Area residents call for truck ban on Maple Ave.

About 150 Georgetown area residents have signed a petition calling for a ban on heavy truck traffic on Maple Ave.

Georgetown resident Ken Thorn presented the petition to Halton Hills council members Monday. night and said he would be making

a similar presentation to Halton Region's planning and public works committee this week, because Maple Ave. is a regional road.

"We feel heavy truck traffic should be banned on Maple Ave. on the grounds of safety," said Thorn. "Residents have grave concerns for

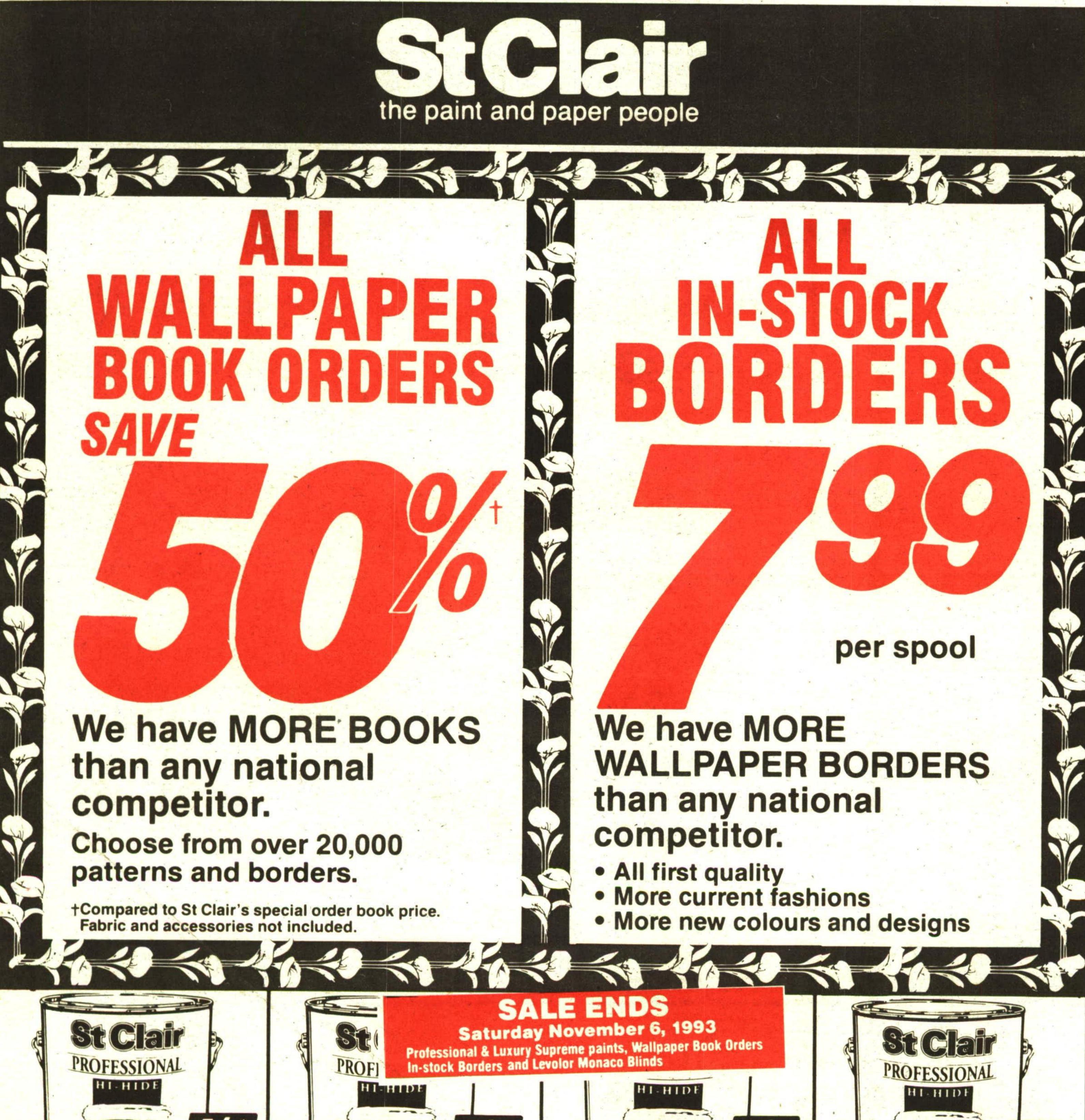
coming in and out of their driveways. Large trucks are traveling eastbound at very high speeds."

Thorn said people exiting the two churches, two schools and seniors from the Holcro development are forced to deal with the trucks.

"It is also a question of noise and

timing," said Thorn. "The trucks are traveling on Maple Ave. well before 6 a.m. and often past 6 p.m."

Thorn said trucks often use the passing lane on the roadway, and police told him there have been a number of complaints registered by area residents.



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GREEN THUMB GARDENING



By CHRISTINE COLE

GARDENING

Regardless of the size of your yard, you can select and arrange plants to increase its attractiveness to birds. Carefully selected trees, shrubs and flowers will attract birds to your yard all year long.

Clusters of shade-tolerant shrubs and flowers planted under taller trees will produce a layered effect. This has the advantage of attracting different kinds of birds to each layer of greenery. Having a balance of evergreen and deciduous trees has the same effect: Dogwood, Holly, Japanese Maple, False Spirea, Sumacs, Elderberries, Seviceberry and Yew are just a few shrubs and trees that grow well in shaded locations and are preferred by many common songbirds. Flowers such as Bachelor's Button, Calendula, Poppies, Asters, Coreopsis, Rudbeckia, Mariagolds, Fuchsia, and, of course, Sunflowers all attract various birds to their flowers for nectar or their edible seeds. Permitting annual and perennial flowers to ripen their seeds in the fall increases the variety of food available to the birds later in

the season. Birds also enjoy the edible fruits of shrubs and trees. It is best to select those that fruit at varying times of the year. Shrubs with edible fruits include Dogwoods, Holy, Honeysuckles, Shrub Roses, Sumacs, and European Cranberry. Crabapple, Russian Olive and Mountain Ash are all aesthetically attractive trees with edible fruits. And, naturally, birds are quickly attracted to orchard fruits and small fruit plants: Cherry trees, grape vines, blueberry, red and black currant bushes as well as raspberries, strawberries and elderberries. Shrubs, trees and flowers provide birds with the essentials if life: Food, Protection and Nesting Areas. Birch trees provide all of these essentials for Chickadees, Orioles and Sapsuckers. Crabapples provide all of these for Robins, Blue Jays, and Orioles. Maples offer food, protection and nesting sites to Goldfinches, Robins, Evening and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, while pine trees furnish this to Chickadees, Blue Jays, Sparrows, Grosbeaks, Cardinals, Nuthatches, Warblers and Woodpeckers.

Birds have few demands, but provide another element of nature in our yard. And birds are beneficial too -they pollinate flowers and eat many insects. Plants are one of the most attractive and important elements in our garden. Birds think so too!

Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping, Highway 25, 1 mile south of Acton, 853-2480, will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace!

TUITMAN'S GARDEN CENTRE

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