

Thieves spotted

A Greystone Cres., Georgetown resident spotted two youths stealing property from inside a car parked in the driveway at 8.30

p.m. Monday, according to police. One of the youths was inside the car, the other was beside it. Missing is a pair of red ski gloves and some loose change. Total value is \$43, police estimate.

Your Week Ahead Horoscope

- ARIES**
Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Put more energy into education or charitable enterprises. Work with the favorable elements and much can be accomplished.
- TAURUS**
Apr. 20-May 20 Greater financial and professional gain can be realized if you direct your efforts to that goal.
- GEMINI**
May 21-June 20 Avoid taking too much for granted in your relationships. Be tolerant of the thoughts and feelings of partner.
- CANCER**
June 21-July 22 Be discriminating when it comes to charitable deeds. Others may play on your sympathies and find you a "soft touch".
- LEO**
July 23-Aug. 22 The happiness and well-being of others is of genuine concern to you. Group activities increase your awareness of society's weaknesses.
- VIRGO**
Aug. 23-Sept. 22 A driving ambition for wealth and status is good—to a point. A position of trust brings responsibility.
- LIBRA**
Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Transits favor study at a higher level. Spiritual or cultural pursuits can unlock the door to another way of life.
- SCORPIO**
Oct. 23-Nov. 21 You may find yourself actively engaged in raising funds for educational or charitable institutions. Good record keeping is vital.
- SAGITTARIUS**
Nov. 22-Dec. 21 A friendly, cooperative approach in relationships with mate or partner brings forth a similar response from others.
- CAPRICORN**
Dec. 22-Jan. 19 There's a lot of nervous energy to be directed at improving conditions at work. Drive in the right direction.
- AQUARIUS**
Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Reasonable financial investments and speculations will probably do well. Carried to excess, it points to problems.
- PISCES**
Feb. 19-Mar. 20 Beautifying the home environment brings pleasure to the doer, as well as those who share in the results.

