

Local chess masters pitted their skills against each other as the annual North Halton Chess Tournament was held April 5 at Joseph Gibbons School. Stephen Kogon, 10, of George Kennedy (left) studied his moves against Brendan Dick, 9 of M.Z. Bennett while Sam MacLean of W. I. Dick School in Milton watched. The tournament featured 78 students from 13 schools from Georgetown, Acton, Milton, Oakville and Burlington.

TED BROWN Independent/Free Press

Faster deck permits

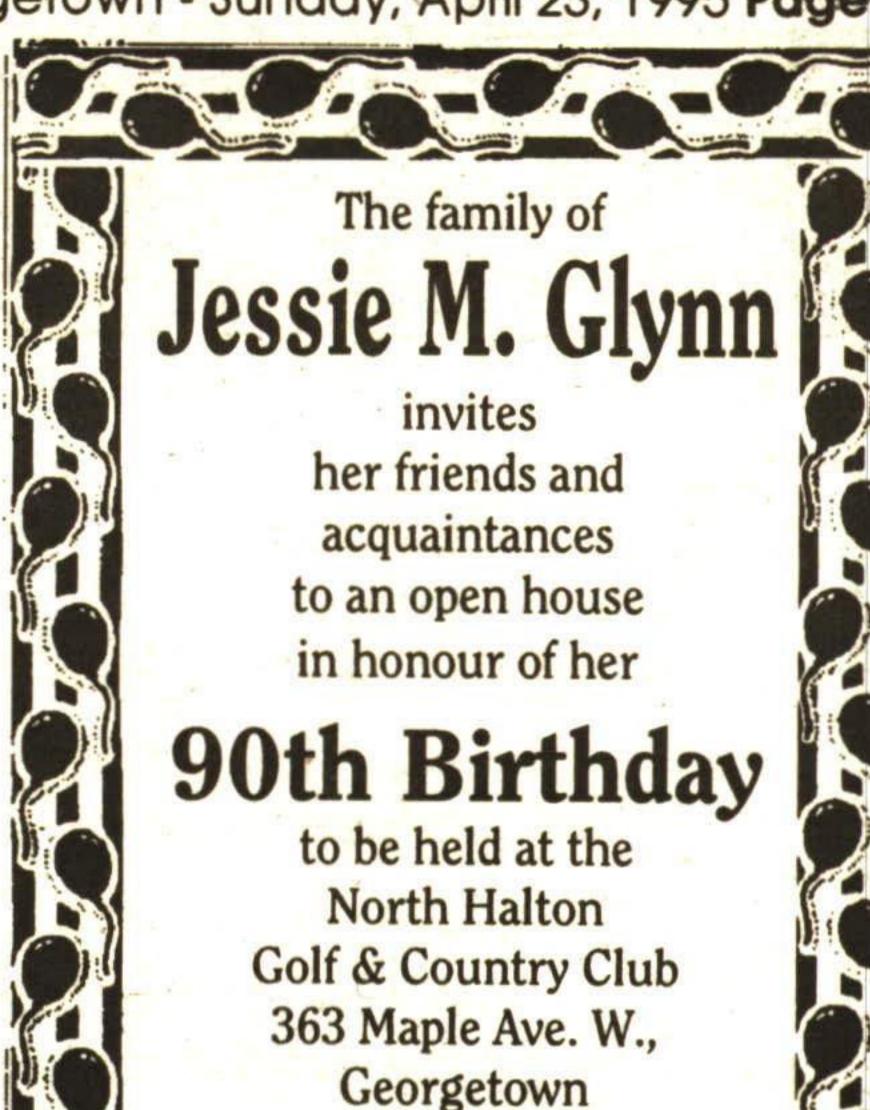
Beginning the first Tuesday in May it should be easier to get a building permit for a deck than it has been in the past.

Every Tuesday morning from 8:30 to noon anyone who wants to build a deck can go to the counter of the town's building department, first come first served, and as long as they have all the documentation required could leave that same morning with a permit in hand.

Henry Tse, director of building code and bylaw enforcement, said over the past couple of years as the department has caught up with the backlog of building permit requests, the length of time it has taken to receive a permit for a deck has dwindled from six weeks to about two.

The Tuesday morning service is being introduced as part of the town's quality customer service initiative. A how-to pamphlet on applying for a deck permit should be available through the department shortly.

Tse said they will try the project for about four months to measure its success. Anyone interested in more information on how to apply for a deck permit should call Jean Rudichuk at 873-2600.



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