

Taxes to double

Business may stay in Mississauga

By **STUART JOHNSTON**
Staff writer

A Mississauga business on the verge of moving operations to Georgetown next month may not follow through with it after all because market value assessment (MVA) will be doubling its taxes.

Phil Trigliani, president of P & F Technologies, told the Independent/Free Press that he may be reconsidering a "tentative offer" to purchase a 15,000 square foot Armstrong Ave. building because its present level of taxes are going to more than double next year.

Trigliani noted that one of his employees, who lives in Halton Hills, brought an article recently published in the Independent/Free Press concerning the effects of MVA to his attention.

Concerned about the effects the new tax will have on his plans to relocate the company to Georgetown, Trigliani promptly contacted the provincial assessment

office to find out the facts.

When he discovered the assessment on the building he has tentatively purchased is increasing from \$30,000 to \$64,000, he seriously began reconsidering the move. The new assessment translates into \$25,000 in taxes annually.

"We were looking at a Dec. 18 closing date (but) this is hindering our decision right now," he said. "This is all kind of scary."

P & F Technologies, along with another company called Air Wise Inc., had plans to move their staff of about two dozen up here, some of which were planning on buying homes, too, he said.

"We were going to deal with local industry, hire more people locally, but now...?" Trigliani added.

The company originally began in Etobicoke before moving a year ago to Mississauga where the taxes were less expensive. However, once taxes started increasing in Peel Region, they looked towards Georgetown where, he believed,

"taxes appeared to be quite attractive, at the 1992 rates.

"We're constantly moving away from the city to get away from that kind of thing, and we thought Georgetown would be safe," he added.

P & F is the leading manufacturer of refrigeration recovery and recycling equipment, while Air Wise custom manufactures air conditioning machinery.

In a story which appeared in this newspaper last week, local businessman Dave McNally was shocked to discover taxes on his vacant Georgetown properties were skyrocketing as well. He predicted businesses may not find it as attractive to move into the area.

However, updated assessment figures show overall taxes generated from commercial and industrial properties will be going down about \$857,000 next year in Halton Hills. It still means, however, that some properties will be going up, while others will decrease.

Discrepancies in local bylaws upset Bonnette

Acton is "being shafted" due to a discrepancy in local bylaws, councillor Rick Bonnette charges.

Last month, Bonnette asked town staff to look into changing an outdated bylaw that requires a rear setback of 35 feet for any additions to homes in Acton. However, the law requires only 25 feet in Georgetown, so he wanted Acton's to be the same.

On Monday, Bonnette criticized a staff report which suggested dealing with the matter sometime down the road, when the town overhauls all of its bylaws.

"I think it's a cop out to wait for a comprehensive zoning bylaw to be done," he said. "I think staff missed the intent of my request. Residents of Acton are being shafted by a quirk in the bylaw."

Aside from the discrepancy in size requirements, Bonnette charged that it will cost Acton residents money whenever they ask for an adjustment to fit a new porch or shed in their yards, if they don't fall within the 35 foot zone.

He demanded that the "wrong be righted," and again asked for a report within two weeks.



Money tree time

Area residents are being asked to stop in at Hallmark Cards in the Georgetown Marketplace Mall to make a donation to their Loonie Tree. Owner Mary Lou Young and manager Mary Bond have finished decorating the tree and are asking the public to put a loonie in any of the decorative bags on the tree. Proceeds will go to Love In Christ Food Bank and Good Neighbors.



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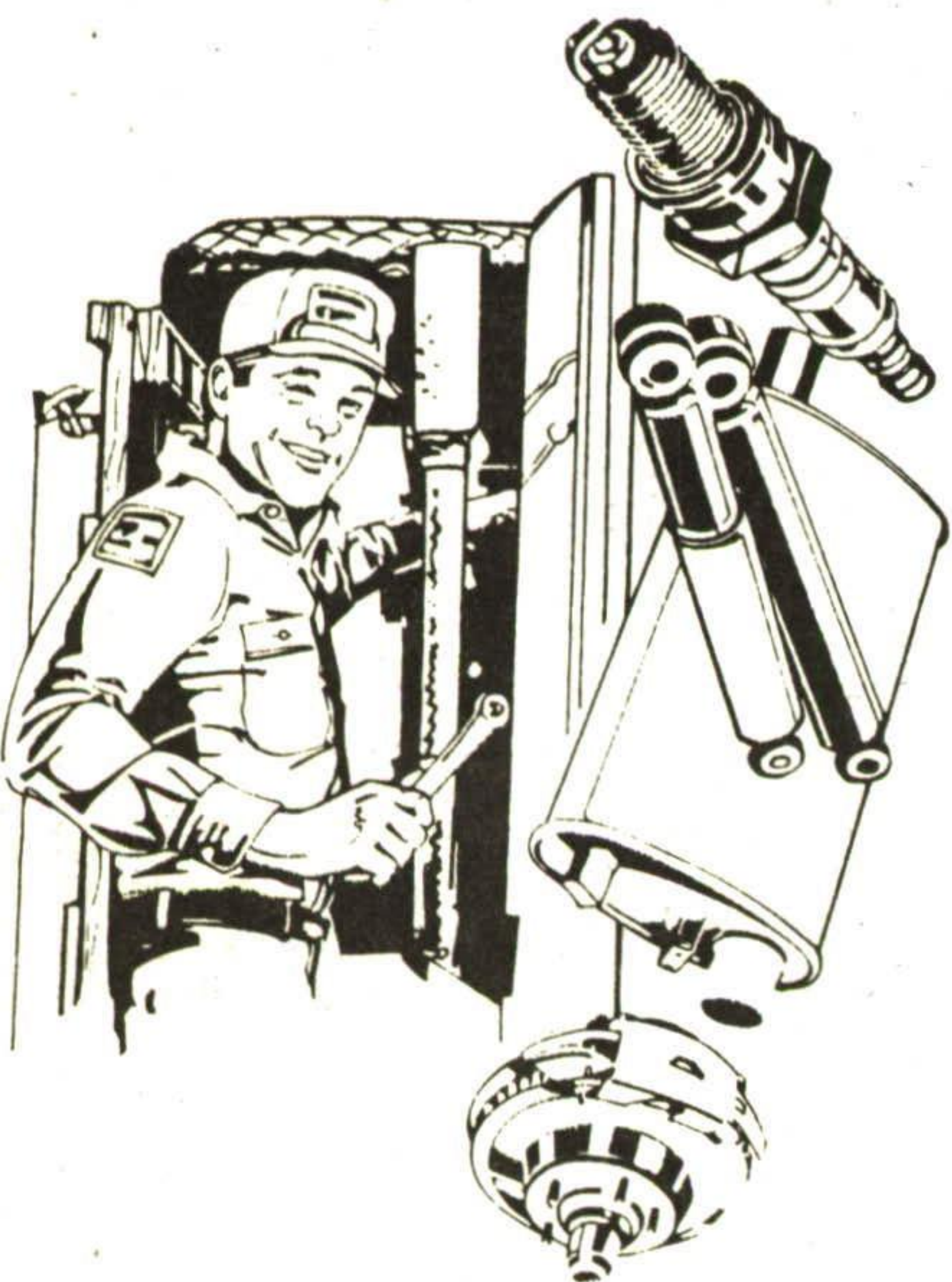
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