

'Business decision' to sell property zoned for golf

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY
The New Tanner

Selling the 225-acre property on Highway 7 east of Acton which is zoned for a golf course is a "business decision," says Bob Monckton.

Speaking on behalf of his partners, Monckton said their numbered company

has owned the land between the Fourth and Fifth Lines north of Highway 7 since 1988. In that time, they severed eight building lots and did the preliminary work to get zoning approvals for a 27-hole golf course, referred to as Black Creek course, from the Town of Halton Hills. Now someone else can continue with that plan if they wish. Or a new buyer can seek resi-

dential zoning on the site and build houses there.

"I'd prefer to sell it," he said, refusing to be drawn as to any preferences about a buyer.

Monckton said the Credit Valley Conservation Authority has been "difficult to do business with". They required year-long testing of the creek which runs

through the property, which was done, but are still not satisfied. The testing resulted from neighbours' concerns about water levels in the creek and how the development might impact on their private wells.

While Monckton admitted keeping the land in agriculture might seem ideal, he questioned whether neighbours realize


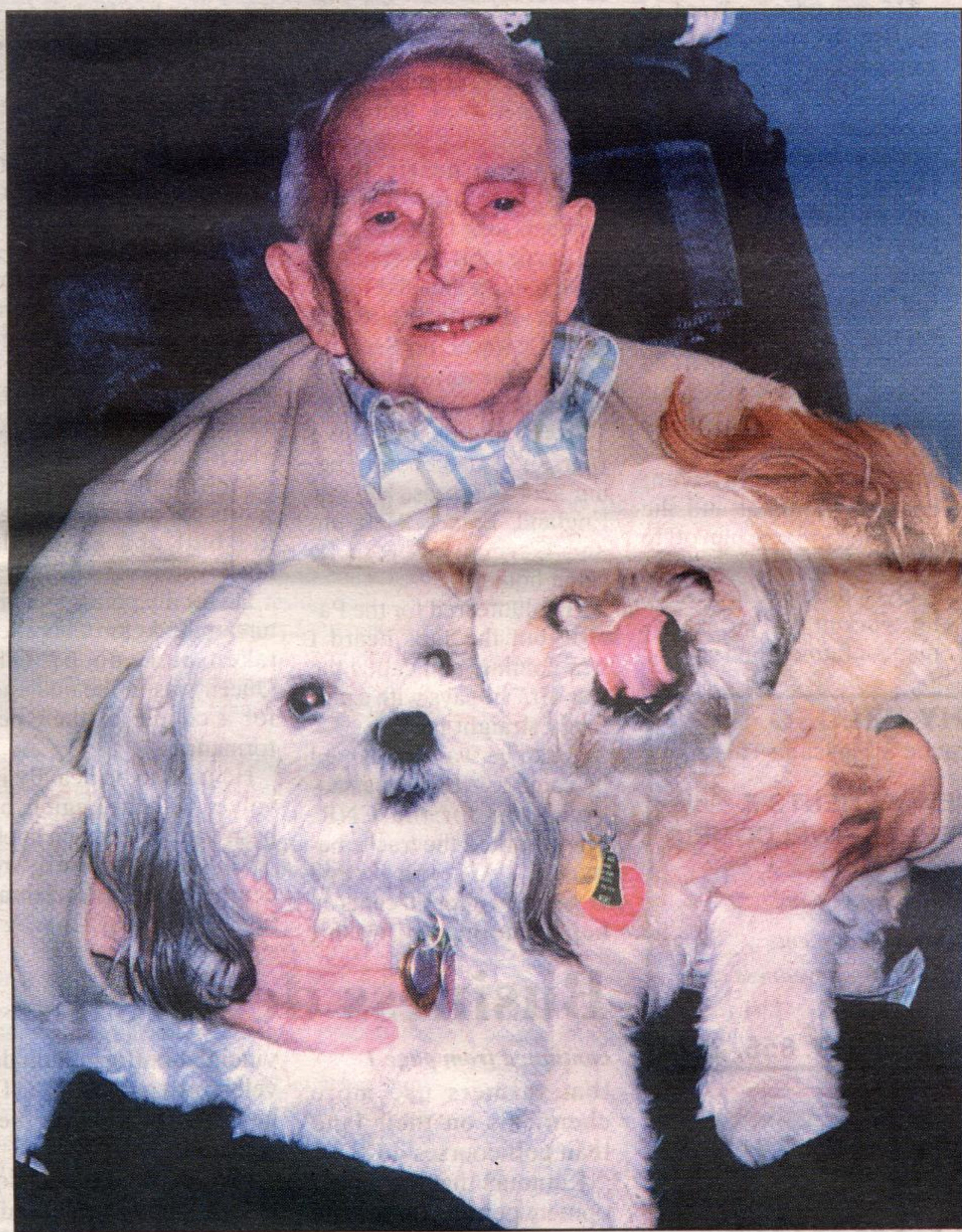
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BEST BUDS: Jim McKnight doesn't get far without his best friends these days. Whenever he sits down, Darby, a Shih Tzu and Fluke, a Lhasa Apsos, join him. See story on Page 2 - Maggie Petrushevsky photo.

The New Tanner office will be closed Monday, August 2 so staff can observe the Civic Holiday. Please have your ads and copy in as soon as possible.

Grow operation story fabricated, man charged

A rural Georgetown man has been charged with Public Mischief in connection with a police investigation of a marijuana grow operation.

