

Hillier will be recognized for heroism

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inside, repeatedly yelling to get an answer.

He found Mr. Papillon, who is in his early 80s, standing in the middle of the kitchen, telephone in hand, with flames surrounding him.

"I could hear the cracking of the fire before I entered the house," said Hillier, who added that plaster from the ceiling was beginning to fall. "I yelled, 'Let's get out of here,' knowing that fire travels fast. He was just frozen, and I was

scared. I normally do this stuff when I have full gear on."

Hillier pulled Mr. Papillon out of the house as firefighters arrived on the scene at 10:35 am. Halton Hills Deputy Fire Chief Bob Hyde, said Friday that Mr. Papillon suffered second-degree burns to his head and hands.

"There was considerable fire damage in the kitchen and smoke damage throughout the rest of the house," continued Hyde, adding that a pan of grease had been left on the stove with a burner on un-

der it. "Mr. Papillon is most fortunate Ed was there. In five minutes Mr. Papillon would have been on the floor. He owes his life to Ed."

Damage has been estimated at \$75,000. Mr. Papillon is currently staying at his sister's home in Acton.

"We thank Mr. Hillier for his concern and quick action in pulling Peter out. We're so glad he got him out," said a grateful Mary Papillon, speaking on behalf of the family.

Hyde said Hillier will receive recognition in some form for his heroic deed.

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Joining schools could be easier on students

Continued from Front Page

Board chair Dave Whiting told about 50 concerned parents attending a public meeting at McKenzie-Smith last Wednesday, that savings from the lost salary could cover physical construction costs over a four-year period.

"If a principal's salary is \$60,000, over a four-year period you would recover \$240,000, and that would be the maximum amount of money used to join the schools," Whiting explained, adding that it would be financially responsible since the savings would go on forever after that.

"Based on Acton's projected growth, the town only needs one kindergarten to Grade 8 school, not three," Whiting stressed, adding the Board would not do away with Robert Little.

One advantage for M.Z. Bennett in linking the schools is for special needs children, says Acton resident Suzanne Ellis.

"As it is now, when a special needs child is promoted from Grade 5 to Grade 6, they have to leave one school and go to another for help. If there was one school, the transition wouldn't be as dramatic.

"Kids would be able to do some work in the M.Z. Bennett section and some in the McKenzie-Smith end, so I think they could make the transition more gradually."

For Ellis' 11-year-old daughter, it was a complete shock going from M.Z. Bennett to the middle school this year.

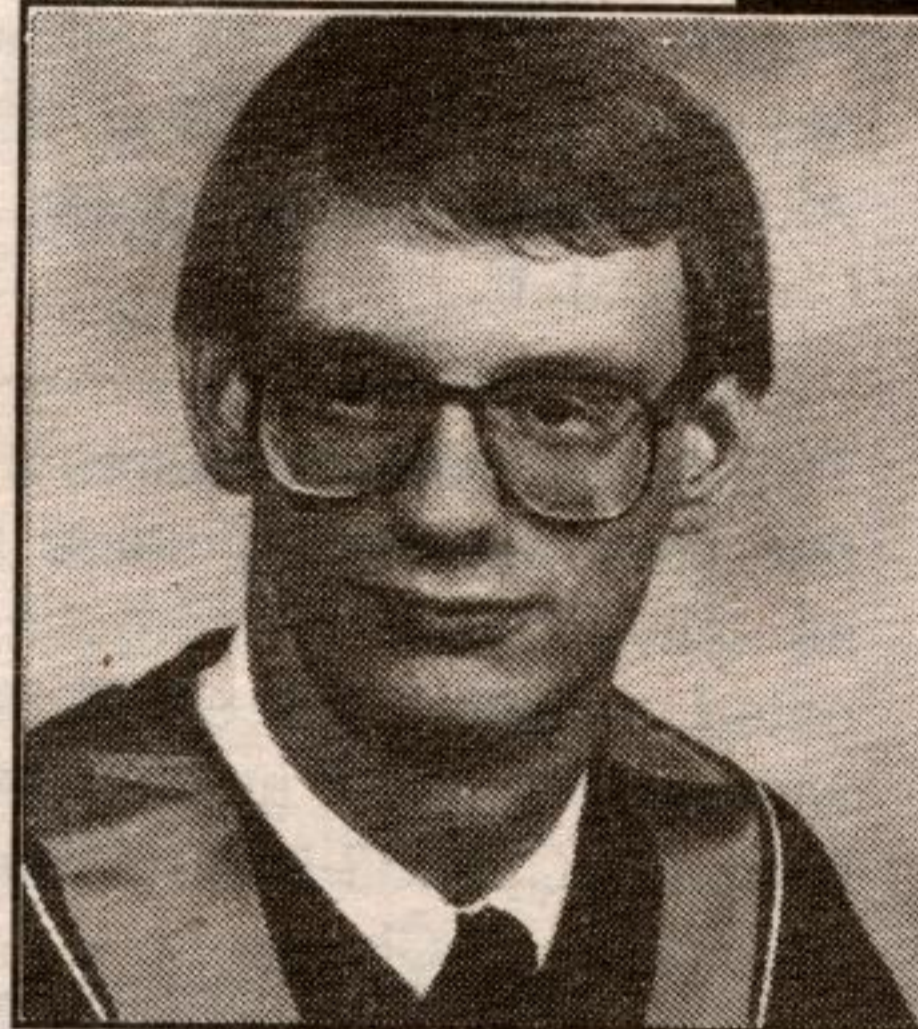
"It was a drastic shock when she started at McKenzie-Smith. It's been a rough year," said Ellis. "You may not have that so much if you merge the schools."

