

THE HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

KEN NUGENT
Publisher

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A good choice

Each year the Georgetown Lions Club comes up with an excellent representative for the Georgetown Citizen of the Year — and this year is no different.

For all the energy and enthusiasm he has put into this community in 1992 and for the past 11 years of dedication to this town, Sandy Booth is a good choice.

Mr. Booth is a longtime member of North Halton District Scouting and the Georgetown Optimist Club — both organizations allowing him to create a better world for the youth of this community — his true joy in life. He's organized the very popular CHICKEN Club (an anti-drug program for local kids), Bang-O-Rama — the annual family fun day every May, helped start the Saturday Centre for developmentally handicapped children and supports a youth public speaking contest. Plus he's even plays the jolly old man himself — Santa Claus — every Christmas at the Norval Day Care Centre.

Through it all we have seen Mr. Booth's ever-present cheery smile and optimism. Even while recuperating from a heart bypass in Georgetown District Hospital, he continues to volunteer from his bed.

That's dedication!

It was children — his grandchildren — which brought him to Georgetown to retire those many years ago, but it was his compassion and love of all children that led to his involvement into the clubs here which serve children.

He is an example to us all.

We salute Mr. Booth and wish him well.

Ode to love
Acton resident Vi McDowell wrote this poem in celebration of Valentine's Day.

I Do
As we sign our marriage paper
After we say I Do
It means I love you
It's a new life beginning
For me and for you
We will share it together
As all lovers do.

If we promise to be faithful
And always be true
Then our love will last forever
Our whole lives through.

It's a very sacred paper
Between God and us two
It's a very sacred paper
That means I Love You.

Supports action

Dear editor:

Allow me to express my concern over the vilification of mesdames Landry and van de Valk in your recent editorial. Canada dies a little each day when good people are

Letters

to the Editor

silenced. Yes Virginia, governments mismanage information to confuse people. It often takes unseemly screaming to tell the truth to indifferent people. Rita and Diane are quite right, the RSI Proposal could have been stopped legally by the Environment minister on at least four points, namely:

- The unresolved restoration of the Third Line through the Quarry.
- Any of Sections 17, 18 and 19 of the Ontario Water Resources Act which ensure Riparian Rights, notwithstanding that the water might only appear to be in jeopardy. The same minister prohibited incineration without any due process Environmental Assessment.

- Locally, try and get a councillor to acknowledge that this year's tax increase is twice the inflation rate or that in the last 10 years, we have averaged a hike of 9.8 per cent per annum.

• Have any GTA municipality acknowledge Statcan's figures that the Canadian population growth will slow down in year 2006 and start declining in 2012. Development charges, now being levied, are based on continuing the exponential baby boomer growth rates.

It is the likes of Rita, Diane, Barbara Halsall et al who deserve Garth's gongs. Please stop vilifying our good people.

