

# Local woman enjoys rare feline friends



By Wendy Long

It's a cat's world at Madge Turner's house.

Turner, an Acton resident, is one of three breeders in Ontario that specialize in Balinese cats.

Cats seem to be everywhere in Turner's cat-converted sunny basement, leaping and playing and sleeping to their heart's content.

Turner currently has several adult cats and two recent litters of kittens. The kittens will be ready to be adopted at 12 weeks old, and are for sale as purebred pets at \$300 each.

"I've always loved animals, ever since I was a child," Turner said casually on her love-affair with felines.

The Balinese are a natural mutation of the Siamese breed. They are characterized by their delicate coloring and plume tail. Balinese "are not a well know breed," Turner said. "There's not many of them at all."

Turner is co-owner of Labelinka Cats with her husband William.

She originally became interested in Balinese cats 11 years ago on a trip to England. Turner says she met a woman from Wales who bred the Balinese, and Turner was hooked. She had many cats shipped home across the Atlantic.

"I think I hold the world record for shipping that many animals at one time," laughed Turner.

Turner has sold her Balinese kittens and cats internationally, and is a member of the No Name Cat Club, a 20 member force from all over Ontario who enjoy cats and cat competitions.

The Turners compete in Ontario whenever they can, and have received many awards for the quality of their cats. The females are champions, said Turner.

Turner says her Balinese kittens are guaranteed, vaccinated, registered and checked by her veterinarian before they leave for a new home.

To contact Labelinka Cats, call 853-4872.

## Water, sewer rates stay low

Halton Region plans to tap into its rate stabilization reserve fund to keep water and sewage bills low next year.

Water and wastewater bills are expected to go up 0.62 per cent, while garbage collection fees for 1993 will remain the same under budget estimates released by the region.

The average Halton resident, who paid \$356.89 for water and wastewater in 1992 can expect to pay an additional \$2.75 in 1993. The waste management (garbage collection) fee for the same resident is

expected to stay at the 1992 level of \$72.03.

Budget documents say water utility rates are being kept low with the help of \$633,000 from the rate stabilization reserve, a rainy day fund which has been built up over the past seven years.

The figures are contained in the 1993 preliminary rate supported budget approved last week by the region's planning and public works committee. The estimates will have to be passed by the budget committee and ratified by Halton Council.

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