Ellis added that she doesn't see any benefit "if the schools are just joined by a library and office in the middle."

Logan said both schools' gymnasiums would be retained with the possibility of M.Z.'s becom-

ing a library, "since it's more conducive to junior-style sports."

Concerned parent Nicki Barends fears the possibility of split classes. "We're into so many split classes nowadays. I don't want to see a Grade 5 class split with a Grade 6 or 7 class."



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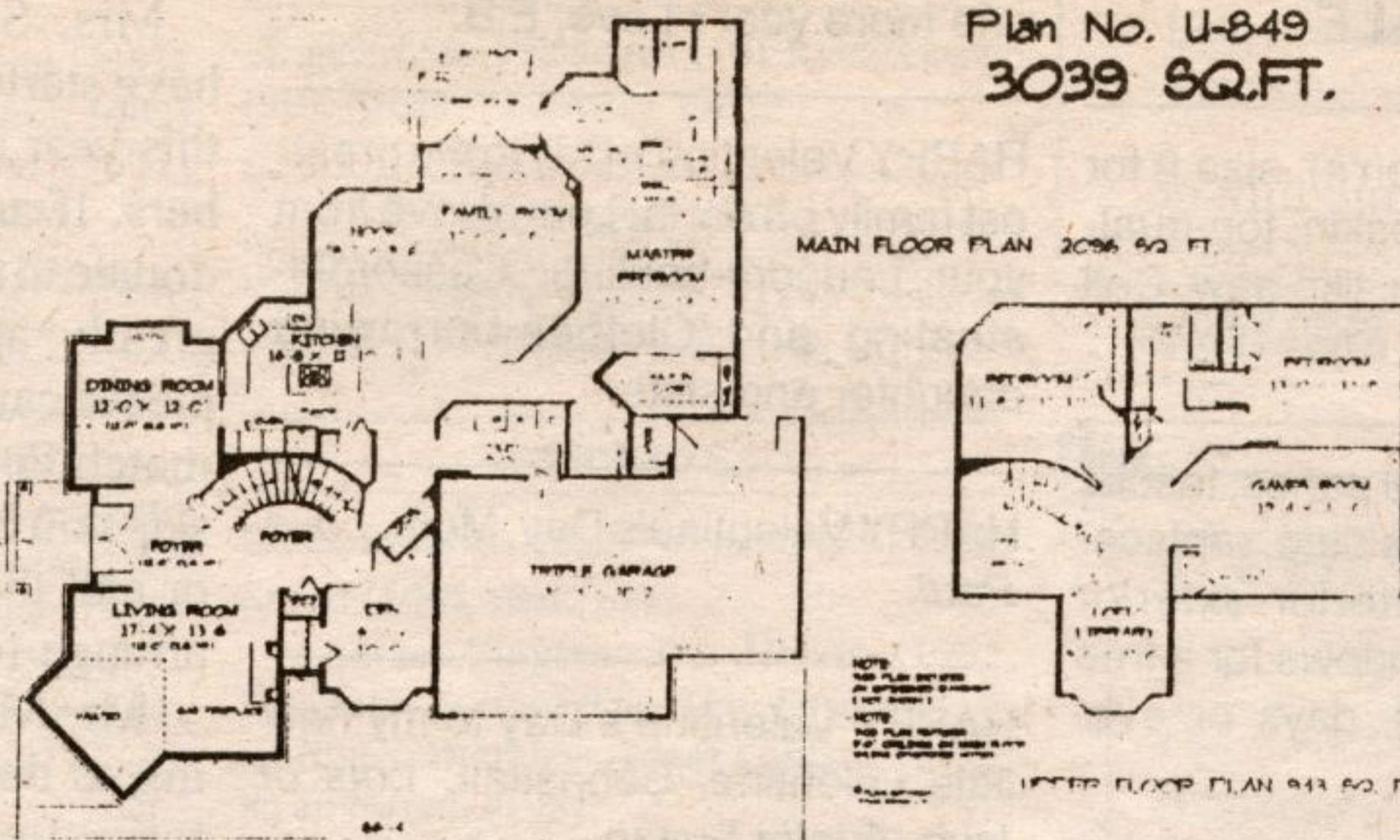
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