

LETTERS

Bill would punish Dads if Ontario passes it

Dear Editor

I have written letters on several occasions regarding the state of our families, the increase in the divorce rate, and the impact on children that are raised in fatherless homes.

Last May, the National Post ran several articles on divorced fathers alleging that the Divorce Act has resulted in "punishing dad." My experience and research leads me to believe that the act is set up to "kill" dad or someone else.

The act is now tipped in favour of the person who has custody of the children, mostly women, and the Federal Financial Guidelines are unfair to the person having access or visitation rights, mostly men. In the name of "what's best for the children," there are good fathers committing suicide as they have few means to support themselves after paying alimony and child support.

Now the Ontario government wants to make the situation worse for these men by passing Bill 117. It has already

gone through second reading and according to the group FACT (Fathers Are Capable Too), "The Bill will codify the current situation and perpetuate female victimization. It is in contravention of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and will create a huge potential liability costing the province and taxpayers potentially billions of dollars for every man falsely accused of abuse and without due process of law."

The bill allows for an "emergency intervention order," to strip an individual of all their possessions (houses, children, bank account, car, and properties) as soon as a suspicion is uttered that the person has been abusive. It is intended to be gender neutral, but past divorce situations reveal that most men are "less equal." The legislation may be used against anyone who is, or was in a relationship of any kind, from a spouse to a former spouse to even a person who had a former dating relationship. Once the process is started, it cannot be stopped, not even

by the original complainant.

The bill is known as, The Domestic Violence Protection Act. It is being considered by the Standing Committee on Justice and Social Policy. The bill is structured to insure that the party accused, usually men, will not get any possessions back even if they are acquitted. The bill overrides any family law act. According to FACT, even yelling may result in the seizure of children, property, etc. from the accused. How many times in the past have false allegations been used in civil proceedings to prevent and often times eliminate a father from the child's life? According to a spokesman from the group, Equal Parents of Canada, the Ottawa Carleton Children's Aid Society found that 600 allegations of child abuse in 1998 were false.

Anyone wishing to oppose or comment on this bill should do so before the House reconvenes in March. Contact your provincial member of parliament for details.

P. Wood,
Rockwood.

Foot clinic costs doubled since VON took it over

To the editor,

I am writing in regard to the Foot Clinic held in Acton.

I've been using the service for nearly ten years. At that time, two nice ladies would come every six weeks and hold the clinics. They were very efficient, likable and considerate of our needs. The price then was ten dollars, which slowly rose to thirteen dollars a time. If needed, we were picked up at our home and returned at no cost.

For some reason unknown to me, about six months ago, these two ladies were replaced by two Victorian Order of Nurses. The prices immediately rose to twenty dollars. They decided to come every month, so there would be less confusion, I never thought we were confused before!

The first visit with the VON, I was asked a brief history of my illnesses. That was OK, but I objected to being asked questions about my age, health condition, etc. within sight and hearing of half a dozen other people who were waiting their turn. I also objected to having misshapen feet bared in front of them while the VON filed and cut my nails.

The first two ladies had portable screens that gave at least some privacy, and only

two people would be in the room at a time.

Since the VON took over, I have seen at least five people get up and leave because although they had a definite time of appointment, the wait was so long that they could not stay and wait their turn.

Now I understand, free rides are no longer available. Rides are booked through the Red Cross at a cost of five dollars.

So, to get your feet taken care of, it now costs twenty-

five dollars. That's more than twice as much as it was four years ago.

All I know is, my income certainly hasn't doubled in that length of time. It doesn't seem fair to people on a pension, that we are paying twice as much for poor service. It sure is not "worth the drive to Acton."

Please don't sign my name. Miserable as the service is, I have no alternative but to use it.

Just sign me,
TICKED OFF.

Paltry homeless handouts

To the editor,

So, Mr. Harris was so kind as to offer the homeless a paltry handout (\$23 million). Big Deal! This will not accomplish much, if anything. Think of it Mr. Harris! \$23 million is what some athletes (overpaid to be sure - absurd!) receive as a yearly salary.

Get with it, Mr. Harris. If you truly want to aid the poor, then you should simply resign. You have already kicked the poor, the disabled, the marginally poor, etc., so many times that they are quite likely losing hope. This announcement of help for the poor is simply to draw attention away from your pro-employer legislation that will set us back by 100 years or so!

Have you never been to Europe, Mr. Harris? Check out what some of their most progressive countries have been doing. This legislation is anti-union and anti-employee. It is no secret that you hate unions, as they represent everything that big business is not. Why not get your new-found business buddies to actually do something good for Ontario, like putting some low-cost housing units together?

By the way, Mr. Harris, more people than you think have not forgotten Walkerton or Dudley George and the list goes on. We'll see you and your bodyguards, at the polls.

