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Responsibilities

All too soon the year 2001 is coming to a close. This is a time of year when many people are out visiting, with relatives and friends. Everyone wants to enjoy a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I therefore ask that: **If you choose to drink alcohol... act responsibly.**

DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE

To avoid temptation, leave your car at home.

Take a taxi, use a designated driver or make arrangements to stay over night.

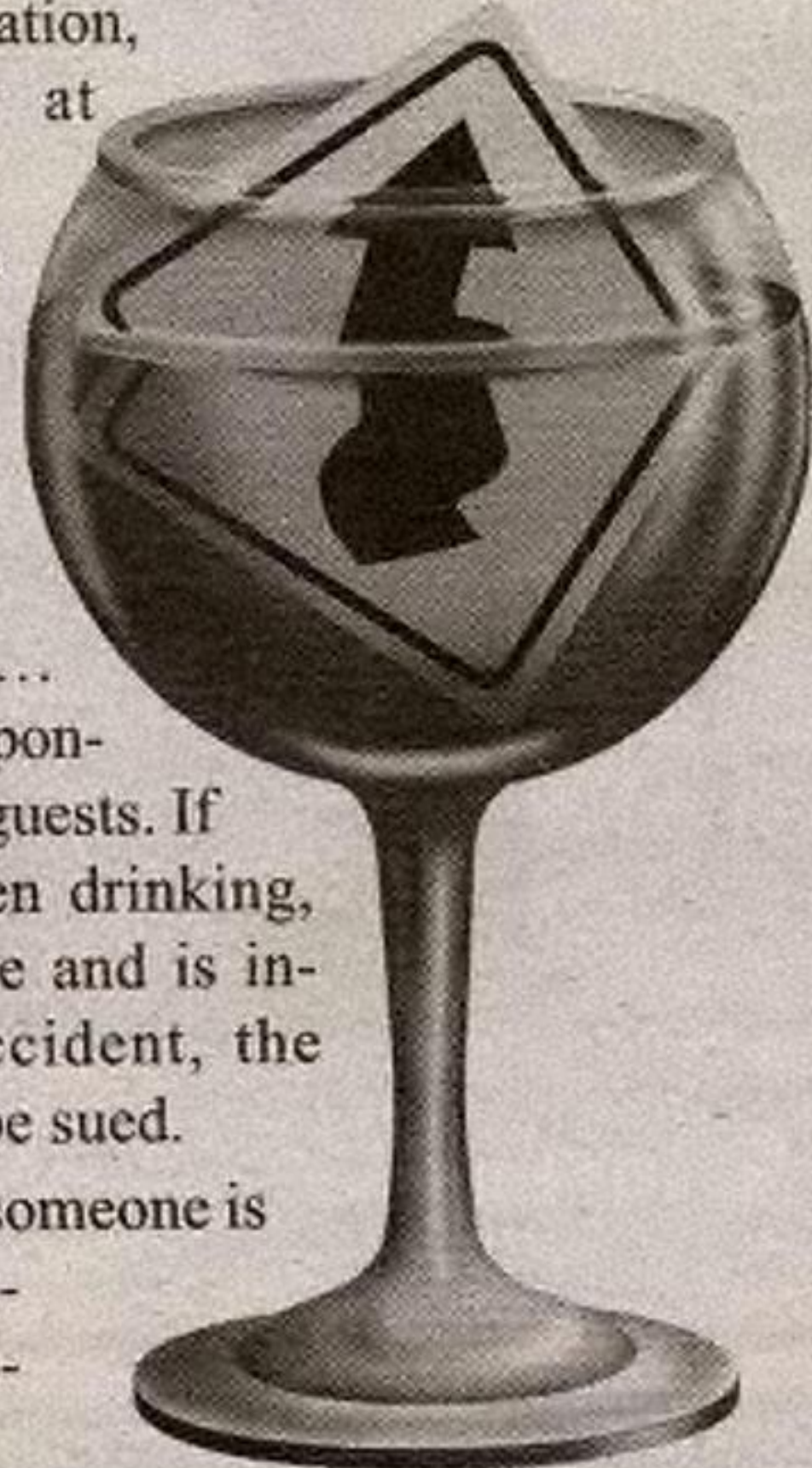
Homeowners... You are civilly responsible for all your guests. If someone has been drinking, leaves your home and is involved in an accident, the homeowner can be sued.

