

BIA backs off budget request

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

Faced with almost-certain refusal, managers of the Acton Business Improvement Area (BIA) have withdrawn, for now, their request for Town money to help revitalize Mill Street.

Last month the BIA asked Council to include \$10,000 in the 1997, and \$300,000 in the 1998 capital budget forecast for the engineering work and improvements to the downtown core.

The request was put on hold until Councillor Gerald Rennie, Council's BIA representative, returned from holiday.

At a recent budget meeting Rennie told councillors that the BIA had reassessed its request, realizing that its money and focus for the next two years would be on installing new street signs, gateways and work on the Mill-Main parkette.

Rennie also noted that there is perception among BIAs – and not just in Halton Hills – that councils are abandoning downtown cores because they know the BIA levies

will pay for core improvements.

Outside the meeting Rennie said BIA members decided to regroup when they saw their request for cash was "not going to fly."

"If the proposal went down in flames and was rejected we would have a hard time bringing it back," Rennie explained as he said that the BIA will approach the Town's budget committee next year to try to have the project included in a future budget forecast.

Annual bazaar slated for Nov. 11 at Knox

I.O.D.E. NEWS

BY DOT NORTON

On a rainy Tuesday in October the Lakeside Chapter of I.O.D.E. gathered at Knox Church to enjoy a pot luck dinner. There were 11 ladies present at 6:30 pm, as well as our guest speaker for the evening, Mrs. Mary Shonbeck, provincial vice president from Freelon.

Reports were read and approved as well as discussions on other items of the IODE – most importantly, our bazaar on Nov. 11 from 1 to 3 pm at Knox Church. Raffle ticket sales are going well, but we still have some left. Anyone interested can pick them up from Helen Joque at her store on Mill Street.

There is a special request from the bazaar convenor for any jewellery or fancy scarves you can donate to the jewellery table. The tea committee has asked Groups 1

and 2 to provide sandwiches and Groups 3 and 4 to provide squares at the bazaar. Please don't forget as our tea table needs these things. Bring them to the bazaar and we will see they are served.

Mary Shonbeck told us about the provincial and national conventions. Her talk on Awareness Week helped us realize the important work we do to help others.

A summary of our work: the schoolrooms we support in Labrador; cancer research and counsel to cancer victims; the bales we assemble and send to headquarters, to be distributed to needy communities; shoes and clothing for children in the north, etc.

This 17-member group works hard and does its best to help those who need help. If you'd like to join us, we meet on the first Tuesday of the month at Knox Church, at 7:30 pm. Please join us!



IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN!

Erin McConaghy, 3, makes her way down a slide at Prospect Park last Wednesday. Erin visited the park with the Town's Preschool Playshop on the warm, sunny afternoon. (Doug Harrison photo)

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Green Thumb Gardening Corkscrew Hazel

At this stage of the season most deciduous shrubs and trees have shed their foliage and will remain this way until the spring.

During this time these plants are lacking most of their visual appeal. Their leafless state can be very stark and lifeless, but the reverse is true of the corkscrew hazel; it is most attractive in fall and winter.

Its beauty is found in its unusual branches, which are revealed when its leaves drop. As you may expect from its name, the branches grow with a twisting and curling fashion similar to a corkscrew. This characteristic also makes an interesting ingredient in floral arrangements.

The corkscrew hazel poses few problems to cultivate. It adapts to most soil conditions but performs best in well-drained and fertile soil with a full sun exposure.

Each week Len Tuitman and staff at Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace.

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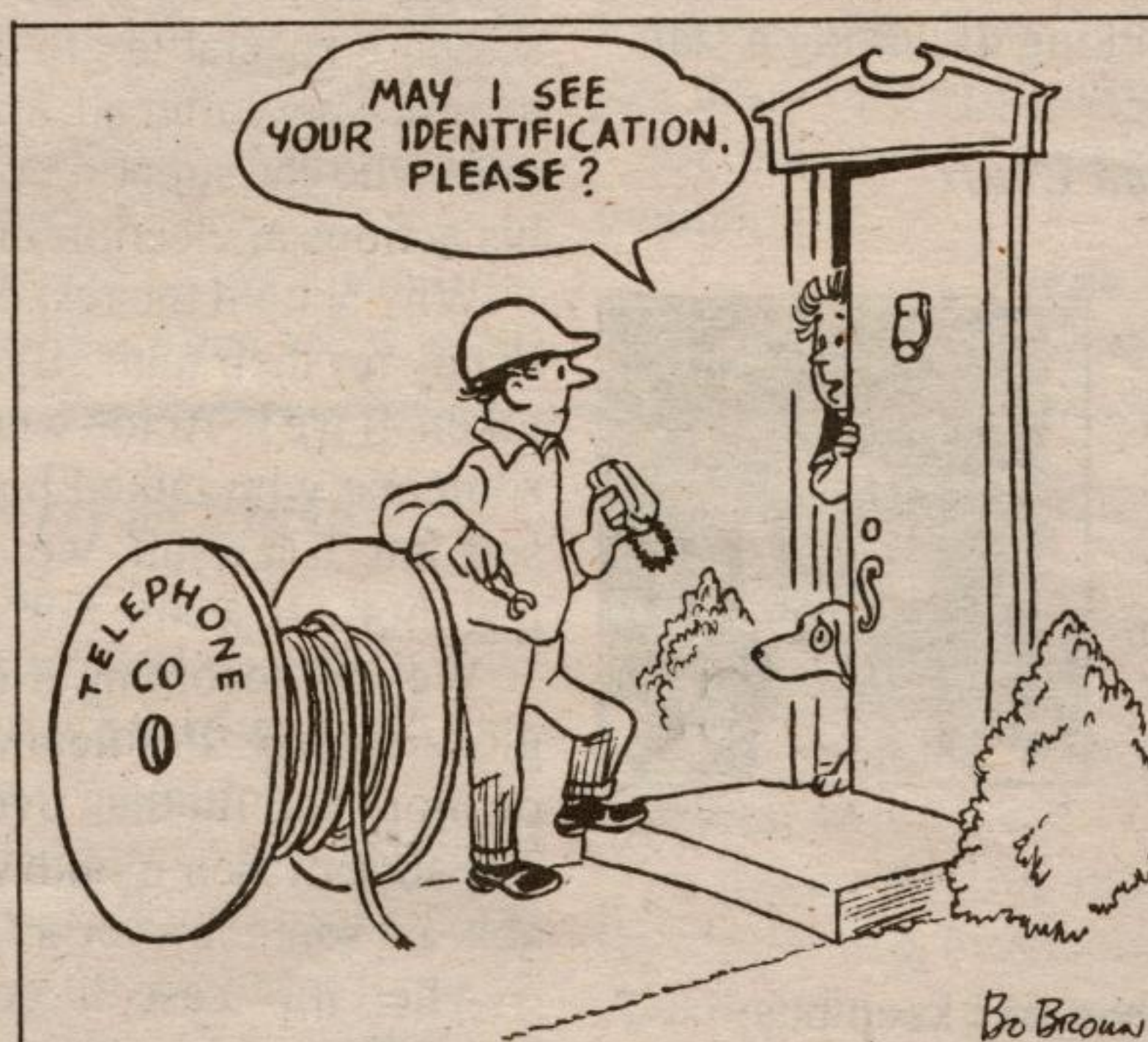
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