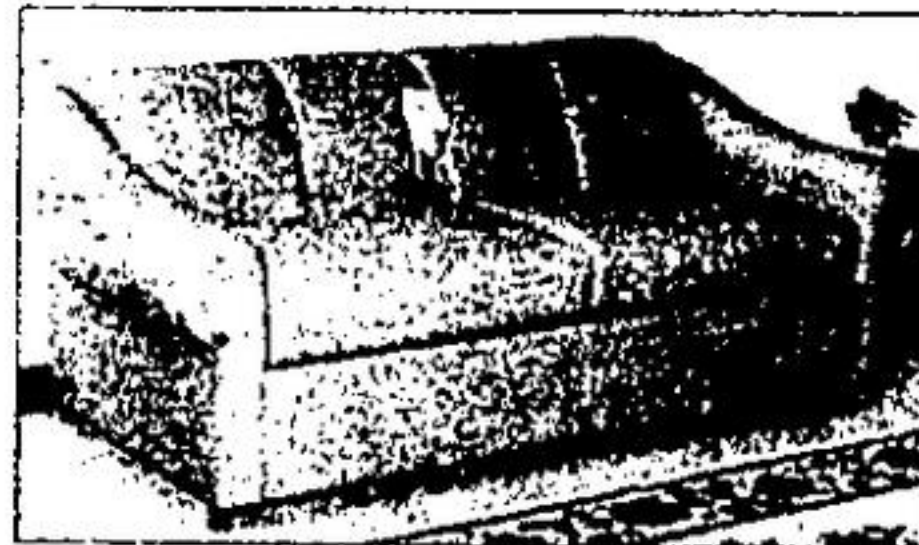
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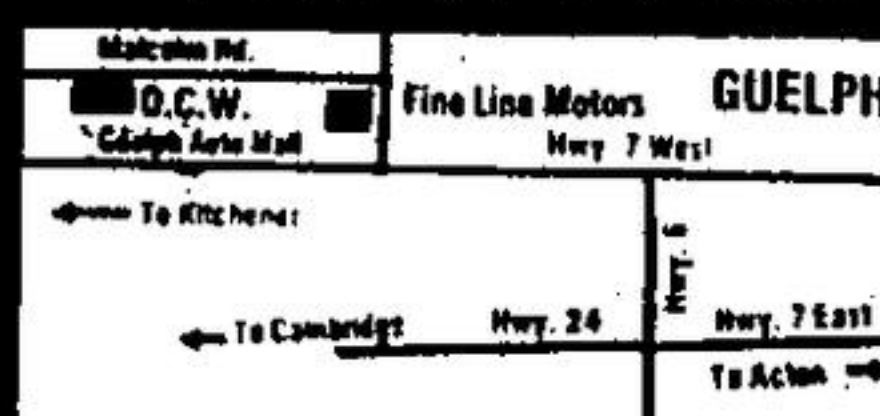
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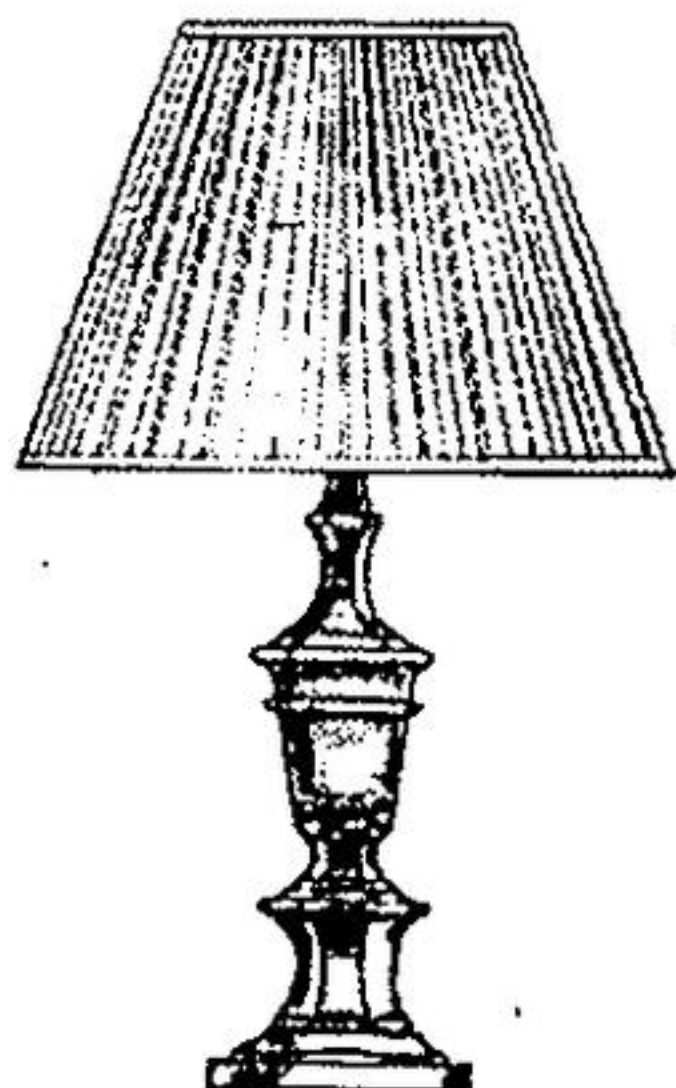
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