

635 drivers in Halton Region use Road Watch

To the editor,
 In 2001, 635 drivers in Halton were reported by citizens using the Community Road Watch Program.
 The program co-

ordinators revised and standardized the report forms so that all municipalities within the region use the forms requesting the same information as well as the same for-

mat.
 Community Road Watch citizen report forms are available at all Police stations and town/city halls.

The offence reported most frequently was speeding followed closely by failure to stop at stop signs and lights then unsafe passing of other vehicles, tailgating, unsafe lane changes and turns.

Another road safety instrument that has been successfully implemented is the use of the Radar Message Board program. It is used to assess speeds in any specific area. Interested parties can contact the police station clerk in your area for additional information.

REMEMBER - road safety starts with you.

Halton Hills
 Volunteer Co-ordinator
 Jean Leonard

LETTERS

Reasonable use of force is in interests of child

Dear Editor,
 Marvin Bernstein, a Director with the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies, was reported saying that the sentences on the Randal Dooley case were too lenient. He also implied that section 43 of the Criminal code (which allows spanking) should be eliminated to prevent these types of deaths.

I tend to agree with his first comment. We already

know that both parents will be out of prison within 13 and 18 years. When people are sentenced to life in prison, early parole should be the exception, not the rule. Life should mean life for most detainees.

However, I disagree with his second statement. The ability of parents to use force within reasonable limits is ultimately in the interest of the child.

To say that the solution to child abuse is to eliminate spanking is like saying that we should eliminate all driving licences to prevent the tragic case of the man who ran over his estranged wife in Orangeville this week.

Most people can figure out the difference between normal and criminal behaviour.

Giuseppe Gori,
 Leader, Family Coalition Party,
 RR 4, Acton

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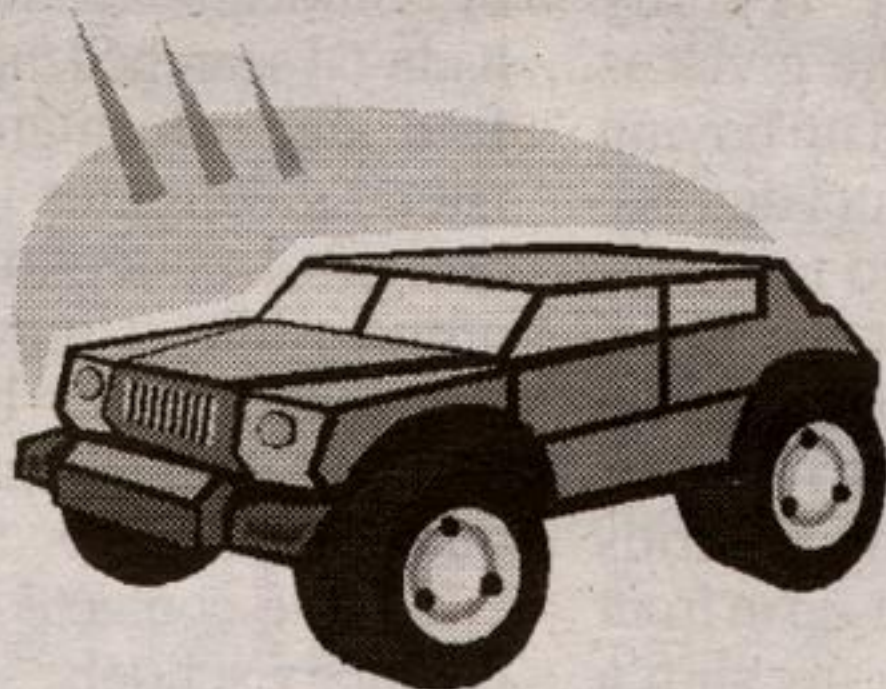
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CONSTABLE GEORGE'S CORNER

 With Village Constable Garry George
Off Road Vehicles

Spring has arrived, it's time to get outside and enjoy the great outdoors.

Ofentimes in the spring of the year, your Police Service receives complaints and inquiries about the operation of "Off Road Vehicles." Many times the calls are about younger people, operating dirt bikes and all-terrain vehicles, in neighbouring fields and parks.



If the rules are being followed and the vehicle is being driven properly, there shouldn't be a problem, unfortunately this isn't always the case.

Your Police Service will respond to calls from homeowners in regards to noisy motorcycles and ATVs, but please be aware that there are specific rules and regulations regarding the operation of dirt bikes and ATVs covered in the 'Off Roads Vehicle Act' of Ontario, as well as local bylaws dealing with specific Acton locations.

There is not enough room in my column to provide detailed information on the Act and Bylaws, so I would encourage interested persons to stop by the Acton Village Constable's office at 38 Mill Street East to pick up a copy of the most up-to-date information provided by the Ministry of Transportation. It highlights many important sections of the Act.

Please make informed decisions.

Think before you act!

