

Residents irked by 'junk yard'

By **STUART JOHNSTON**
Staff writer

Residents of the Sands condominium in Georgetown are up in arms over a neighboring property they say is strewn with litter, and are demanding that local officials do something about it immediately.

Monarch Resources is intent on changing the zoning of its Armstrong Ave. property in order for it to expand its business to include an outdoor storage facility.

However, residents in the Sands condominium, which overlooks Monarch's property, say the area has been a "junk yard" for several years, and questioned why local officials have "tolerated this outrageous disregard for municipal bylaws."

For two weeks running, Sands' resident Michael Norris urged councillors to "uphold the law" and force Monarch to clean up its lands. He also suggested that council dismiss the company's rezoning application outright, arguing that the area is not appropriate for a "scrap yard."

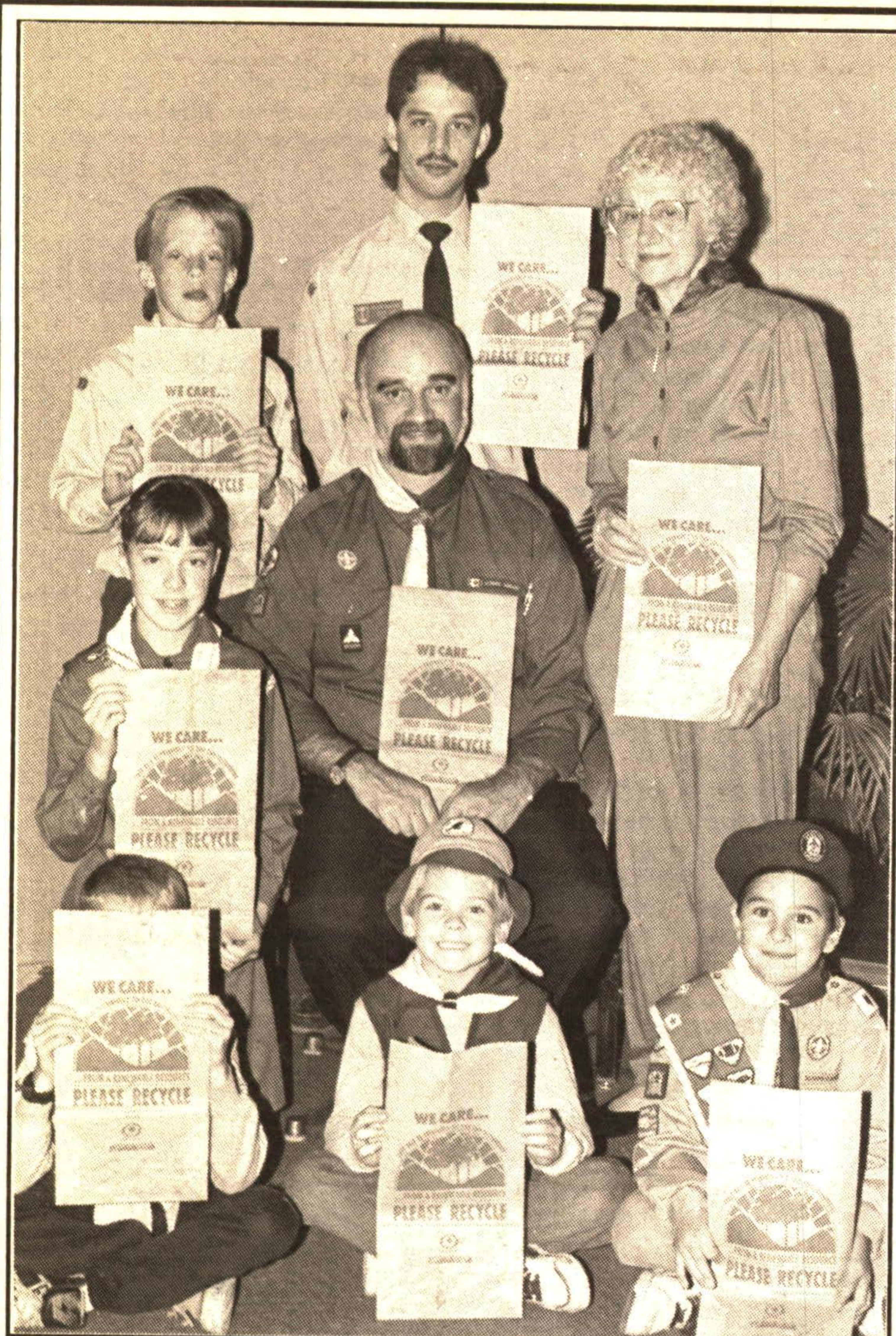
Norris claimed that residents overlook abandoned cars, trucks, rubble, shingles, bricks and old tires, much of which has been discarded into the ravine at the rear of the property.

"The question is, do we change the town's bylaws to accommodate an operation that has long been illegal?" Norris asked councillors Monday night. "I can't understand council even entertaining this.... Why have a report in the first place? You're just giving credence to this illegal business."

Monarch Resources' officials could not be reached for comment before press time.

Building director Henry Tse explained three years ago the town had charged and convicted Monarch for operating a scrap yard without a licence. Around the same time, the company applied for the rezoning, which was subsequently refused by council. Monarch then appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board, but with a revised application for a covered storage area.

The matter was thrown back into the town's lap for another public hearing, held early last year, but a final report has yet to be presented to council for a decision.



Scouts and Guides will be going door-to-door next Saturday (Nov. 7), collecting for the local food banks. Photo by SYLVIA GALBRAITH

It's food drive time

There is something a little extra tucked into your newspaper today that could make a difference for the users of Foodshare Food Bank in Acton and Love in Christ Food Bank in Georgetown.

Paper bags, donated by Acton IGA and Georgetown Miracle Food Mart, have been inserted in this edition.

Area residents are encouraged to fill the bags with non-perishable food items so the hundreds of youths participating in the Scout/Guide Second Annual Door to Door Food Bank Food Drive can pick them up on Saturday Nov. 7 between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

All the food collected that morning will be donated to the food banks in Acton and Georgetown.

The youths will be knocking on doors in Georgetown, Acton, Glen Williams, Stewarttown, Norval, Limehouse, Rockwood, Eden Mills and Everton.

Ron Birrell, a scout leader and an organizer of the food drive, is hoping the drive will net at least as much as the 23,500 pounds of food collected last year.

The food most needed is high protein non-perishable items including peanut butter, powdered or canned milk, tinned fish or meat, soups, pasta, baby food and cheese spreads.

Volunteers are required on Nov. 7 in Georgetown to help sort, weigh and pack the food that is collected. Anyone interested should contact the Love in Christ Food Bank at 873-6979.

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