

*Editorial*

# Parental police

Chances are, inside your home, there is something that could put your children at great risk, yet this item has no locks and is likely easily accessed by them.

If you are the owner of a home computer with Internet access—and a parent—it is imperative that you know what your kids are viewing on the information highway.

This past weekend in Etobicoke an 11-year-old girl went missing for 16 hours after arranging to meet a man she “met” on the Internet.

Luckily the girl was found, and the man was charged with a variety of criminal offences.

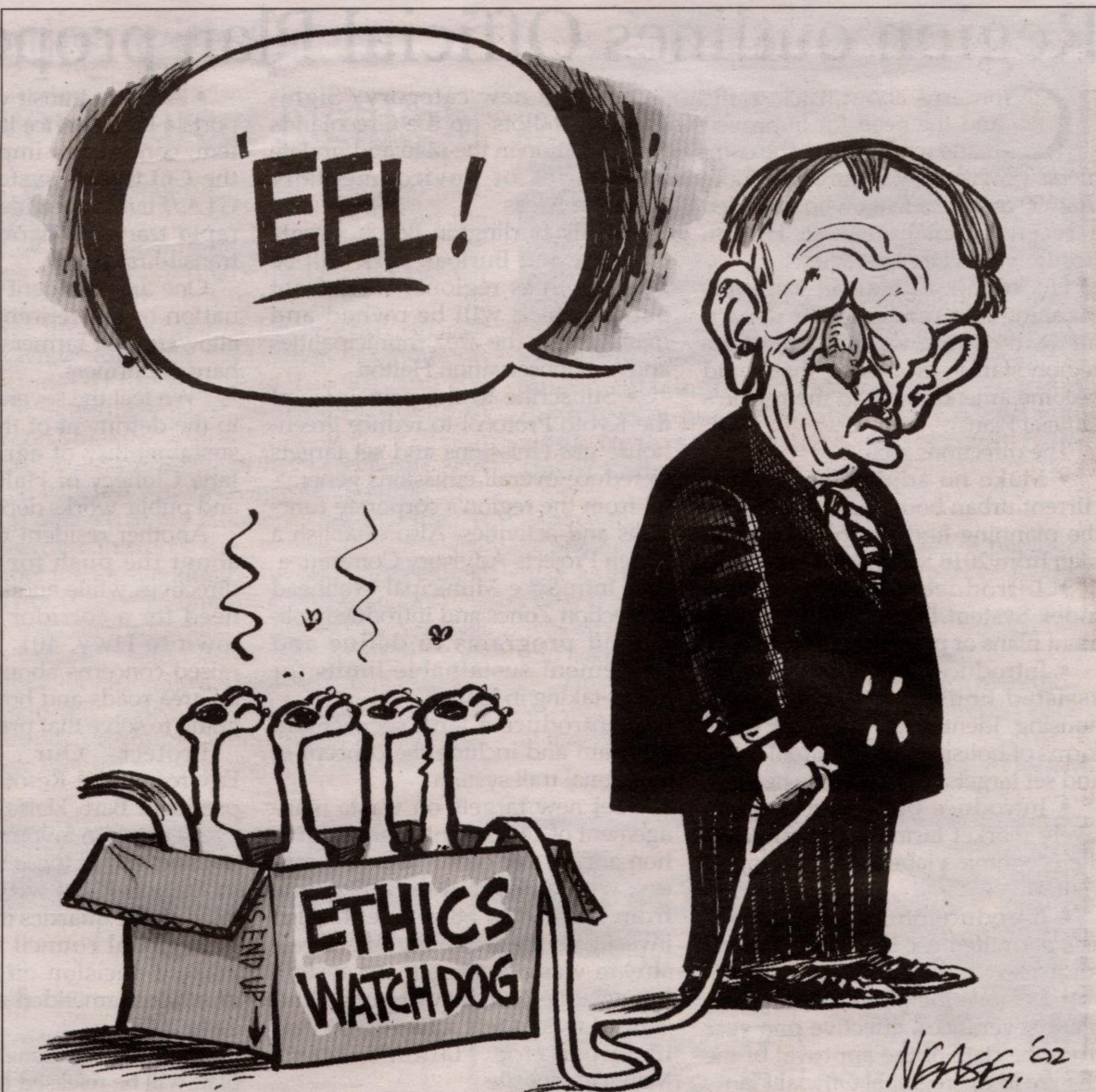
As home computer use becomes more commonplace, stories like these are also becoming less uncommon.

The Internet, when used properly, can be a wonderful tool, but there is an element of society that uses the information highway illegally.

Yesterday (Tuesday) the provincial government gave the Metro Toronto Police Service \$2 million to help officers fight child pornography on the Internet.

As Attorney General David Young said at the announcement, “Children become victims behind closed doors, their predators operate in dark and shadowy places. Today’s announcement will serve to shed some light on those dark and shadowy places.”

In the meantime it is the responsibility of parents to police their children and to ensure the home computer does not become “a shadowy place”.



## Letters to the editor....

### GLT show will benefit Old Seed Garden

Dear editor,

I noted with pleasure the summary of the drama offerings of the Georgetown Little Theatre for this

season, reported recently.

One of the greatest pleasures of our move to Halton Hills a decade ago has been the top-quality entertainment offered by the two amateur theatre groups here. My husband and I have been constantly surprised and delighted over the years by the level of talent and professionalism demonstrated by the Globe Musical Theatre and the Georgetown Little Theatre groups, and have proudly invited friends from other parts of Ontario as our guests on many occasions.

I would like to add an important piece of information to your article. The GLT’s exciting opening night November 7 will be a benefit performance in support of the Friends of the Old Seed House Garden. This will be a wonderful party, complete with wine and refreshments, at the modest cost of \$20 per ticket. The occasion will not only help to raise funds for the beautiful garden, but will also recognize and honour the many gen-

erous donors who have contributed to the dream, making this ambitious project possible.

Although it has been six years in the design, planning and implementation, a beautiful new public garden on Maple Ave. at Guelph St. is now visibly showing the results of the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers and donors. It is our hope the planting of trees and shrubs will take place before the end of October. If all goes well, watch for a grand opening of Phase One, close to the date of the Nov. 7 benefit performance.

In closing, I would like to invite all your readers to join in celebrating the dream of this lovely Old Seed House Garden at the opening performance of the GLT’s *Don’t Dress For Dinner* Nov. 7. Tickets are available from the usual sources, from Friends of the Old Seed House Garden, or by calling me at 905-877-3455.

**Barb Baron,  
Fundraising Chair**

### Dog breeders need controls

Dear editor,

I read a recent letter from Mr. Scallen regarding banning dog breeds. Unfortunately this will not solve the problem.

I have been training dogs for 22 years for the general public in all areas including solving aggression problems as well as selecting and training dogs for police, security, drug dogs, schutzhund and French ring sport. I feel the best way to resolve the problem is to shut down 95 per cent of all breeders, including the so-called show breeders. These show dogs have very poor temperaments to begin with because the breeders have no regard for the dogs, just the money they can make from them. If we make the breeds not available then the irresponsible owners won’t get them.

Also anyone who wants to breed dogs should have to complete a government-sponsored course and be held responsible for any harm the dogs they produce may cause the public. Making mandatory obedience training and prohibiting protection training from the offending breeds would help a great deal.

The Canadian Kennel Club should also be using their funds to control the breeders better. Each breeder should only be allowed to produce 1-2 litters per year and not from the same female. Breeders are flooding the market with dogs and they don’t care what happens to the dogs or people who buy them as long as they get their money.

**Harold Colpitts, Georgetown**

### Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited.

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