John Hansen

ASBUILT CLIMATECARE

- Heating
- Air Conditioning
- Fire Places
- In Floor Heating
- Sheet Metal
- Design/Permit Packages

877-8023

APL ACTON PRECAST CONCRETE LTD.
Quality Concrete Products since 1963

- SEPTIC TANKS & WATER CISTERNS
- PVC SEWER PIPE
- WELL TILES & CULVERTS
- TRANSFORMER BASES
- STEPS & PORCHES
- YARD & PATIO PRODUCTS

519 853-1529

BEATON ROOFING

FREE ESTIMATES with Written Guarantee

- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial • AGR
- Air Conditioner
- Curb Installations
- Tar & Gravel
- Shingles
- Steel Roofing

serving: Wellington County & Halton Hills
(519) 856-9784

SUNLIFEVILLAGE.COM
Your Home Improvement Specialists

Renovations
Doors • Windows
Bathrooms • Sunrooms
See our showroom
Design/Build Service
Lore & Beth Colbourne

Terra Cotta
1-800-394-8019

G & S EXCAVATING LTD.

Snow Plowing & Removal
Licensed Septic Systems
Sand & Gravel
Topsoil
Ponds
Basements/Foundations
FREE ESTIMATES
R.R.#2 Acton **853-2515**

SCOTT'S OAK & PINE FURNITURE

- ◆ Oak & Pine Tables & Chairs
- ◆ Bedroom Suites
- ◆ Entertainment Centres
- ◆ Bookcases and Desks
- ◆ Quality Coil & Foam Mattresses
- ◆ Gifts & Accessories

Specializing in Solid Wood
- Locally Hand Crafted Furniture

197 Main St. S, Rockwood
856-2537

"Home of the Week"

Basement entry plan



A door next to the bathroom opens to the unfinished part of the basement, with roughed in plumbing for a wet bar and bathroom. A rear door opens to a covered patio. Stairs from the foyer lead to the main floor upstairs. The living room, with gas fireplace and sloping ceiling, is open to the dining room. A sliding pocket door opens into the family area, which includes breakfast room with door to large sundeck, and kitchen separated by a half-wall.

The master suite at the rear of the house comes with a walk-in closet and full en suite. Two secondary bedrooms share the main bathroom. A linen cupboard and laundry room complete the main floor.

The double garage has a side door and access to the house through a hallway on the basement level.

Plans for design H 2-3-686 are available for \$404 (set of 5), \$475 (set of 8), and \$524 for a super set of 10. Please add \$25.00 for Priority courier charge. Also add 7% GST to both the plan price and postage charges.

Our NEW 32nd Edition of the Home Plan Catalogue containing over 300 plans is available for \$11.50 (including taxes, postage and handling). Make all cheques and money orders payable to "Home Plan of the Week" and mail to: HOME PLAN OF THE WEEK, c/o The New Tanner, 336 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 1A6. or see our web page order form on: <http://www.jenish.com> and e-mail your order to: homeplans@jenish.com

Multiple roof lines, feature windows and stone accents enhance the design of this three-bedroom basement-entry plan.

