

# New, stricter, fire regulations for house apartments in town

By JANET BAINE  
Staff writer

Anyone who owns a residential building with two units take heed: new, more stringent fire regulations must be met by July 14, 1996.

The regulation applies to detached and semi-detached houses, row houses which contain two apartments in one house, where each apartment has its own living and sleeping area, kitchen and bathroom. Basement apartments are also an example of the buildings covered.

Halton Hills Fire Prevention Officer Don Maveal guesstimates there are 1,000 to 1,500 of these buildings in Halton Hills and the fire department hasn't yet been asked to inspect the vast majority of them. The inspection is a necessary first step to learn what renovations are necessary to meet the regulations.

"Only three (building owners) have called and asked us for an inspection. The rest we've inspected have not been voluntary," Maveal said. Tenants or neighbors concerned about fire safety have asked for inspections in the rest.

"We want the public to be aware they have until July," he said. There is no way of contacting each building owner individually, since many of these apartments are not yet legal and no one knows who the owners are. Some owners may have purchased the buildings, thinking the second unit would help pay the mortgage, without realizing they may have to spend money to meet

the more stringent fire regulations. New standards affect the exits, fire separations and electrical safety. They were adopted under the Fire Code Retrofit provisions that came into effect July 14, 1994. Installation of working smoke alarms have been required in each apartment since August 13, 1994.

Owners who can't complete all of the required alterations by July 14, 1996 can ask for an extension of time to comply.

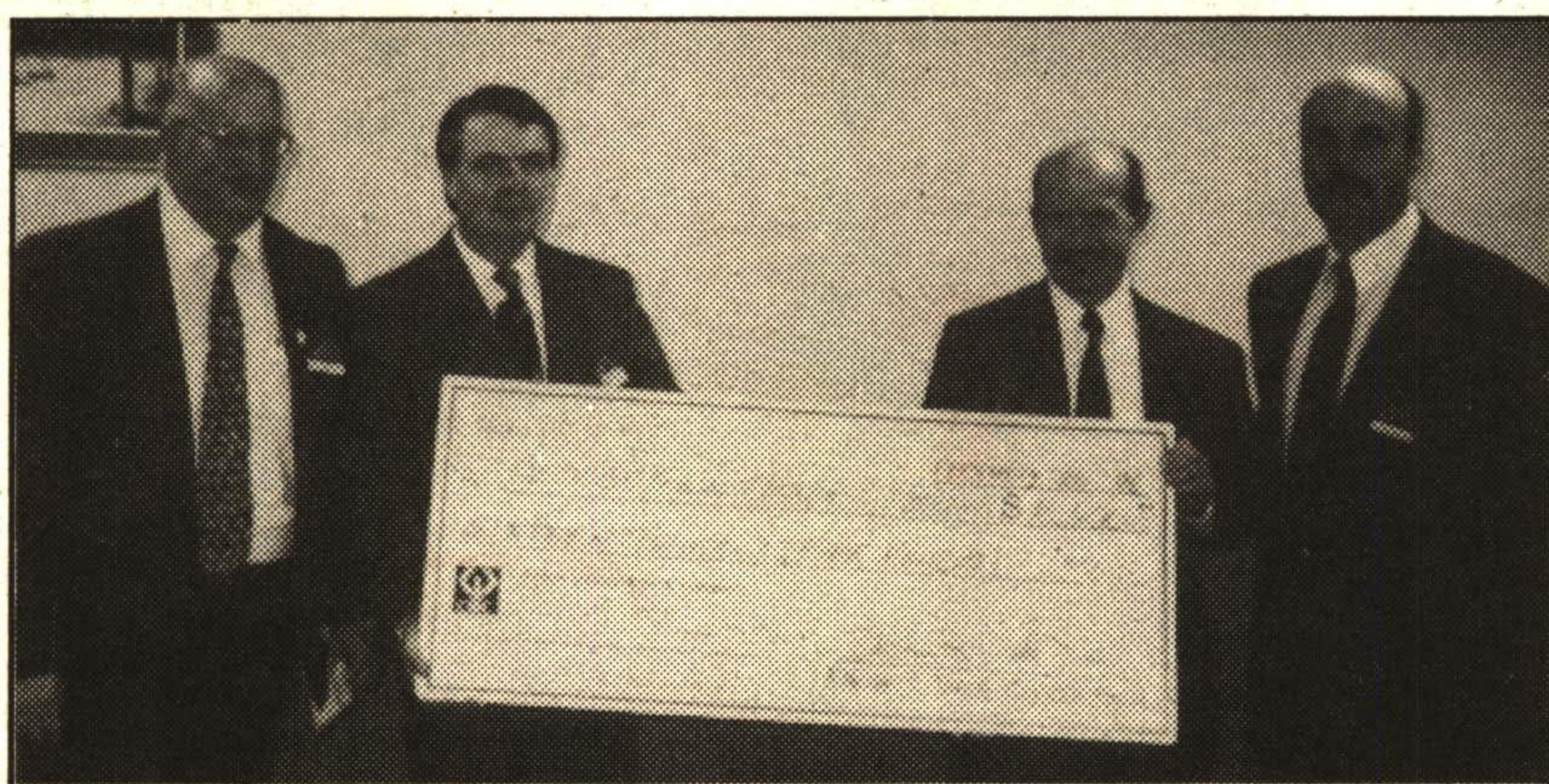
"Owners can request an

extension. We're open to that, I appreciate the hardships," Maveal said. One building owner learned he would have to totally rebuild his basement apartment and decided instead to turn the residence back into a single unit building, he said.

Fines of up to \$25,000 for each violation involving life safety can be imposed upon conviction.

For information, call the Fire Prevention Division of the Halton Hills Fire Department at 877-1133 or 873-2600, ext. 207.

## A big, big cheque



The Kiwanis Club of Georgetown presented a cheque for \$16,500 to the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital for a radiant warmer for the obstetrics department. This donation is part of an ongoing project to raise funds for equipment through the sale of Nevada tickets at Mac's Milk Store in Mountainview Plaza. From left, John Gibson (Kiwanis project coordinator), Bob Boughton (Kiwanis president), Ron Noble (hospital CEO) and Percy McDonald (Kiwanis treasurer). Photo submitted

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What A Birthday Surprise!  
Chris and Rosemary Muggridge are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter Angela to Justin McMurray, son of Bob McMurray and Lucille St Jacques. "Happy 21st Birthday Angie!"  
We wish you both all the happiness in the world.

Mr. & Mrs. J. Shamaoun are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter Angelina to John Buckle son of Mr. & Mrs. A Buckle  
Wedding to take place June 15, 1996 at 3:00 p.m. at the United Church in Guelph

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL **PAT HATCH (905) 873-8240**  
c/o 360 Guelph St., Unit 47, Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4B5  
By March 27th, 1996

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to PVT Jason A. Eggenberger who has graduated as a Chemical Operations Specialist from 82nd Chemical Battalion at Ft. McClellan, Alabama, U.S.A. He is now at Ft Bragg, North Carolina.  
*Love from Mom, Dad and Clint*

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