WEEKEND

KEN NUGENT

Publisher

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User pay – a good precedent

We applaud the decision by Halton regional council to extend the municipal water supply to Sixth Line homes - paid for by the residents.

For almost 20 years residents living on the Sixth Line/20 Sideroad, Halton Hills have been complaining about poor water quality and quantity. Many now have resorted to trucking in their water supplies.

Residents have repeatedly asked for a hook-up to Halton Hills urban water supply, but Halton Region responsible for water, denied the requests, fearing they would set a precedent and be deluged with similar requests.

This time, however, the residents said they'll pay the

\$220,000 price tag - approximately \$7,500 each.

Halton Region agreed (tentatively) and more importantly, this hook-up only applies to existing homes, and not to any future ones.

While we sympathize with the residents' plight, they did move out to the rural area of their own accord, we assume with the full knowledge of problems that are incurred with rural wells.

If residents want to have the convenience of an urban water supply in a rural setting then they should pay for it and not expect urban dwellers to foot the bill with their taxes.

We commend the Sixth Line residents for their awareness and willingness to accept the full burden of costs in extending the water pipe. As Acton councillorRick Bonnette noted "they're willing to put their money where their mouth is."

User pay is an attractive solution. It solves the Sixth Line residents' problem and at the same time keeps Halton Region fiscally responsible to its taxpayers.

Happy Father's Day, Dad

(Ed.'s note: The following essay about dad was writen by Anne Williams, a student at Georgetown District High School and submitted for publication.)

As a child, Sunday nights, at the end of the summer meant baseball games. It meant fall jackets over top of our t-shirts, and insect repellent to keep the mosquitoes away. It meant, if we were good, a snack from the snack bar at the fair-grounds.

However it's not the games themselves that I remember most vividly. Nor the snacks.

What I remember most clearly is the mile walk to and from the baseball diamonds.

I remember feeling so grown up walking side by side with my dad. Trying to make my strides stretch to be as big as his. Trying to walk as tall as he did, and swing my arms just like he was swinging his.

Looking back now, I realize that it was much more than his walk Letters

to the Editor

that I was trying to imitate.

I didn't want to just walk like him, I wanted to be as smart as him, and as kind as him, and as caring as he was.

He was my hero, and no matter how close my strides eventually get to his, he always will be.

Anne Williams

Acton Auto Tech good neighbor

Dear editor:

Acton is a "Good Neighbor" community and one of our good neighbors is Acton Auto Tech (AAT). Thanks to Floyd Foster, John Schreiber, Trefor Gardener, and Norm Foster for a very informative and useful car repair and mainte-

nance workshop this past week. There are now about 15 women who are better informed on what to look out for and how to be aware of unscrupulous repair shops. The added bonus was that during a period of tough financial times, AAT offered this course at no cost to the students, except our time.

An appreciative student, Jean A. Hilborn

Bailing out the banks

Dear editor:

Canadians are at it again, bailing out the major banks for the mistakes their senior officers made on bad loans.

