

# Councillors acted like 'rabid dogs' over Country Video dispute

(The following letter was filed with this newspaper for publication.)  
**To Russ Miller, Mayor Halton Hills Council**  
**Dear Mr. Mayor:**  
 I am sending this 'open letter' to you for distribution to Halton Hills council prior to next Monday's meeting. I have also made a copy available to the Independent/Free Press for weekend publication. I hope that this will create reason-

able attendance and interest at the next council meeting.  
 I am writing in regard to my absolute disgust with the behavior of council in regard to the resolution carried at last Monday's meeting in regard to Country Lane Video.  
 For those who are not aware, Dave Tarzwell has been operating his business without proper zoning and there has been a dispute over whether or not he should have the

## Our readers write

zoning he has applied for to make his business legal.  
 I'm not here to take a stand in support of the original application or against it. Dave and I have had some major disagreements on landowners' rights vs the rights of the community to control its own lifestyle. He probably voted for the

developer whose favorite sport appears to be bulldozing and chain sawing his land in the Glen.

The issue at the last meeting was not whether or not Country Lane's zoning request should be approved. Dave 'threw in the towel' and withdrew his request for a zoning change, deciding that he will move his business elsewhere in town. At the last council meeting Dave simply asked that he be given a reasonable period of time to find a new location. Perhaps 120 days. If you have ever had a business, you know that a relocation from start to finish in 120 days would be a short time span.

When Dave withdrew his zoning change application he was left completely at the mercy of the town council over whether or not he would now be charged with zoning violations. During the application and because of various 'commitments' made by previous councils and the town, Country Lane had not been charged on all the zoning violations, although he recently had been forced to discontinue parts of his business.

Let all citizens beware. Don't ask for mercy from this council. Bill Robson's motion for 30 days was passed with, I'm told, only Pam Johnston refusing to take part in the 'burning of Country Lane at the stake'. Shame on anyone who voted for the motion "because it was going to pass anyway." Shame on the councillors who with the resolution of the whole issue handed to them do not have the grace, dignity or self control not to act like a bunch of rabid dogs.

The only issue you had the guts to take a stand on during the whole drawn-out farce was how hard to kick Dave after he surrendered! You spent weeks refusing to make a decision on the original issue!

Can one neighbor or member of

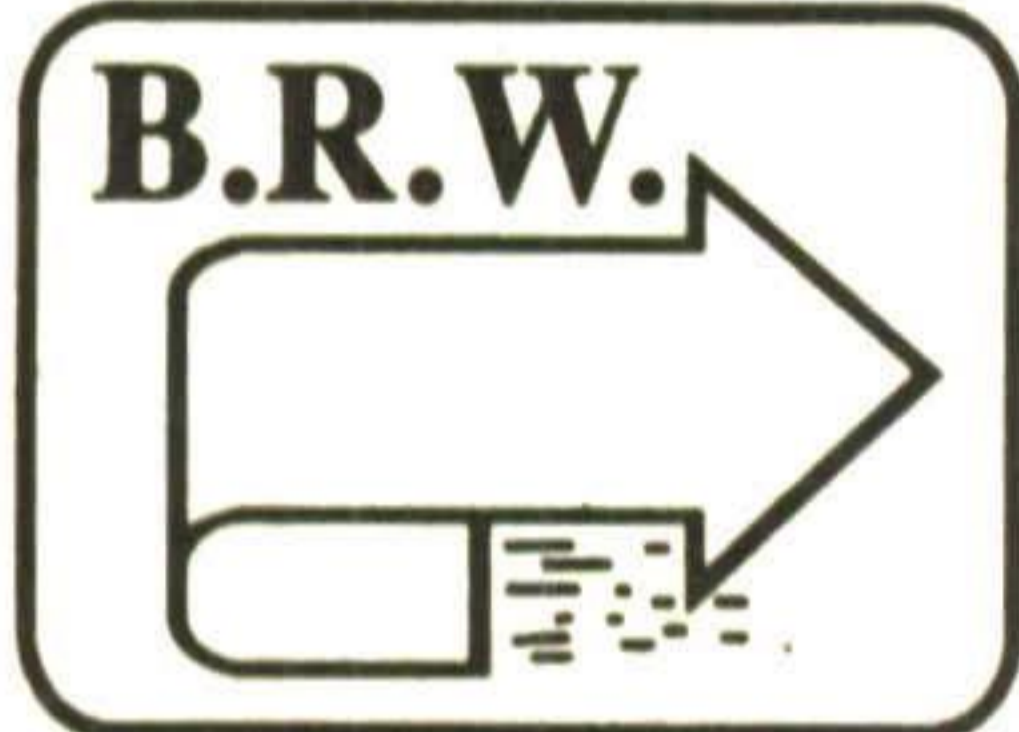
council give a single reason why anyone would be worse off if Country Lane operates for another 120 days rather than 30 days. This is so obviously a case of vindictiveness and cruelty that I even appeal to the neighbors who have been fighting Country Lane to have the decency to appear before the council and offer to live with Country Lane for a few months more. You've won. To destroy someone's livelihood out of spite will only question the integrity of why you have been fighting the rezoning.

I hope that council's behavior, which I perceived as a witch hunt Bill Robson publicly announced during his election campaign, will not succeed and Country Lane will be given the breathing space needed to gracefully leave its premises. If Mr. Robson wants to behave like the 1950's American witch hunters from Congress in the U.S., then he certainly has that right. His behavior in council seems to be consistent with how he conducted his campaign. Are the rest of you going to go along with his brutal and merciless approach?

Whether Country Lane was properly situated or not, Dave and Debbie Tarzwell have created a unique recreational facility in keeping with the ambience of the Georgetown community. By not giving them time to relocate, council will completely destroy this facility. I guess members of council won't be using the driving range or renting movies anymore from Country Video. It might be in bad taste for councillors to use the Country Lane portable course if it is once again set up on Canada Day in the Glen. And speaking of Canada Day in the Glen, if council doesn't regain its dignity and give Country Lane a fair chance to move, please don't expect a smile from me when I adjust your microphones on stage as you make your speeches in the Glen Ball Park.

Sincerely,  
 Phil Lewin

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March 31, 1992

### Notice to Residents Re: Waste Management/Recycling

Most Township residents are aware that garbage from the municipality is sent to the City of Guelph Eastview Landfill Site.

Effective April 1, 1992 the City of Guelph is no longer accepting the following materials at the Eastview facility:

- tires
- clean corrugated cardboard
- wood
- recyclable drywall

These materials will no longer be picked up at the roadside (if you receive this service) but will be received at the Township Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Depot at Part of the East 1/2 of Lot 24 Concession 8 (8th Line north of County Road 22).

For those households serviced with municipal collection, the Township will conduct a pilot cardboard collection program on the last Thursday of each month, commencing April 30, 1992.

Cardboard should be tied in flattened bundles which can be handled by one person.

Drywall which is painted or wallpaper covered or is demolition material is non-recyclable and will be received at the Transfer Station. Large loads must be taken directly to Guelph.

The Transfer Station is open every Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Wednesday afternoon in the spring and summer months.

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. For further information please contact the Township office or Central Disposal Services, 6 Anne St., Hillsburgh, 855-4974.

R.M. Clarke  
 Clerk Office Administrator  
 Township of Erin  
 115 Main Street  
 Hillsburgh, Ont.  
 844-4407