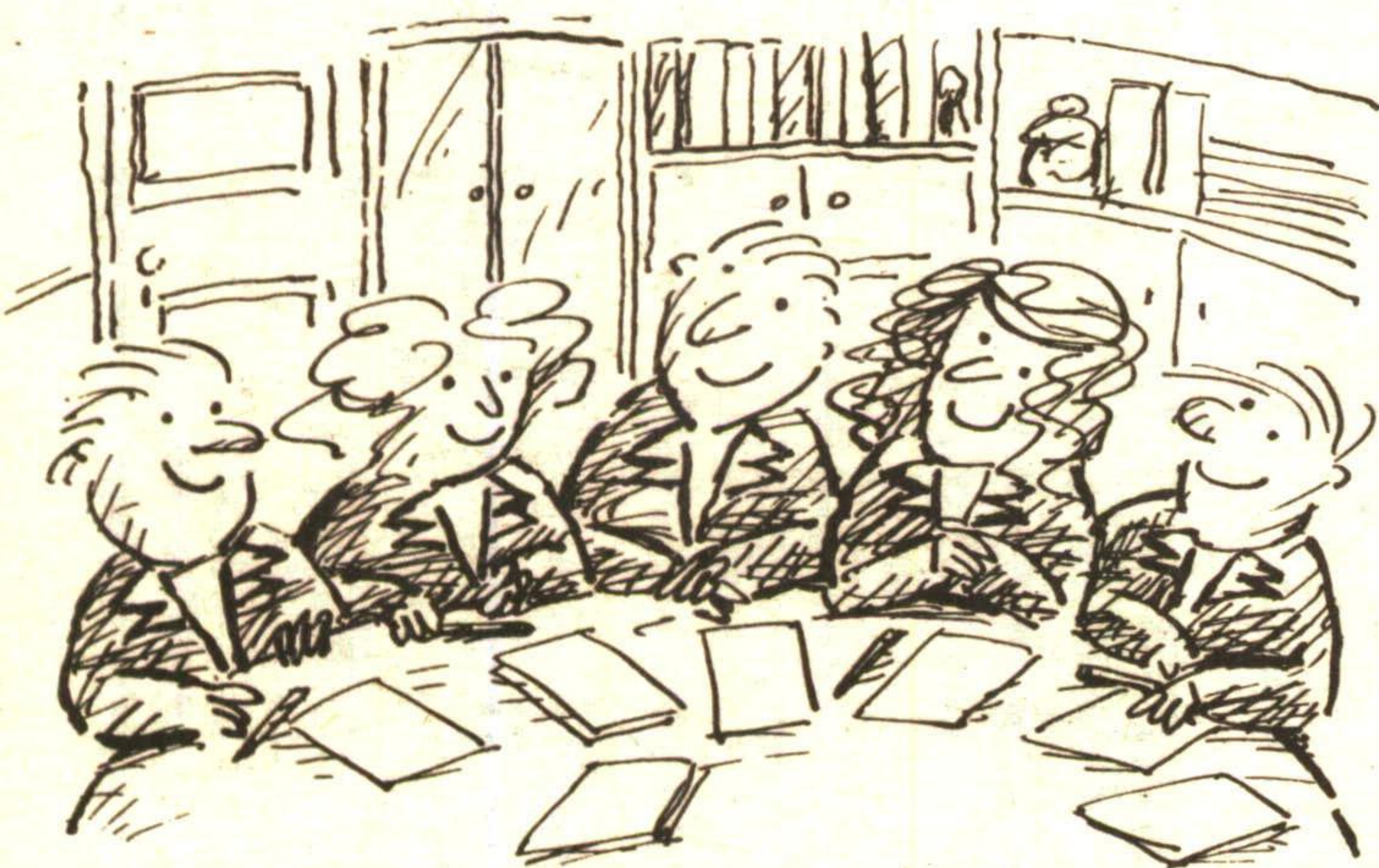


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We will even organize special group information sessions that focus on particular situations like yours. You just bring along your tax return. Our officers provide you with the information that applies to your situation, and answer your questions. What could be simpler and more handy?

If you are a senior citizen, employee, parent, self employed or claiming expenses against salary and would like to learn more about this free service from Revenue Canada, Taxation, just give us a call toll free at 1-800-263-9200.

When you need help, we're close at hand.

Constituents air their views

One of the things I learned early when entering politics last autumn was that individuals have an incredible amount to offer the system.

Too many of us believe that "government" lumbers along on its own, and that policies are the result of some mysterious process that real people neither participate in nor influence.

Wrong. My days in Ottawa have convinced me otherwise. If you could have been with me last week in national caucus, with all the government members, the cabinet and the prime minister there, you'd have heard and seen individual MPs speaking out for things they believed in. Here policies are debated and crafted. Here a representative like me can stand and pass on the views of the folks back home.

So, it's important that you keep talking to me. We've had Town Hall meetings over the past few weeks, a seminar on free trade, meetings with local councils and dozens of community events. Before I head back to Ottawa again in a couple of weeks, much more is planned—and all of this is important and valuable to me.

I particularly appreciate those people who have taken the time to sit down and write me long, thoughtful letters on various issues.

For example, Donald Elliot of Cheltenham is a retired lawyer, academic and author, who shares with me his thoughts on Canada's deficit and economy.

The country, he says, needs some form of value-added tax, because that's the only way enough money can be raised to start paying off the massive debt Canada owes. He also says any special interest group wanting more money "would have to indicate what taxes should be increased, and to what extent, in order to produce the necessary funds."

Finance Minister Mike Wilson is proposing a value-added tax, and at a press conference in Georgetown last Friday I unveiled the final draft of a guide I've written explaining it all. This stage of tax reform is complex, and I think it's important we all understand what the feds propose, long before it takes effect.

If you'd like a copy (free, of course) of my Citizen's Guide to the

By GARTH TURNER
MP for Halton-Peel



Sales Tax, then please call the office, toll-free: 1-800-668-4322.

Angus Doughty of Bolton writes to tell me there's no way the government should be spending \$8 billion on a new fleet of nuclear-powered submarines to defend Canada.

