

'Eyesore' needs to be cleaned up

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

House-proud Acton resident Scott Somerville wants Town Council to force the owner of an "eyesore" next to his Willow Street home to clean up the property.

At a public meeting on Monday night, councillors heard about the owner's plans to rezone the property at 26 Willow St. to legalize the four existing apartments in the two-storey house.

"I feel the conversion of this property has greatly affected my property value, cost me money and caused constant noise and nuisances for my family," Somerville said, reiterating a long-list of complaints about the property that he first raised in a letter to the Town last year.

Somerville told Council that when he moved next door to the property in question in 1990, it was a well-maintained single family home with one apartment, but when it sold in 1995 renovations began and that resulted in additional noise, increased traffic and piles of litter and debris left lying around.

Somerville asked that any application concerning the property be thoroughly investigated. He noted that he and his family take pride in

their home and recently won a prize from the Acton Horticultural Society.

"I feel the owner had four years of illegal income from the extra apartment unit and that it's time some money was spent on these [clean up] issues," Somerville said.

Outside council chambers, Anthony Orticello, speaking for his father, property owner Onorato (Andy) Orticello, said that the complaints raised by the neighbour occurred before his father was involved with the property, although it was previously owned by other Orticello family members.

"It is not true that the grass and weeds are allowed to grow because we pay someone to cut the grass each week," Orticello said.

"We are still waiting for a permit to repair the front balcony and once we get it we can go ahead and repair the other existing problems and upgrade the existing landscape and the garage."

The existing zoning on the site does not allow the four units, forcing Orticello to apply for a zoning change.

As is usual with a public meeting, Town Council took no action on the rezoning application, but sent the issue to staff for a report.



TANNER TOURISTS! Youngsters in the Town's Junior Activity Centre toured the offices of *The Acton Tanner* last Wednesday afternoon. Here staff member Linda Hayes is joined at a light table by, from left, Kyle Frame, Darryl Matton, Scott Roth, Joelle Galda and Erin Dingwall. The summer J.A.C. is based at Acton High. (Paul Nolan photo)

Woodbridge members visit Branch 197

LEGION NEWS

BY ALISON WILLMOTT
Branch 197

Wednesday's bridge winners were: first, Doreen Malcolm; second, Lil Cook; third, Sandy Wilson; and fourth, Dot Norton.

Thursday's euchre had 16½ tables with the follow-

ing winners: first, George Presniak, 88; second, Eva Roberts, 79; third place was tied by Cassie Oldfield and Harry Sein with 75. The hidden score was 45, won by Bridget Murphy.

Saturday's meat draw winners were early birds Ed Molody and Marjorie Merriken. Regular prize win-

ners were: Shelley Garbutt, Annette Keon, Eugene Dunlop, Dave Garbutt, Stan Stnyomuk, Frank Keon, Pat Haughie, Michael Foster, Ed Molody, Ron Clark, Shirley Scott, Eugene Dunlop. Large prize winner was Dave Mullett.

Saturday afternoon, 48 members from the Wood-

bridge Branch came to Acton for a visit and after being fed and watered, left around 6:30 pm. Hope everyone had a great time.