If you believe someone is driving while impaired, call the police.

DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE

Act responsibly in everything you do, especially where alcohol is involved. Let's make it a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for all to enjoy.

**DRINKING AND DRIVING ~ YOU
CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS**



Good fences, good neighbours...

Continued from Page 1.

Acton Councillor Clark Somerville suggested the four-year compliance target date.

"The main reason being, if anyone has ever been up in Acton, if they want to see what a front yard fence at six-foot-tall (looks like), just go up to Storey Drive..." Somerville said. The offending fence on Storey Drive is over six feet high and completely encloses a front yard of a house that was gutted by fire almost two years ago.

In an overview to Council last week, Town clerk Karen Landry outlined the main requirements in the new bylaw, including first-ever height restriction which limit fence heights in non-residential areas to 2.7-metres (nine feet), and 2.1-metres (seven feet) in residential areas with 1.2-metre (four feet) restrictions for front yard fences and side yards on corner lots.

The new bylaw bans fences made of sheets of plywood, scrap metal and barbed wire, except in agricultural, commercial or industrial areas, for fencing and permits the use of electrical fences in agricultural areas, if used

solely to contain animals. All fences in all areas must be maintained in a good state of repair and free from graffiti.

Georgetown Councillor Moya Johnson, who has an 80 to 90-year-old wire fence on her residential property, asked for clarification of the defini-

tion of wire in the bylaw to allow fences like hers. Staff said banning wire, in the bylaw, is intended for safety reasons and the issue can be dealt with in the final draft of the bylaw when it's brought back to council for debate and approval.

Apartment for Acton...

Continued from Page 1.

ing on," Urbanski said on Monday.

Asked for numbers of homeless people in Acton and Halton-wide, Urbanski said statistics are hard to come by, but data on who is being served and turned away shows there is a growing homeless problem.

"With Acton and Halton Hills, the dilemma for homelessness in general is that it's really difficult to get stats because stats are one of those things you use to try to determine need and with homelessness it's very difficult to get at that because people are

very transient," she said.

In 1997, Region-wide, Halton provided emergency housing to 85 people - 63 singles and 22 families - at a cost of \$13,000.

In 1998, 90 people and families received emergency housing at a cost of \$21,000. That rose to 190 people at a cost of \$88,000 in 1999 and last year 256 people received housing help at a cost of \$137,000. The numbers continued to increase so far this year.

Under the SCPI program, Halton will receive just under \$1-million dollars to deal with homelessness.

POLICE BEAT

Civic kicked

An unknown person vandalized a 1989 Honda Civic parked on Kingham Road between 6 and 8 p.m. last Thursday. The owner reported the driver's side front quarter-panel was dented, the antenna was ripped off and the rear door handles were broken. Damage is estimated between \$500 and \$600.

Barn saved

Quick thinking residents pulled a blazing tractor from an Erin Township barn just before 7:00am on Sunday morning, preventing any damage to the barn.

Acton firefighters extinguished the tractor fire on the Third Line farm, but not before it did \$5,000 damage to the engine and seating area.

Fire investigators believe a faulty extension cord con-

nection caused the fire.

Cord warning

Fire Safety Specialists urge everyone to carefully inspect extension cords before using them, especially at this time of year when people use temporary electrical hook-ups for festive lighting and their Christmas tree.

Don't use an extension cord or set of lights with worn or frayed wiring because it could cause a fire due to overheating or sparking.

Saturn smashed

The rear window of a 1997 Saturn parked at a Church Street East home was shattered between 6 and 8 p.m. last Thursday. Nothing was disturbed in the vehicle and no evidence was left at the scene. A canvass of the neighbourhood turned up negative. Damage is estimated at \$300.

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