"As was made abundantly clear at the Bolton Town Hall meeting," he says, "the deficit and the national debt are the two biggest challenges we face going into the 1990s. The debt is reaching crisis proportions, and any considerable downturn in the economy, or rise in interest rates, would be ruinous. Here we have an opportunity to do something significant, and immediate, to combat this problem and it would be political suicide to miss the opportunity."

Doughty wants the subs sunk — especially because "our fiscal crisis comes at a time when every major power is decreasing its military spending."

Mike Pembry of Terra Cotta agrees in spades.

"The time has come for desperate measures to reduce our deficit and save the environment," he writes me in a long letter. "Eliminating our defence budget may seem too desperate, but it may be necessary."

Pembry also blasts government waste and inefficiency, along with agricultural grants to farmers who don't practise good soil management. It's hard to disagree with any criticism of the feds when it comes to the poor targeting of taxpayers' bucks.

Bruce Crozier of Georgetown is also bothered by the government's budget deficit—which will be close to \$30 billion this year, raising our national debt to almost \$350 billion.

"What are we waiting for," he asks, "to be another banana

republic? I think the government has to cut spending, and now! The taxpayer is always called upon to make up the difference. Certain social programs have to be cut or restricted. For example, not every household with children needs the baby bonus.

"Government services are going to have to be cut and Crown corporations examined, and some sold.

"Last year I stood in a very hot hockey arena in Georgetown listening to candidates for the PC nomination. They spoke about deficit-cutting and making a better life for the people of Halton Hills, I hope that the promise will be a reality and not just the hot air I was breathing that night."

I hear you, Bruce.

It's easy for politicians to promise things. It's something else to deliver. I promise to do all I can to persuade the government to get serious about restoring Canada's economic health. The future depends on it.

Please keep in touch. You can write me, postage-free: Garth Turner MP, House of Commons, Ottawa K1A 0A6.

Girl assaulted

A 14-year-old girl was hit several times by a teenage boy while they waited for a bus on Maple Ave. at Delrex Blvd. in Georgetown Wednesday. Halton Regional Police say the Georgetown girl suffered a bump on the back of her head, a cut lip and bruising to her ribs as a result of the assault which happened at about 2.30 p.m. A 15-year-old Georgetown boy was charged with assault and will appear in court April 7.

Len Tuitman and Staff present

Green Thumb Gardening

DECORATING WITH HOUSEPLANTS

Increasingly, houseplants are used as tools for interior design. However, houseplants are more than a decoration, because they're living and continuously growing. For this reason plants bring life and visual appeal to a room. The selection, positioning and arrangement of houseplants should be done in a manner to complement your interior design scheme and create a decorative accent too.

Large specimens, such as Rubber Plants, Palms and Dracaenas are usually chosen for their foliage. At maturity, their large size restricts their use to proportionately large rooms. In most houses this is the living room. In the appropriate setting they create an immediate impact, and the necessary vertical accent for this room.

In addition, large specimen plants are most striking when placed alone, and smaller plants when arranged in a grouping together. A small plant is lost in a large room and adds little to the overall decor. Solitary small houseplants like African violets, pepperomia and pileas are best when displayed on tables, bookcases, etc.

Most houseplants are more appealing against a plain background. Unfortunately, this isn't always possible. Contrast is the way to overcome patterned backgrounds. In other words, large leafed plants against a small patterned background and small leafed plants with smaller or larger patterns.

Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping, Highway 25, 1 mile south of Acton, 853-2480, will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace!

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TAX TIP OF THE WEEK

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Q. I have three children from a previous marriage. Since December, 1988 I have been living in a common-law relationship. Will this affect my Child Tax credit claim in any way even though my common-law spouse is not the father of my children?

A. It may. If your common-law spouse is claiming a dependant's amount with respect to your children, his net income for the entire year must be aggregated with yours when calculating the amount of Child Tax Credit available to you.

Moore Park Plaza 8 Mill Street East
74A Main St. N., Acton, Ont.
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877-6733 853-1771