Bill Hyde,
Georgetown

Stoop and scoop

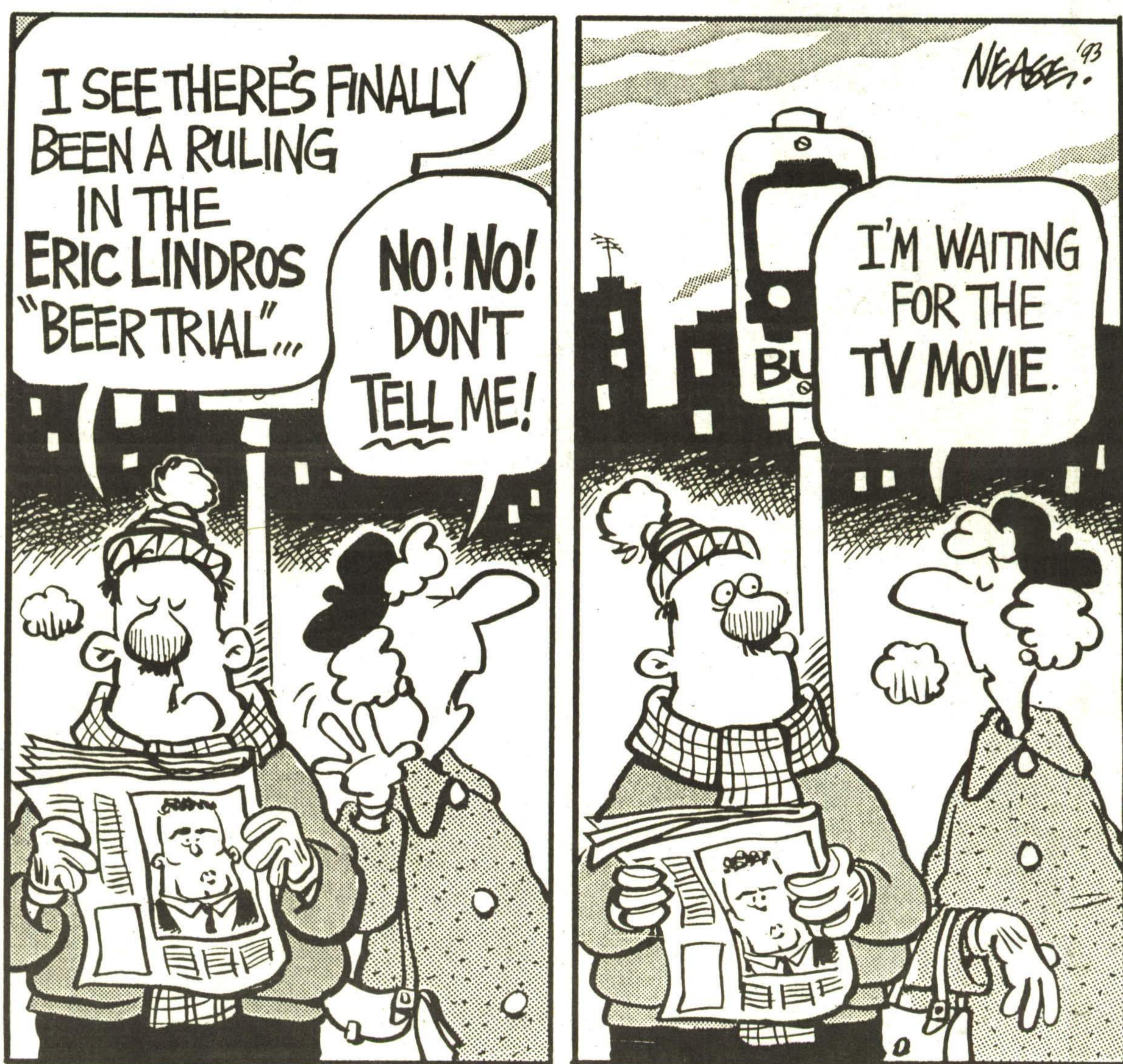
Dear editor:

I recently moved into Moore Park and I own and walk a large dog every day - with my trusty "poop and scoop" bag.

It is sickening to see the amount of excrement on the sidewalks around this neighborhood, where children play.

Foregoing a lecture on transmissible diseases, which feces can pass on to children, I would like to say this to those of you who obviously don't "poop and scoop" - it will not evaporate, pick it up!

Susan Barfoot



Today the pace is slower on Georgetown's Main Street

Nearly three years have passed since the office of *The Independent/Free Press* moved to its present location at 211 Armstrong, from our old haunts at 30 Main St., Georgetown.

As a result, my visits to the Main St. area seem fewer and farther between as time goes by.

But even today, the Main St. area still holds a special place in my heart, and a recent conversation got me reminiscing.

Of course, going back some 30 odd years, when I was a little boy, downtown was the centre of activity. It was the only place in town one could shop. The Guelph St. strip was nonexistent, and Georgetown had no plazas or supermarkets. The only thing lining Hwy 7 was Dominion Seeds' fields of gladiolus.

In my early days, Main St. had no centre median, and street lights lined the sidewalks.

