

Real alarm may not get response

Continued from Front Page
have heard it so many times now, that they have stopped coming out their doors," said one of Lakeview Villa's 50 tenants on Thursday. "The alarm is checked each month, so you would think the problem would be found out."

Fortunately, the Halton Hills Fire Department was notified of the faulty alarm before they made the full trip from Georgetown in the latest incident, just under two weeks ago.

However, many times they have come all the way and residents are wondering how weary firefighters have grown of these unnecessary calls.

"It's frustrating," said the concerned resident, "because you're always waiting for the alarm to go off. Some time it's going to be the real thing and we're not going to get the response."

Last Monday, a repairman from Etobicoke spent four hours fixing a module problem in the third floor garbage room. Module problems can occur at any time, said Mary Garbes, housing manager at Halton Housing Authority, which is the managing agent for the owner, Ontario Housing Corporation. She added that no alarms have sounded since.

Garbes pointed out there is a security tenant in the building 24 hours a day, daily monitoring of the fire alarm system, a visit from an outside company once-a-month to check the system, and a yearly fire drill by tenants.

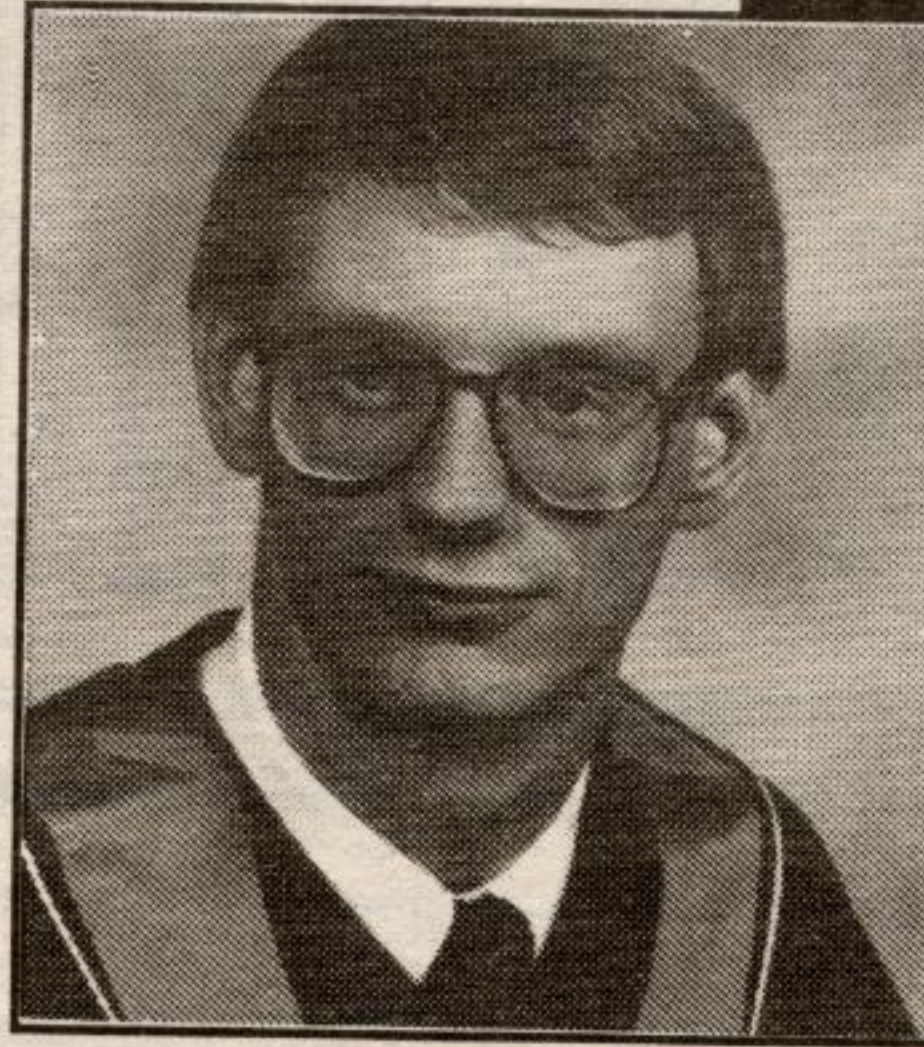
Lakeview Villa has nine exits for tenants, but only seven are in use because materials from the construction of the building's new roof are in the way. The alarm system that was installed in 1989 has 20 to 25 alarms located throughout the three-floor building.