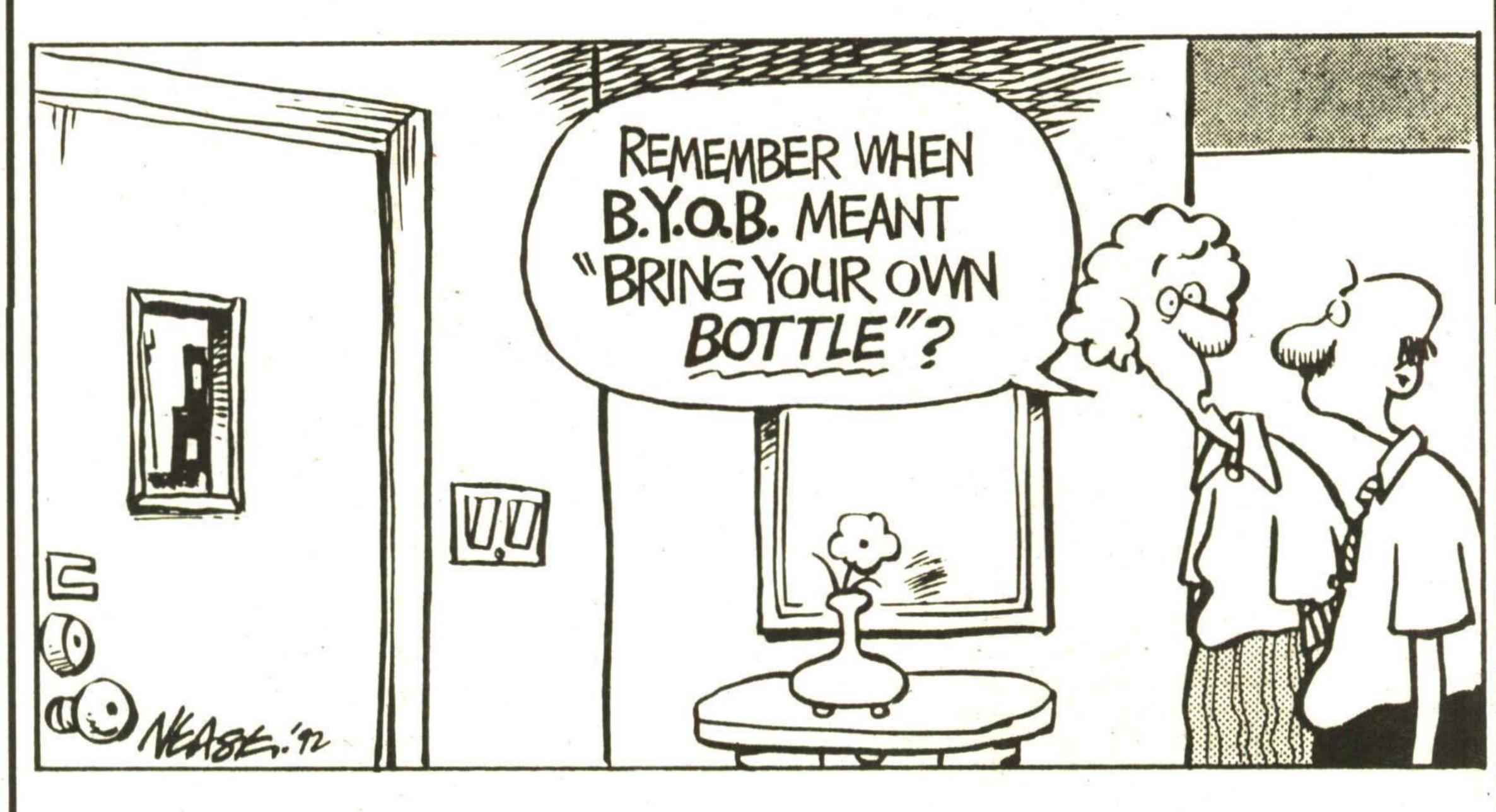
For sure they will say it's from other sources but the bottom line is that their fees for services are exhorbitant, far more than required to make a reasonable profit.

Last year the Royal Bank had an awful time cooking the books enough to keep their profit below the billion mark.

I guess the job will be easier this fall.

Rod Pinkney





Father's Day, a time to thank 'dear old Dad'

So today is "Father's Day."

Yes sir, it's the day so many people make that special effort to drop by and say "Hi" to dear old Dad, and wish him well.

They'll likely present him with a greeting card decorated with a fishing rod or some ducks on it and give him another new shirt and matching tie.

You know, it's great; dads everywhere need to be noticed from time to time, and what better day than "Father's Day?"

But what is it that makes a father who he is?

I think the image of our father changes as we age. Or when we become parents. Suddenly we see our fathers in a different light.

I know I have a totally different view of my dad from when I was a toddler, a little boy, a teenager and later, a young adult.