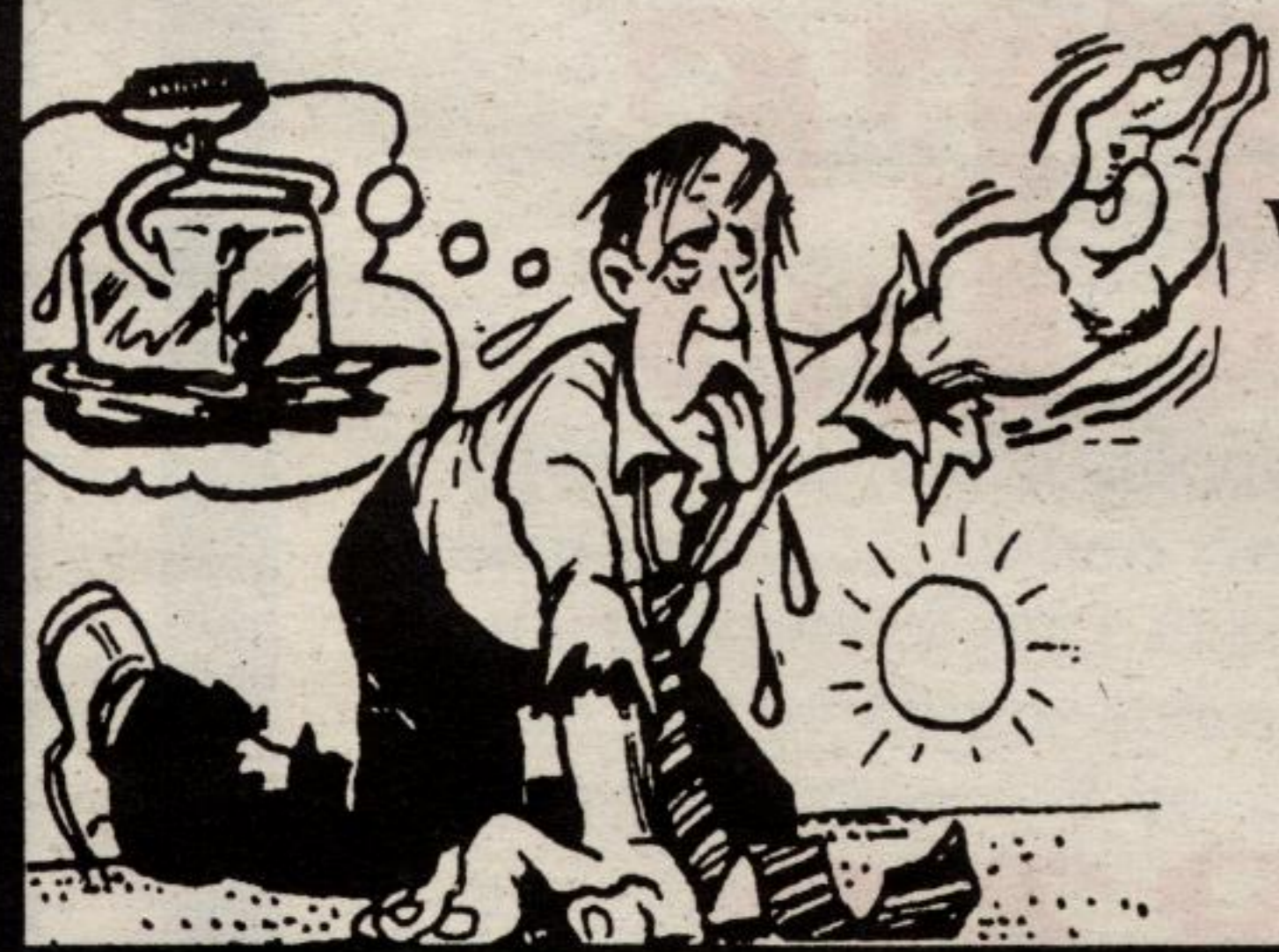
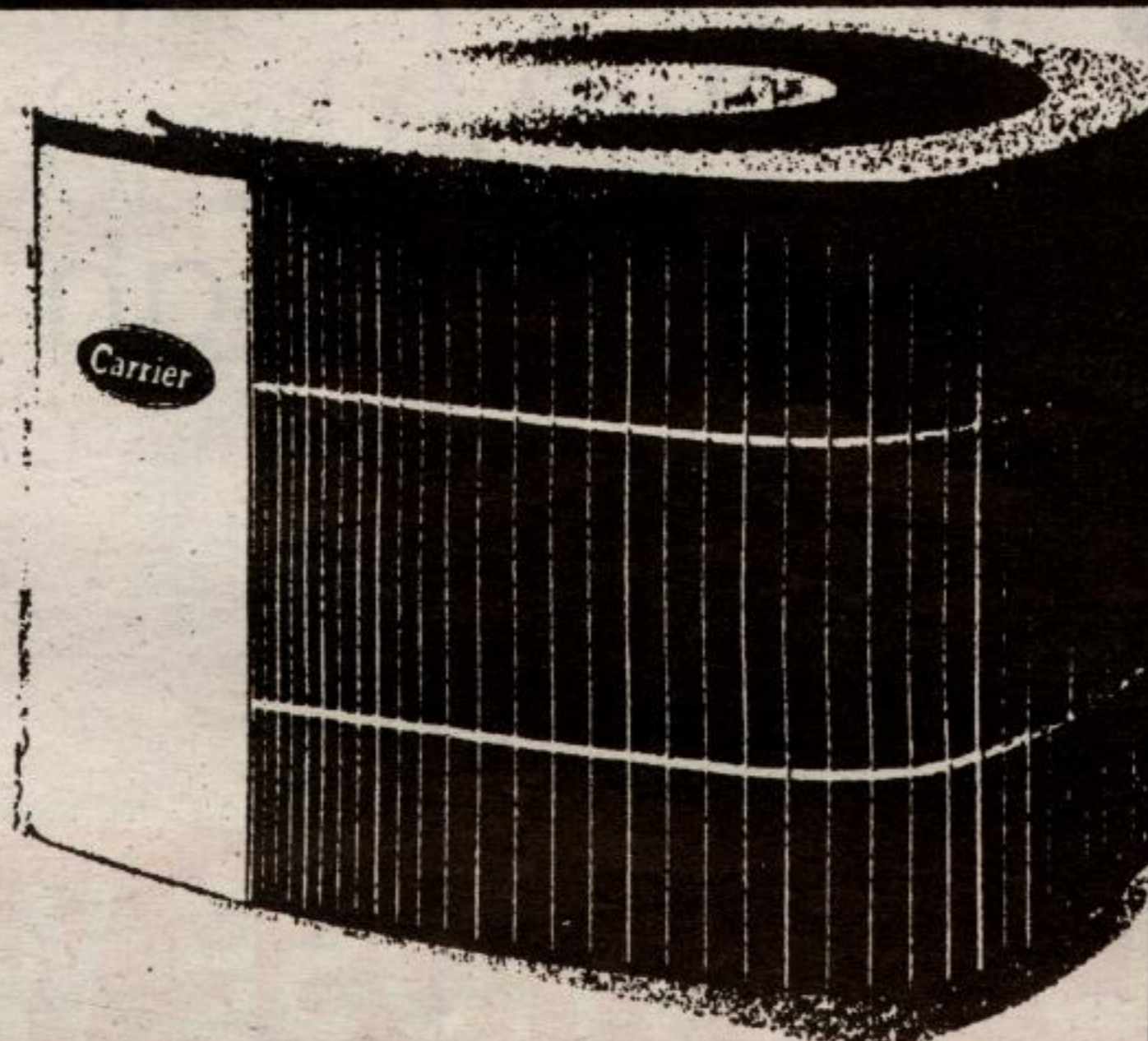
We do need volunteers to do the meat draw on Saturday afternoons, so don't be shy - come on by!

See you down at the Branch.

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