

THE HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

KEN NUGENT
Publisher

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Give it some thought

We support the public school board's intent to ask the Halton Roman Catholic School Board to amalgamate resources.

It makes good economic sense. Even in North Halton we see evidence that some schools areas could benefit from a 'confederation.'

The public board's motion comes after the Catholic board rejected an Ontario School Board Reduction Task Force's recommendation that it merge with its Catholic counterpart in Hamilton/Wentworth. The Catholic board argued that this proposal would cost more than it saved.

However, an amalgamation of resources — not philosophies — of the two local Halton boards may produce a different result. Already a joint buying group and transportation program are working well between the two, and further exploration should not be out of the question.

Let's hope the Catholic board does not dismiss it out of hand — as seems to be the initial indications. The board chair, Alice Ann LeMay was reported as saying, "We would not entertain that, period," and its education director Fred Sweeney stated, "We will not voluntarily do that."

The Catholic board for the sake of their ratepayers should at least consider this option. Proposals could possibly be devised which would benefit both sides economically, and still preserve each system's philosophies.

At least give it some thought.

RR2



Funny how a flurry makes you decide to service the car in a hurry.

Did you know?

Sending Christmas cards is a tradition as time-honored as trimming the tree and singing carols. The custom stems from an old English tradition — the first card was made in 1843 by John Calcott Horsely. Louis Prang, a German who settled in Boston in 1850 established the Christmas card tradition in North America. By 1881 his company was printing five million cards a year. World War II cards were designed with patriotic themes, 1960s cards had neon colors and peace signs while 1980s cards saw a return to traditional holiday symbolism. 1990s cards are diverse — cards for pets, cards with large print, games or music.

CARLTON CARDS



QUEBEC

Nease '95

No more Alpha-Bits in the bedroom!

As most readers are aware, I've been doing a bit of renovating.

You know the kind of stuff; a closet here, a room change there. And some paint and paper to spruce things up. As a result, my wife and I have moved our bedroom downstairs.

Yup, we turned the whole upstairs over to the kids, giving them room to stretch and some privacy to boot.

While changing the layout of the house, Cathy and I decided to add a couple of amenities to our room.

Namely a television, and a bedside telephone.

The phone wasn't too difficult, since the jack was already in the room, but the TV took a bit of work, as I had to run an antenna lead in from the other side of the house. (The TV was in our upstairs bedroom, but wasn't used much, since the signal gathering capabilities of a pair of rabbit ears are limited to CBC and CFTO.)

So after the antenna was connected, the phone plugged in and the furniture arranged, we had the makings of a pretty nice bedroom.

To top it off, I even managed to get our second VCR up and running, after my youngest daughter and I spent a Friday night resurrecting the old antique by spreading it out in pieces on the kitchen table, while replacing a stretched-out-of-shape drive belt.

So, it would be fair to say the room was pretty well complete.

And quite cozy.

I have to admit — Cathy and I were fairly pleased with how everything worked out.

But one small problem has arisen.

Seems the bedroom is a little too comfy.

You see, it's suddenly become the focal point of our house.

Every night when I come home from work and want to get changed, I have to kick someone out of the room.

It's almost a given that one of my daughters will be sprawled across the bed with the telephone stuck in her ear taking advantage of the great

after walking through them with bare feet — but I feel I was justified for that one.)

So it's now a family ritual.

The kids come home from school, grab a bite to eat, and head for Mom and Dad's room, to talk to friends on the phone and bunch up the pillows while watching and discussing 90210 reruns.

This whole experience has made me rethink how I do things. (I've been holding off on the idea of setting up my old stereo system in the bedroom for the time being. I just don't think I'm ready to drift off to sleep with the calming sounds from a Nine Inch Nails or Stone Temple Pilots CD blaring from my speakers.)

But there is a good side to the story.

Suddenly the den is free.

Once again, I can sit down and watch a 26 inch TV rather than the 13 inch model in our bedroom.

The "big" stereo is generally free now, and I have the run of the adjoining office, as everyone is congregating in our bedroom.

And since my wife tends to retire before me most nights, (and always before the kids,) she doesn't mince words when it comes time to clear the bedroom of kids.

But I'm hoping this hanging out in our bedroom is simply a novelty, and look forward to the day the kids lose interest.

But until they do, I'm gonna have to take a hard line about one thing.

No more Alpha-Bits in the bedroom.

A TED BIT



By TED BROWN

privacy the room offers.

Or the television will be turned on with a couple of kids curled up on the bed with the quilt and pillows strewn all over.

Even the second VCR gets used now, as the kids can watch two different movies — simultaneously.

In retrospect, it seems all we accomplished by fixing up our bedroom to our personal liking, was to create a second family room in the house.

Now I've been patient. And I've never even lost my cool.

(Overlooking of course the time I had to sweep up Alpha-Bits off the bedroom floor,