When I was little, Dad was the one who was there to help fix my broken toys, or share the fun with

something new on Christmas morn-

He was the one I followed to the barn, to watch him milk the cows, and help feed the calves.

Working in the field, I rode with him on the tractor, as he planted the crops, and later in the summer, cut the hay.

As I grew, he was always the one who adjusted the seat on my bike and pumped up the tires.

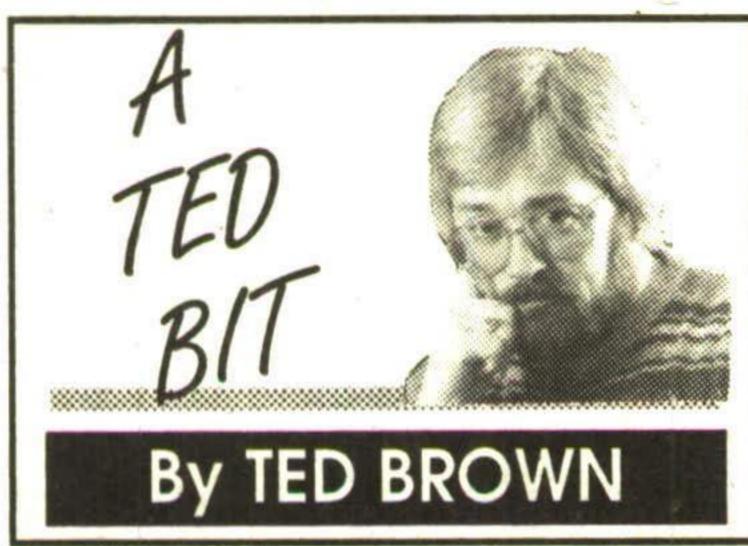
More importantly, he was the one with my allowance.

And he was the one my sisters and I knew we didn't disturb if he took a much needed afternoon nap.

(My mother saw to that.)

When I grew into a young boy, he was the one I accompanied to farm auction sales, and later he drove me to my 4-H meetings and helped me select a calf to show at the fall fair.

He taught me how to drive the tractor at an early age, and later to drive the car.



When I became a teen, he was the one who endured my brash, abusive words, when I felt he knew nothing and I knew everything.

And even through the multitude of mini-crisis every teen faces, he was always there, to lend support, or fall back on, when the world became a little too hectic for a 16 year-old.

He helped me buy my first car.
And my second. And my third.
He stayed at home to do the chores on sunny Sunday afternoons

while I enjoyed a day at the beach.

And he rarely complained.

After I reached adulthood, and

or two, he was the one I talked to in the early hours as we crawled out of bed at the crack of dawn to milk the cows.

He was the one I confided in and

learned he really did know a thing

He was the one I confided in and shared my adventures of the night before with, as we worked together in the early morning quiet of the barn

And he was always available for advice; but only if asked.

After I was married, and later when I became a parent myself, I realized the sacrifices Dad has made over the years; the time he spent for his kids, and rarely for himself.

Even today, both he and my mother are always willing to help out their kids, if one of their grand-children needs a ride somewhere, or something needs to be picked up at the store.

And he still never complains.

Dad and I still chat nearly every morning, on my way to work. In

their well deserved retirement, he and my mother take a daily two mile walk, and I usually meet them on the road, as I drive to the office.

It's a quick chat, primarily to catch up on the former day's activities, or to get a preview of an event coming up in town. Or just to let me know about something that's happening in the family.

But, in my mind, it's a carryover of our early morning chats
from those days of milking the
cows; a time to relate to each other
and share those little bits of
insignificant information that has
built that wonderful relationship
that I have shared with my father
over the years.

So as we celebrate Father's Day, I join with thousands of others who will take time to say a quiet "Thanks Dad, for all you've done," as I honor a decent, caring man whom I'm so fortunate to have as

my father. Happy Father's Day, Dad.