

Brampton Real Estate Board Christmas Fundraising Dance

Halton Hills Realtors recently gathered in support of Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital.

Photos by Simon Wilson



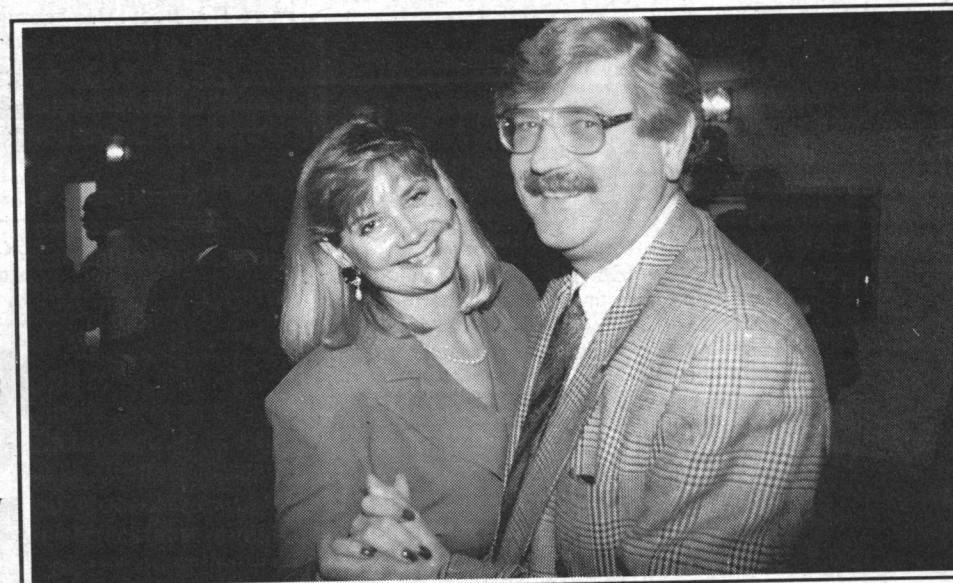
Angie Cormpilas of Re/Max Suburan (91) Inc. and husband, Angelo.



Brenda Payton of Johnson & Associates and husband, David.



Finn Poulstrup, Manager of Johnson & Associates and wife, Jo.



Heather Scotland of Re/Max Blue Springs and husband, Bill.

Out at the Ranch

with Bill Ellis

THE BABY

Congratulations are in order! Our amaryllis just had a baby!

What's that - you didn't know an amaryllis could have a baby.

What's that you say - what is an amaryllis? Maybe the name threw you. An amaryllis is a very large flowering bulb, as a matter of fact, the one we have looks like a very husky Spanish onion. The amaryllis flowers come in several colours, but I guess the really interesting thing about them is that they go from bulb to flower in a very few weeks. The flowers are really something - giant trumpet shaped flowers on long stems - and not a leaf in sight! These beauties are on sale in most garden centres right now. Bulb, earth, pot and planting instructions, all in one box. As they say - if all else fails - read the instructions.

We have had this red one for several years. It is affectionately called "the onion" by family and friends. I am no gardening authority, so don't quote me on this, but as I understand it, the amaryllis is supposed to bloom once a year - in the late fall. The rest of the year it is supposed to rest up after it's big show of bloom.

Ours followed this schedule religiously for two years, but two summers ago something went haywire. I set the bulb and pot out in the garden in June as part of the rest period. In August, it brought forth seven beautiful red flowers - completely off schedule. In September we brought the bulb in the house and started to give it fertilizer. At Christmas time,

when it should have been blooming, all the leaves turned yellow and fell off. We lamented this happening and stowed the bulb and pot in the basement for another try this past summer.

This past June we set the pot out on the patio. The bulb looked pretty bad - no leaves, no flowers - nothing. In a few weeks it was noticed that there was another bulb coming up beside the old one. Naturally, we would adopt the little "little onion" as our own. We carefully split the little bulb away from the old bulb and put them both in new pots.

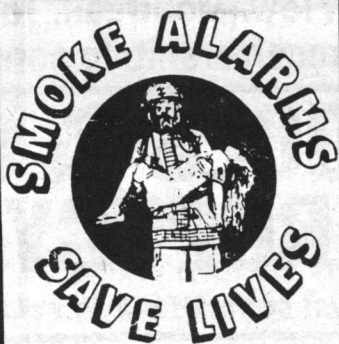
They both started to grow leaves and any amaryllis owner will tell you this is all wrong. The leaves are not supposed to grow until the bulb has flowered. In any event, we left the pots on the patio all summer. We brought them in the house in September and now the old bulb is starting to flower - with leaves and all.

This is very disconcerting. First we have flowers at the wrong time of the year, then a baby and now flowers and leaves at the same time. This is a very mixed up bulb!

Pat smiles and reminds me that having a baby will invariably throw anybody off schedule. Now everyone wants to know how soon the "little onion" will have flowers. How should I know! Don't you need bees or something?

What did you say the White Rose telephone number was?

Bill Ellis is an Associate Broker with Coldwell Banker/Canada Trust Realty in Georgetown.



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