

# Growth bringing more flight noise over Milton

By IRENE GENTLE  
The Champion

Airplane noise may be a fact of life in Milton and Halton Hills, at least for the foreseeable future, Halton regional council heard recently.

The reason is that flight patterns have changed as a result of an immense growth project at Mississauga's Lester B. Pearson Airport.

The changes began after operation of the airport was taken over by the Greater Toronto Airport Association (GTAA) two years ago.

The GTAA has taken on a massive restructuring project that will eliminate Terminal One and the western portion of Terminal Two.

An international terminal will be constructed instead.

The work is not expected to be completed until somewhere between 2005-2008.

"Essentially what we're trying to do is build a new airport without affecting the operation of the existing airport," said John Walker, a director on the GTAA board.

## Planes less noisy

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz wondered if noise problems caused by the new flight patterns have come in for a permanent landing.

"In 1917, when they created income taxes they said it was temporary. It's still with us," he said. "There have been several complaints from Milton and Halton Hills. How can we assure the residents of Halton that it is temporary?"

Even if flight patterns don't change, airplanes themselves are getting quieter, responded Mr. Walker.

"We're trying to eliminate the noisy planes from the airport," he said. "But while we're adjusting the airport you might see more traffic in one area than another."

Mr. Krantz wondered if north Halton would remain a heavy traffic area for the duration of airport renovations.

"Could there be a question of people having to con-



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— GORD KRANTZ

tend with it until 2005?" he asked.

There is no way to say for certain, said Mr. Walker. "I don't think it is forever," he said. "That's all I can say."

Halton Hills Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson wondered if there was a way for airport officials to measure the amount of noise rained down on communities by airplanes.

"Noise is an issue," she said. "Do you have a way to actually go out into the community and measure noise?"

GTAA board director Ivor Barlow said those measurements can be done.

## Access to be easier

"Every effort is made to mitigate noise," he added.

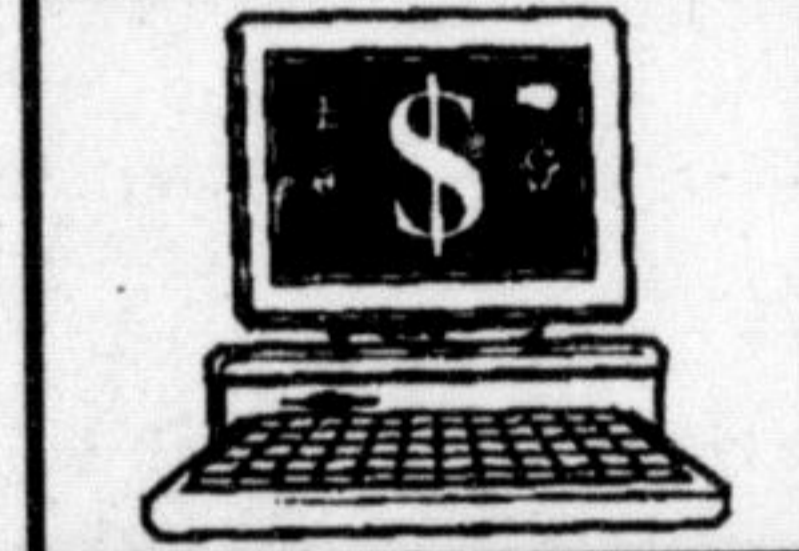
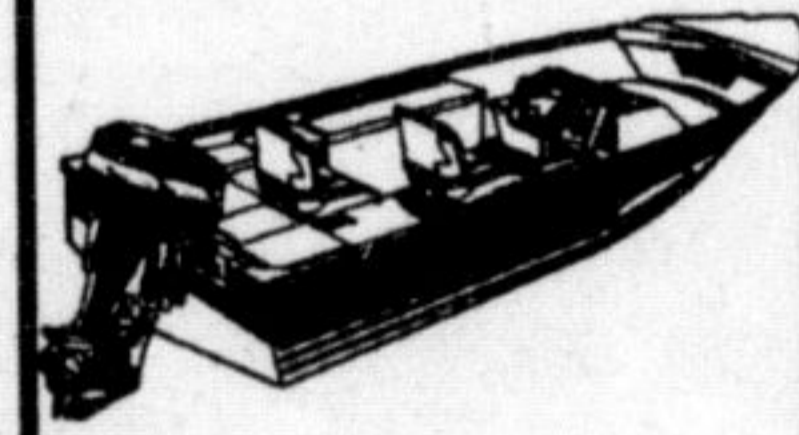
The two directors also used their time before council to assure Halton residents that the airport's de-icing mechanisms are working just fine.