Georgetown Police constable Ted Scott walked the beat, and the

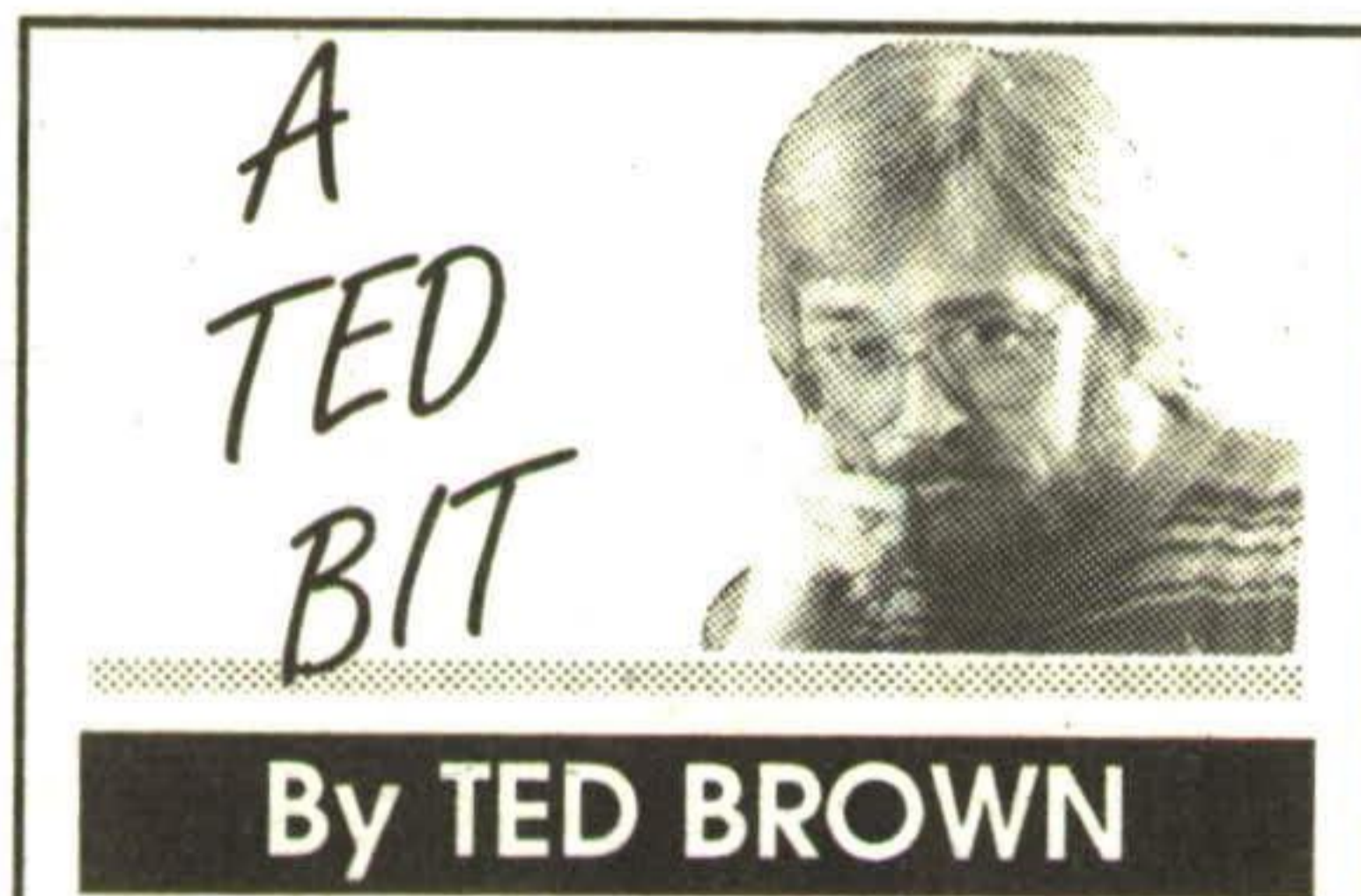
town's one police cruiser was parked behind the police station at the back of the old Georgetown Municipal Building.

We bought all our clothes at Silver's Department Store (now Young's Pharmacy) or Cotton Brothers (where the Royal Bank now stands) and Merv Cook cut everyone's hair in his barber shop from which one had a commanding view of the Main St.

Georgetown had only two banks in those days: the Royal, located in the Old Bank building and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, which was an older style building on the same location.

We had Ray Thompson's Hardware store for nails and cut glass, and Crest Hardware (owned by Richardson's) with their yearly skate exchange and hunting licences as well as Wray's "five to a dollar" store and Holmes' Dollar store which kept all the kids supplied with toys and games.

Every kid in Georgetown stood



By TED BROWN

in front of Joe's Tuck Shop, (where North Star Cleaners are now located) eyeing the "Matchbox Toys" which Joe and Marg McClintock sold alongside their newspapers and magazines.

And even back then, Goodlet's were selling all of Georgetown their appliances.

Perhaps the most unique building on Main St. at the time was Fred Maveal's White Rose service station, which stood at the corner of James and Main, where Municipal Trust now sits. The garage featured a tall narrow roof, with shutters on the windows of the

upper stories.

At that time, the majestic old town hall peered down on Main St. from its location at Cross and Back streets. Today, a parking lot sits in its place.

Don Herrington's Paint Shop decorated most homes in Georgetown in those days, and if McCormack's drug store didn't have what you needed, Bud Kentner or Stu Young probably did. Bud also kept the town supplied with a selection of photographic equipment in his drug store, and outfitted me with my first cameras.

Around the corner, on Mill St., one could attend a movie at the Roxy Theatre, and many a young fellow spent a quiet afternoon absent from school at Ab William's billiards hall, across the street, in the area of the back parking lot of the Royal Bank.

On Mill St., west of Main, patrons heading for the liquor store only had to walk to where C&S

Printing is located (in the bottom of the Legion) and likely dropped into the Scotch Bakery next door at the same time for some baked goodies, to have an excuse for being there in the first place.

And virtually every family in Georgetown bought their TV from Bill Milliere, who still operates on Wesleyan St.

Before Georgetown IGA was built by the Caldwell family, Main St. boasted two grocery stores; Superior Store, (now Main Variety) and Buck's Fine Foods around the corner.

And Main St. had three jewelry stores to deal at: Barber's, Boughton's and McNamara's.

Today, the pace is much slower on Georgetown's Main St., and sadly, the spirit seems to have died since its days as the bustling economic centre of town.

But for older residents of the town, we can be sure one part will always remain alive.

The memories.