"I worked at a company for 22

years in the maintenance department and when you had to fix something you did it because you knew the maintenance supervisor was going to be around. But there's been no follow-up here," the resident said in frustration.

"Unless the problem gets fixed properly I don't see an end to it."

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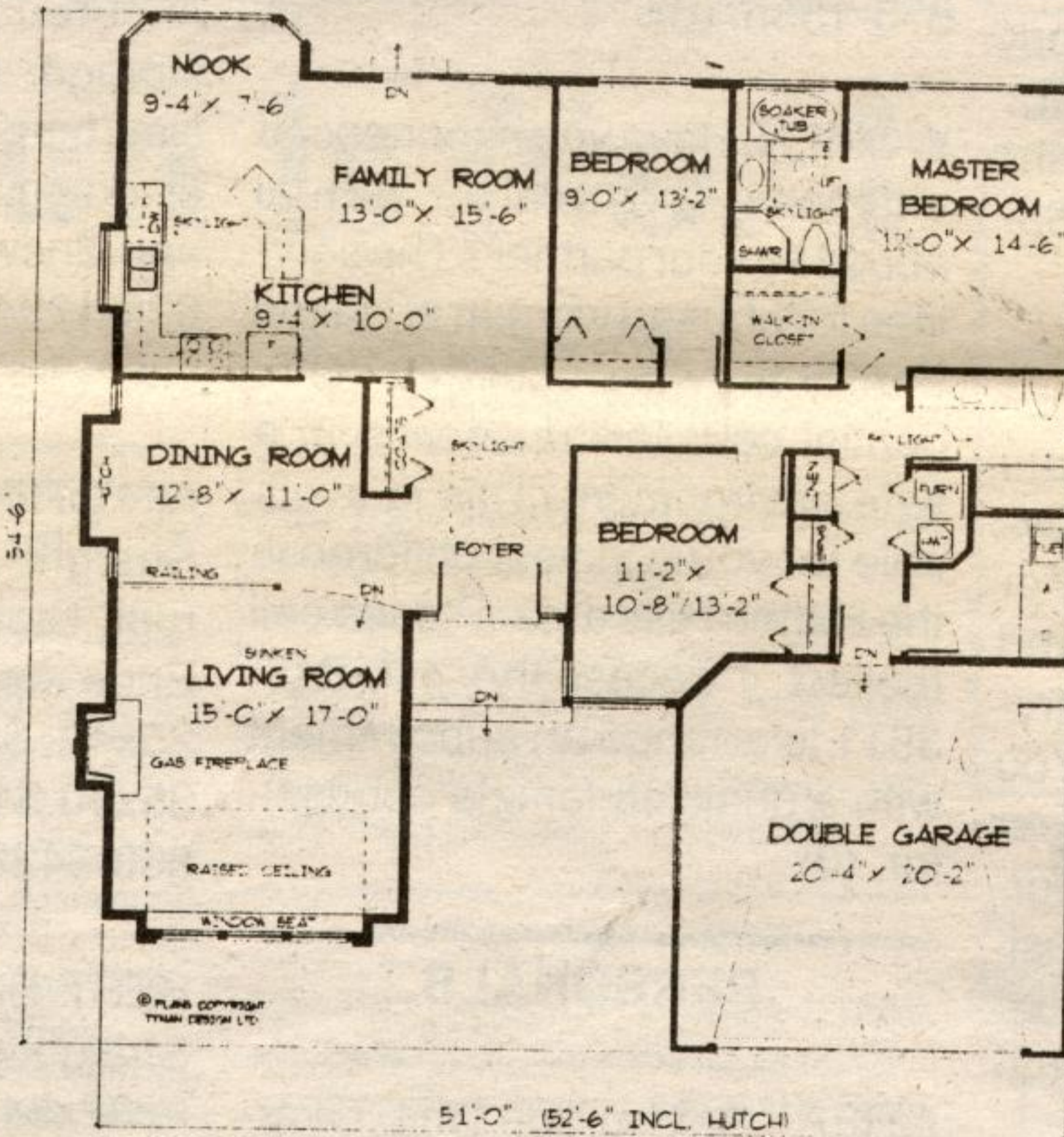
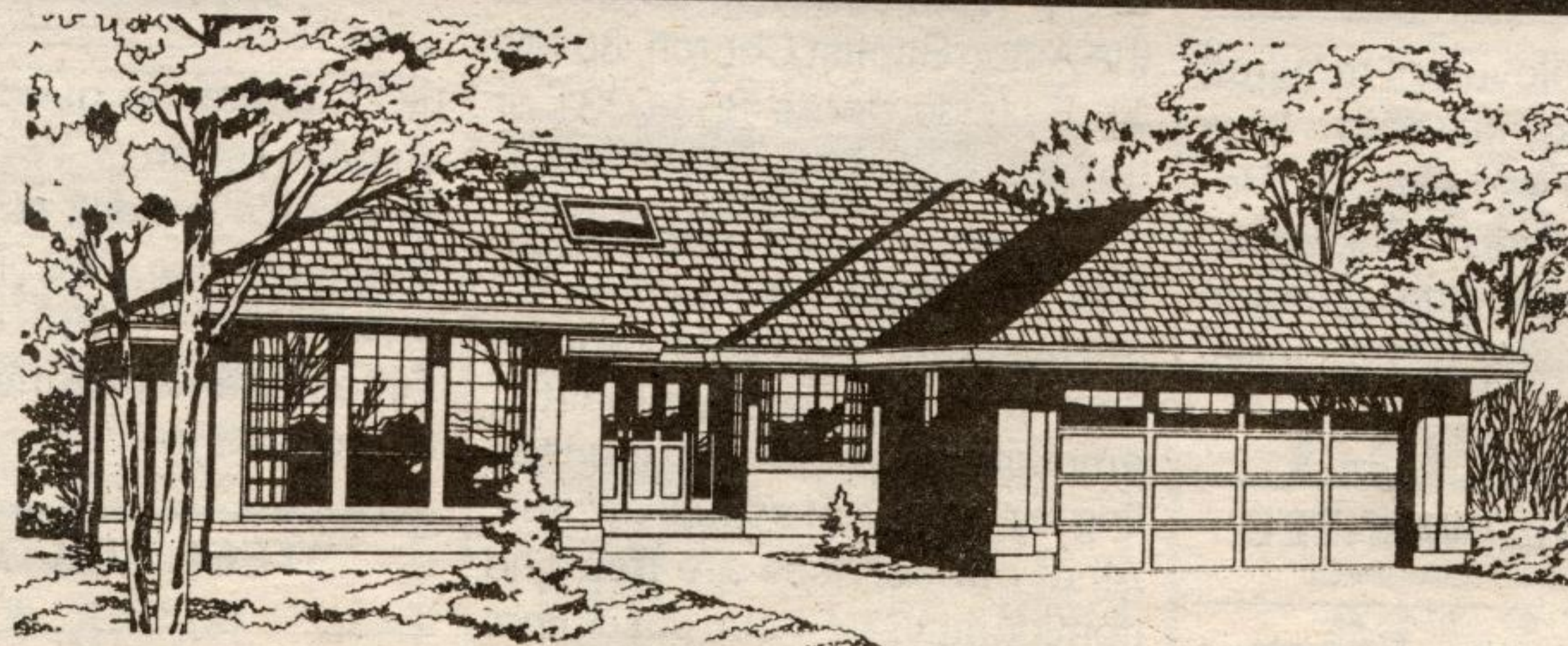


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