Halton Regional Police Drug and Morality Bureau, with assistance from the Tactical and Rescue Unit, searched a rural residence in north Halton after receiving

information that there was a marijuana grow operation on the property. No such operation was found.

Police refuse to confirm that search was the reason Highway 7 was closed early Friday morning near the Dublin Line, west of Acton.

Upon further investigation, they found the witness

who had originally told them about the grow operation had fabricated the story.

Since causing police to enter a false investigation is a criminal offence, John Darren Foley, 32, of Highway 7, Georgetown has been charged and will appear in Burlington court on August 24.

Extra rain not villain in closing of old beach

Rainfall can indeed be linked to pollution of beaches, but there's no indication our wet summer is increasing the closure rate at Prospect Park's old beach this year.

Tony Amalfa, Environmental Health Manager with the Halton Region Health Department, said comparing the first 11 weeks of this swimming season with that of last year, the old beach at Fairy Lake has actually been open one extra week.

"It's been closed four weeks this year," he said. "At this time last year it was closed five times."

Amalfa said rain does affect the bacterial loading in a body of water because it washes in contaminants like waterfowl feces from

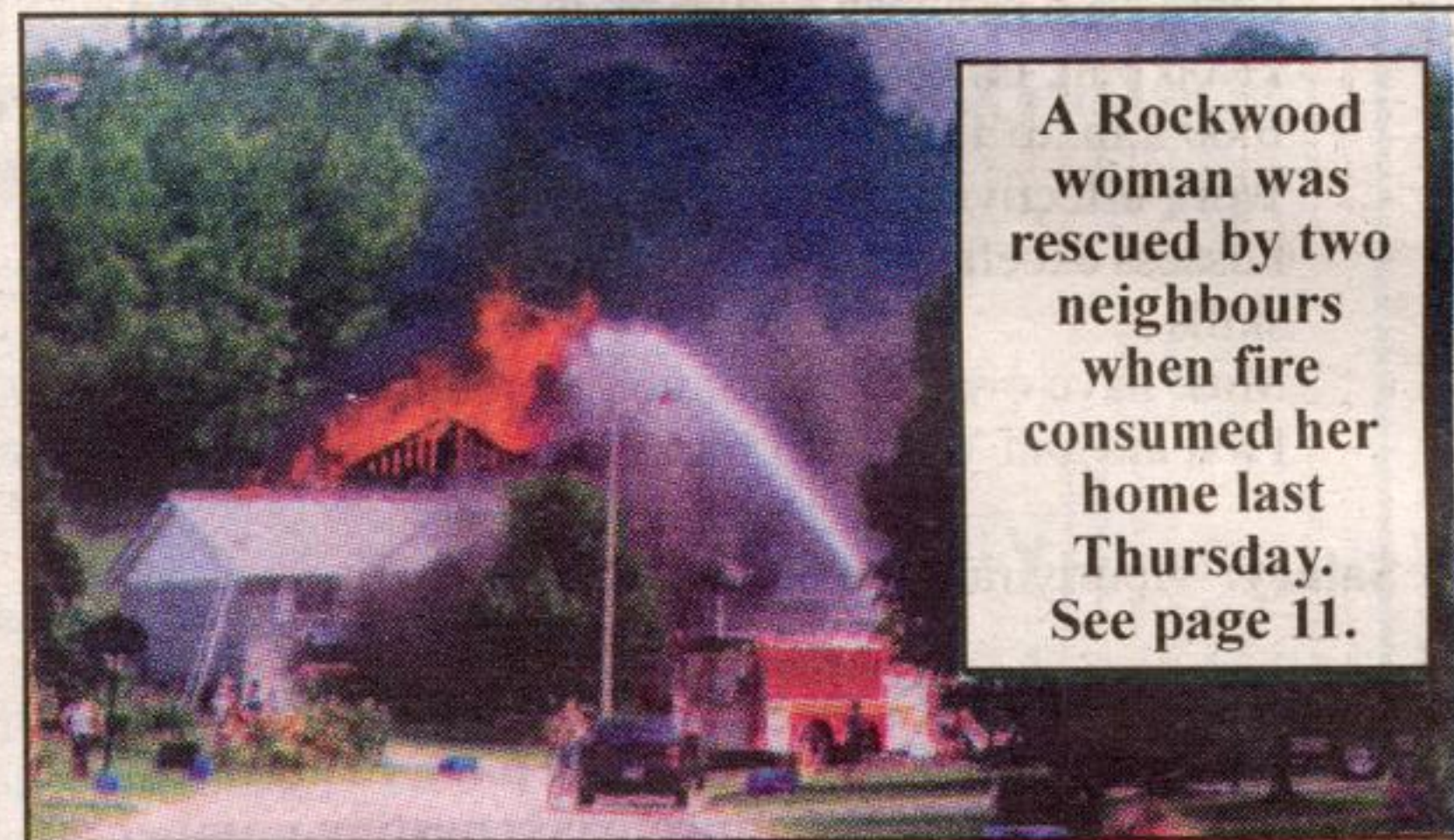
around the area. The more rain that falls, the higher the likelihood of e-coli contamination.

Amalfa said rainfall can also affect private wells depending on the type and construction. Dug well are more susceptible to contamination than drilled wells.

Amalfa said the department usually recommends

testing three times a year, especially after a heavy rainfall. If there is any problem with colour, taste or odour, have the water tested and get a well technician to check for cracks in the casing and lid.

Water tests are free and the sample bottles are available at the health department's office on Main Street in Georgetown.



A Rockwood woman was rescued by two neighbours when fire consumed her home last Thursday. See page 11.

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