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Flags honouring our soldiers are stolen

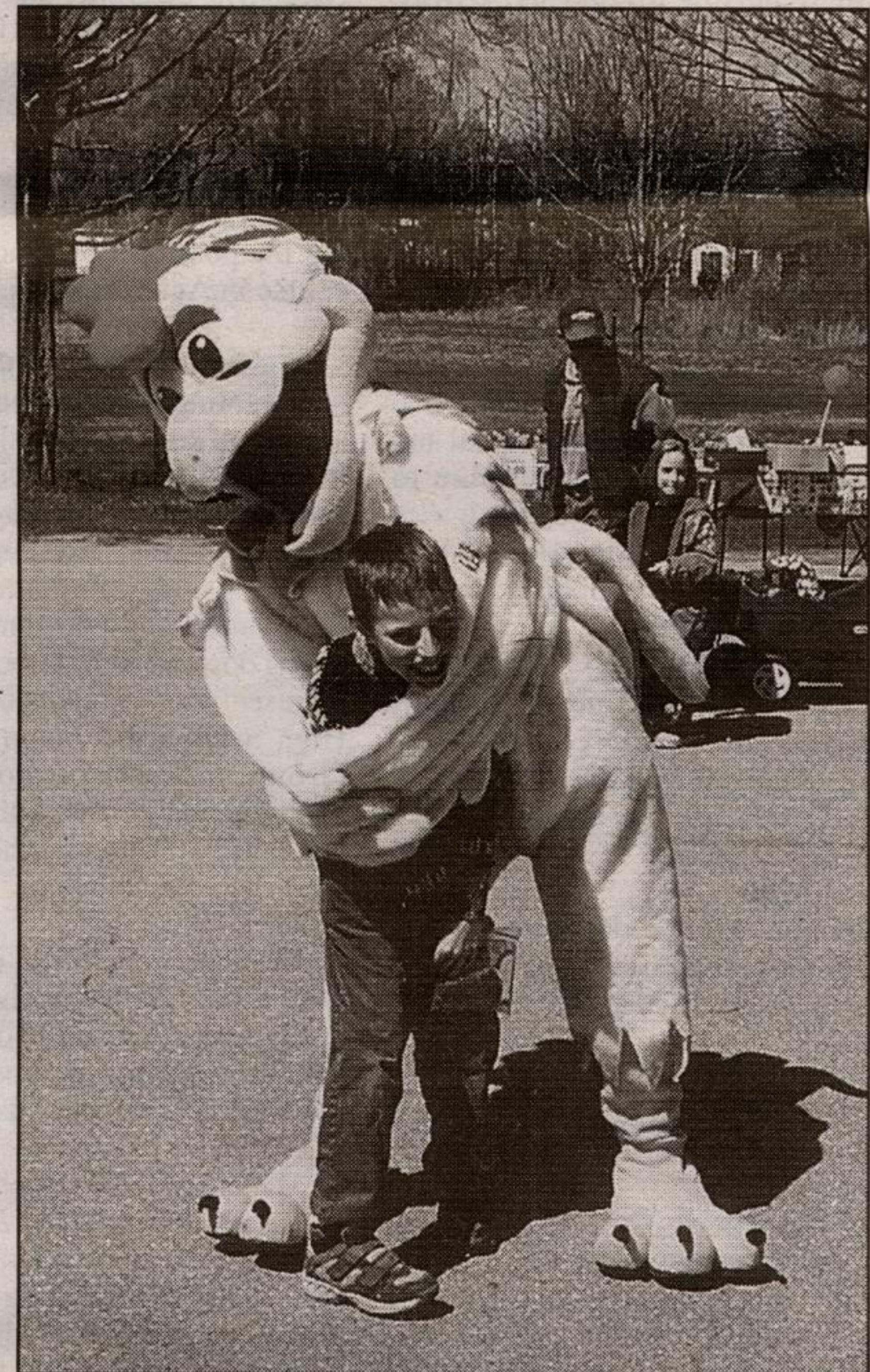
To the editor,
 My wife and I are long time residents of Acton. We are members of the Acton Legion and proud of what it represents. Both our fathers served in WWII.

We fly a Canadian flag for those who served and are serving their country now, and, also for the four soldiers killed in the line of duty on April 17 in Afghanistan.

So you can imagine how upset we were on Sunday when we got up to find our flagpole pulled over and our flag stolen. The flag across the road at the neighbours was also gone.

To those degenerate losers in life that took the flags: it's sad to think soldiers are fighting right now for the likes of you.

Steve and Jenny Trevail
 Acton.



FEATHERED FRIENDS: Grade 4 student Eric Niblock endured an exuberant hug from the Maple Lodge Farms chicken during a trunk sale/fun day at Robert Little School on Saturday. Maple Lodge fed the hungry crowds who shopped for garage sale treasures, books, plants and home baking while the kids played games. - Frances Niblock photo

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