

ON-STAGE! Acton High thespians, from left, Michelle Godbout, Silk Craig, Lise Grimwood, Philip Eddolls and Steve Gardin rehearse a dinner-table scene for their upcoming Christmas concert production, A Christmas Carol. The concert will be staged this Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm with a matinee performance on Sunday at 2 pm. Tickets are \$5 for adults, students \$4 and \$3 for children and seniors; they are available at Glenlea Drug Mart. (Doug Harrison photo)

# Miller retires to standing 'o'

#### MUNICIPAL DIGEST

With regrets and a standing ovation, Halton Hills Council said good-bye to retiring Mayor Russ Miller as he chaired his last Council meeting on Monday night.

Miller, who surprised himself by not getting teary-eyed and emotional, was praised as a hard working Mayor who kept in touch with the public and led Council through some difficult debates.

Mayor-elect Marilyn Serjeantson will take over the reigns of Council on Monday, Dec. 12.

#### Goodbye to Keith

Council also accepted the resignation notice from Senior Planner Ian Keith at Monday's meeting. Keith, with the Town for 13

years, will step down March 31.

Keith is somewhat ambivalent

about retiring and said it is time to get on with the rest of his life.

"I'm rather proud of what we've achieved. We've changed the face

of the Town and the way planning policies work," Keith said.

"What happens on the ground is often a frustrating, difficult, awful business, but never-the-less very rewarding and satisfying too."

Council will decide how to fill Keith's role at it's next meeting.

#### Tax write-offs

For some, just death – not "death and taxes" – are inevitable.

Council has wiped \$340,439 in uncollectable taxes from the books and \$88,069 is the Town's share.

In most cases the write-offs were made because businesses closed, moved or changed hands.

#### No debate

Discussion on the highly controversial 401-Steeles Avenue corridor study was preempted by members of the out-going Halton Hills Council on Monday night.

Although the agenda included a consultant's report on the corridor and two delegations, no debate or discussion took place as all 11 councillors at the meeting stated that their lawyer had warned them to not deal with the issue because of a possible pecuniary interest.

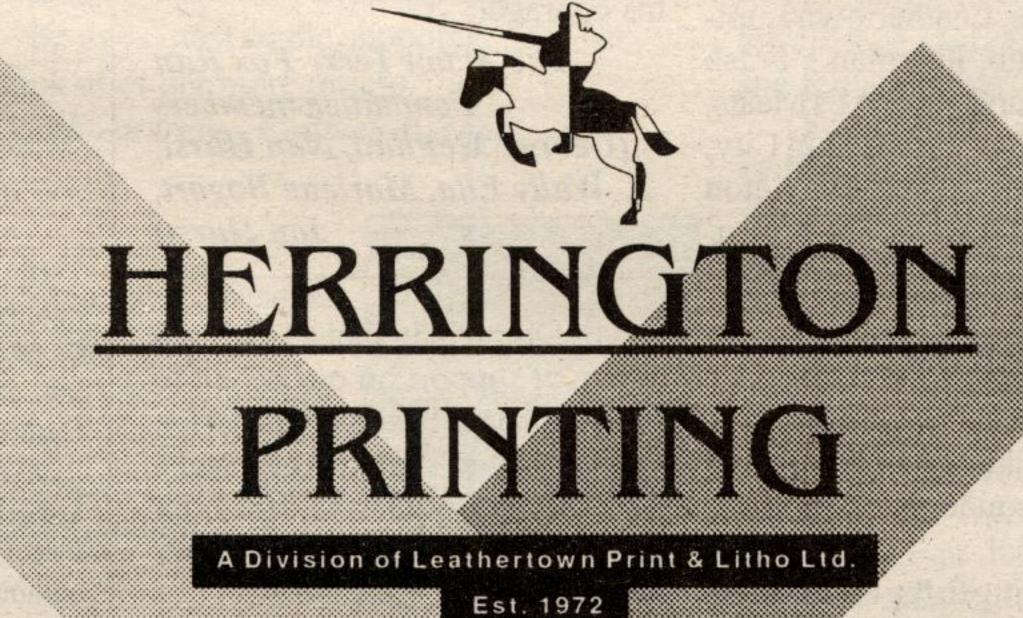
The Town and all councillors, except Mayor Miller, are being sued for \$7 million by Equity Waste Management, which is unhappy with Council's handling of its plans for a composting facility in the corridor.

Town policy states that at least three members of Council must be in a position to deal with an item when a majority has declared a pecuniary interest and so dealing with the issue may be one of the first jobs of the three new Halton Hills Council members when they are sworn in on Monday, Dec. 12.



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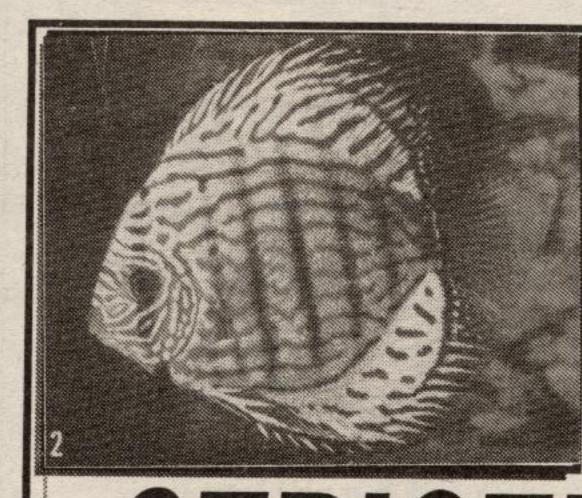
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### Suspicious noise, damage

A Bower Avenue woman was upstairs in her home on Friday when she heard a suspicious noise on the ground floor. Upon investigating, the woman found that the rear door of the house had been damaged by unknown means.

Police are investigating the incident.



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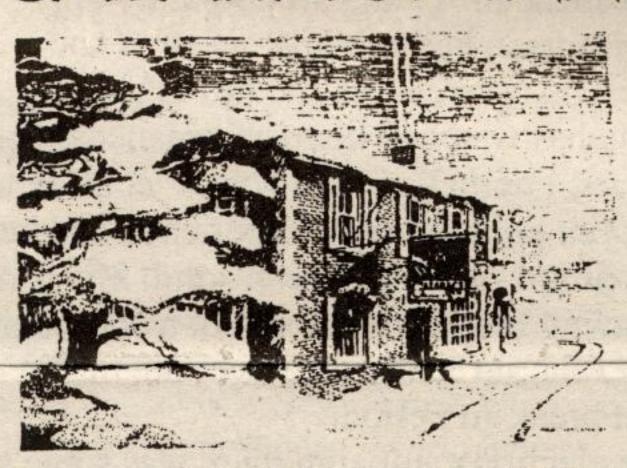
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