

Art Ford...

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As a non-commissioned officer he got trouble from the soldiers under him as well as his superior officers. As a driver he only had to worry about himself and follow orders. Not that sleeping in the back of a truck on top of 300 rounds of ammunition wasn't without its tense moments. But he preferred it to being a bombardier.

Ford's closest brush with injury came in Europe when a provost stopped his truck at an intersection for some unimportant reason. While they were stationary a shell came through their windshield.

"Two pieces of shrapnel

just missed my ear," Ford says.

Ernie Gray, who was with Ford, got a couple of pieces of the shrapnel in his leg.

D-Day was scary, Ford says, at times. Other times they were too busy to be scared.

Ford returned to Britain in July 1945 and got home in September.

Art and Joan Ford always used to march in Acton's Remembrance Day Parade, then grab a couple of flags and join the services at Rockwood and Haltonville too. Now that his eyesight is failing, Ford only attends the Legion church parade.

Tour Bower homes

The June 9 meeting of the Esquesing Historical Society will include a walking tour of the first Heritage District in Halton Hills, the unique syndicate housing on Bower Ave in Acton.

The meeting begins with the annual pot luck dinner at the old Acton town hall, Willow St., Acton, at 6 p.m. Or if you prefer just taking the walk, it starts at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday, June 9. There is no charge.

Town can control but cannot ban adult entertainment parlours

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Concerns about increased crime, eroding community morals and marriage damaging pornography were raised by citizens at a public meeting to update the Town's adult entertainment study on Monday at the Civic Centre.

The Town can't ban adult entertainment and body rub parlours, but it can, and will, use its Official Plan, zoning and licensing bylaws to govern where businesses that offer goods or services designed to appeal to erotic or sexual inclinations, can locate and the rules they must follow.

Meridian Planning Consultants Inc. planner Nick McDonald detailed the preferred option that would allow adult entertainment parlours to locate only in the industrial areas of Acton and Georgetown, subject to zoning and licensing provisions.

If approved, the bylaw would allow body rub parlours to locate only in multi-use buildings in the two industrial areas. Adult video stores would be limited in Acton to properties that front or flank on Queen Street East, and adult specialty stores would be allowed in most commercial areas, but not neighbourhood

commercial areas.

Georgetown resident Laura Ellison asked if crime rates rise when adult entertainment establishments open and if they do, do we have enough police to handle it.

McDonald said Halton police always have concerns about the opening of new adult entertainment and body rub parlours because there may be additional policing costs.

Ellison also questioned why the adult entertainment and body rub parlours would be centralized in one area.

McDonald said the aim is to separate the adult uses so the combined impact on adjacent land is not so severe. He said the bylaw includes provisions for separating buffer zones between adult uses and adjacent land.

Ellison praised Council for taking a pro-active approach to the issue.

"I've lived in Georgetown for a long time and it's always been a very dear community to me, and I know that each of you reflect the morals and values of this community and will take them into consideration..." Ellison said.

Resident Gary Pare suggested the proposed 200-metre buffer between an adult entertainment establishment and housing or a school



is not large enough.

He's concerned about who will monitor adult entertainment businesses, and said fines can be a cheap way for a business to make a good profit.

"I've been in Georgetown for two years. I moved here because it is a very, very family-oriented community...and I would like to see that maintained," Pare said, asking council to make it tougher, not easier, for adult entertainment establishments to get necessary permits to operate.

Resident Evelyn Owen questioned whether the industrial area was the best place to locate adult entertainment and body rub parlours because there are

many activities that attract youth — dance studios, martial arts centres, Air Cadets — located in the Georgetown industrial area.

Youth Pastor Tim Brown of the Georgetown Alliance Church said there's been nothing more devastating to deal with than trying to fit families affected by pornography, back together.

"The more difficult you can make this the better," Pastor Brown said, adding his "hopes and my prayers" are that it would be so hard to get necessary permits that people won't come to Halton Hills to open adult entertainment establishments.

McDonald said public comments would be carefully considered as the consultant prepares a bylaw for Council debate.

"It is our intent, very clearly to make the rules as clear as they possibly can be, while at the same time, not outwardly encouraging them to locate within the municipality," McDonald said, adding the Town must be "practical and fair."

Council also approved a one-year extension of a ban on approval of any new adult entertainment establishments.

Honour Mark Rowe

Mark Rowe, a teacher at St. Brigid School, Georgetown, is among 19 staff members of the Halton Catholic District School Board, who will be honoured for 25 years of service at a staff recognition night in Oakville this Friday, June 4.

Also, to be recognized are 43 people who are retiring from the Catholic Board this year.

Mark Rowe, a Glen Williams resident, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rowe of Acton. He's the author of a book on Acton published in 2001 and formerly taught at St. Francis School in Georgetown.

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