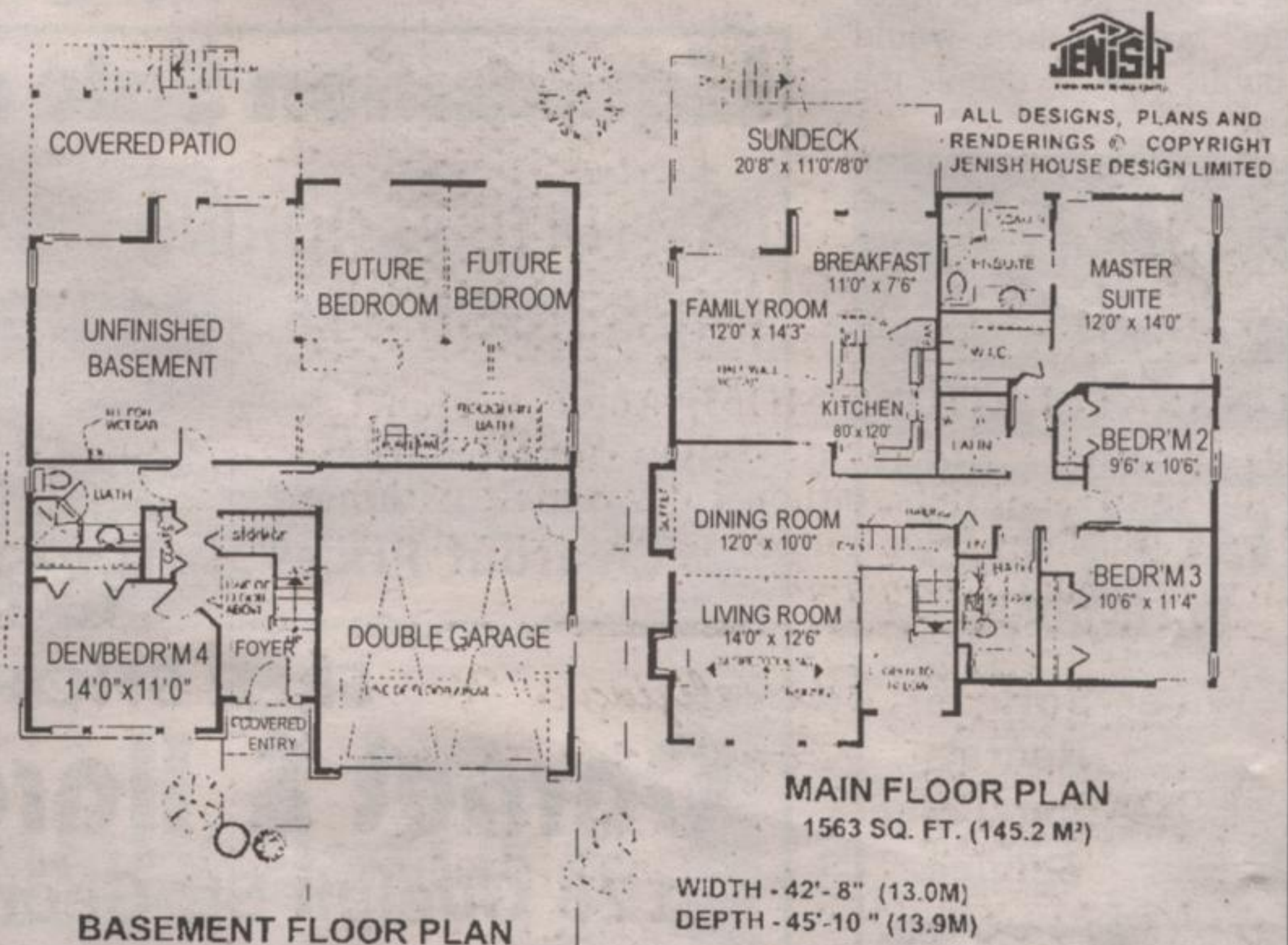
Inside the covered entry, space is used judiciously to provide the optimum room where most needed. Just off the compact foyer is a generous-sized den with cupboard, ideal for office or guest bedroom. A three-piece bathroom with standing shower is placed immediately behind the den/bedroom and a coat cupboard completes the finished area on this level.

Plans for design H 2-3-686 are available for \$404 (set of 5), \$475 (set of 8), and \$524 for a super set of 10. Please add \$25.00 for Priority courier charge. Also add 7% GST to both the plan price and postage charges.

Our NEW 32nd Edition of the Home Plan Catalogue containing over 300 plans is available for \$11.50 (including taxes, postage and handling). Make all cheques and money orders payable to "Home Plan of the Week" and mail to: HOME PLAN OF THE WEEK, c/o The New Tanner, 336 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 1A6. or see our web page order form on: <http://www.jenish.com> and e-mail your order to: homeplans@jenish.com

Our NEW 32nd Edition of the Home Plan Catalogue containing over 300 plans is available for \$11.50 (including taxes, postage and handling). Make all cheques and money orders payable to "Home Plan of the Week" and mail to: HOME PLAN OF THE WEEK, c/o The New Tanner, 336 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 1A6. or see our web page order form on: <http://www.jenish.com> and e-mail your order to: homeplans@jenish.com

YOUR BUILDING EXPERTS



Lakeview FLOORING & KITCHENS
Home Design Centre

Paints • Wallpaper
Carpet • Vinyl • Ceramic Tile
• Hardwood Flooring
• Windows Blinds

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

130 Mill St. E., Acton
853-4577
853-1190
Financing available O.A.C.

Leathertown LUMBER

264 Main St. N., Acton
"We have everything you need to do the job right."

- Treated Lumber
- Plywood
- Trim
- Mill Work
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Hardware
- Windows
- Doors
- Drywall, etc.

HOURS: Mon-Fri 7-6 Sat 8-4
853-1970

G. W. WOODWORKING

20 years of experience
Commercial • Residential

- Design & Manufacture
- Installation
- Kitchens, Vanities, Bars, Wall Units
- Specializing in Custom Kitchens
- 3D Computer Design Layout

Free Estimate
Come visit our showroom
348 Guelph St. Unit 15
Georgetown
877-9796

PETER ZIONS CONSTRUCTION LTD.
"Complete Home Packages Available"
A Family Building Tradition Since 1964

519-853-2464

R & R Company

Garage Doors
Electric Openers
Windows, Entrance Doors,
Storm Doors, Patio Doors

SALES, SERVICE & INSTALLATION

519-853-2114

Concept Cabinets

Custom Kitchens & Vanity Cabinets
Architectural Cabinets
Store Fixtures
Custom Millwork

JASON BREAU & GLENN PROCTOR

Tel: (905) 878-9177
Mobile: (416) 930-5128
Toll Free: 1-877-774-7757
Fax: (905) 878-7756
785 Main St. E., Unit #3
Milton