"In spite of the bad publicity in the height of the January storms, our de-icing facility is working well," said Mr. Barlow.

He added that Transport Canada has found no safety threat in the airport's facility.

The new construction will make getting in and out of the airport easier, said Mr. Walker.

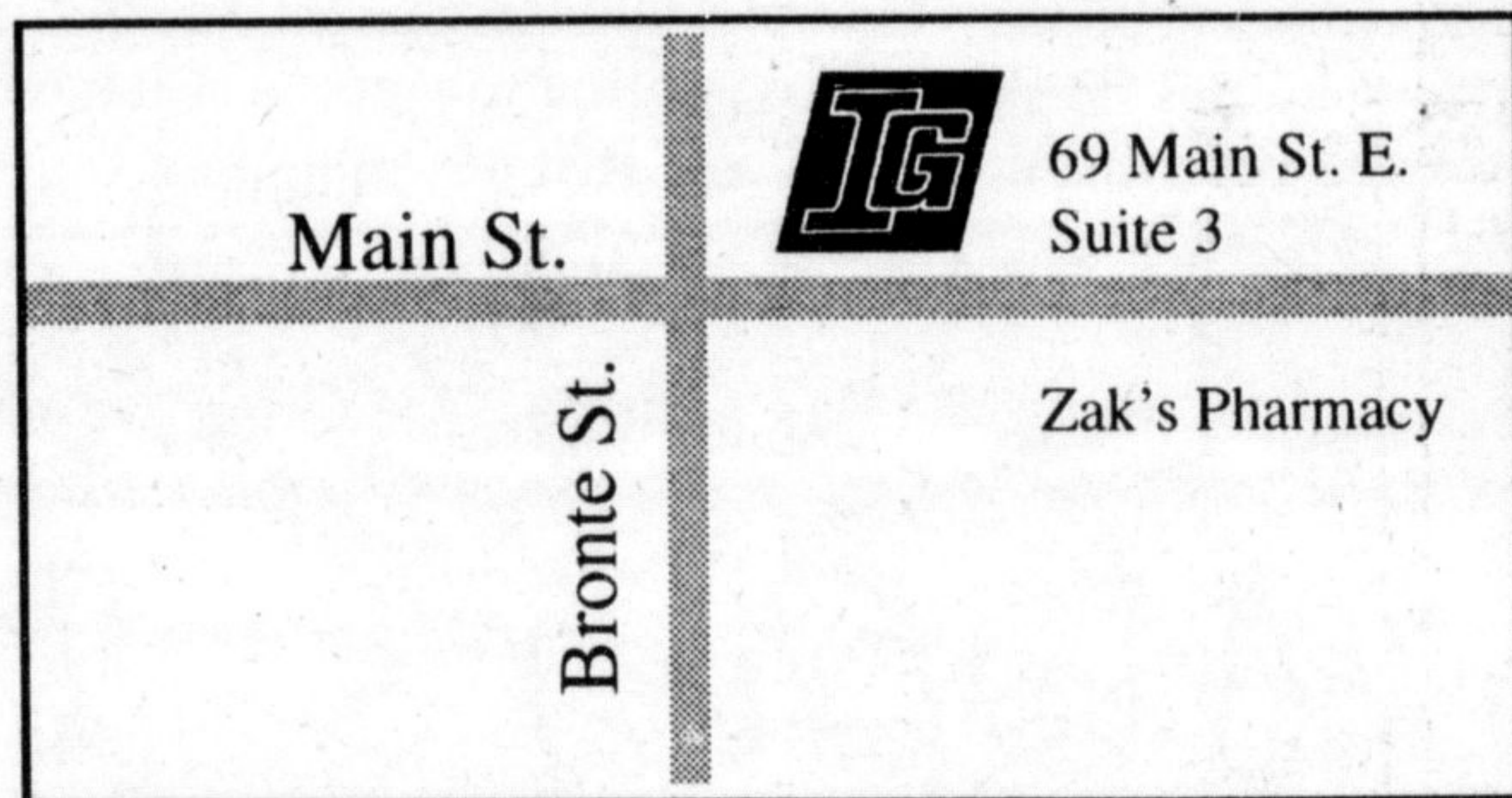
"Most of you who have driven around the airport have gotten lost," he said. "We're doing work on the roadways. We're trying to make it easier and eliminate the spaghetti junction."



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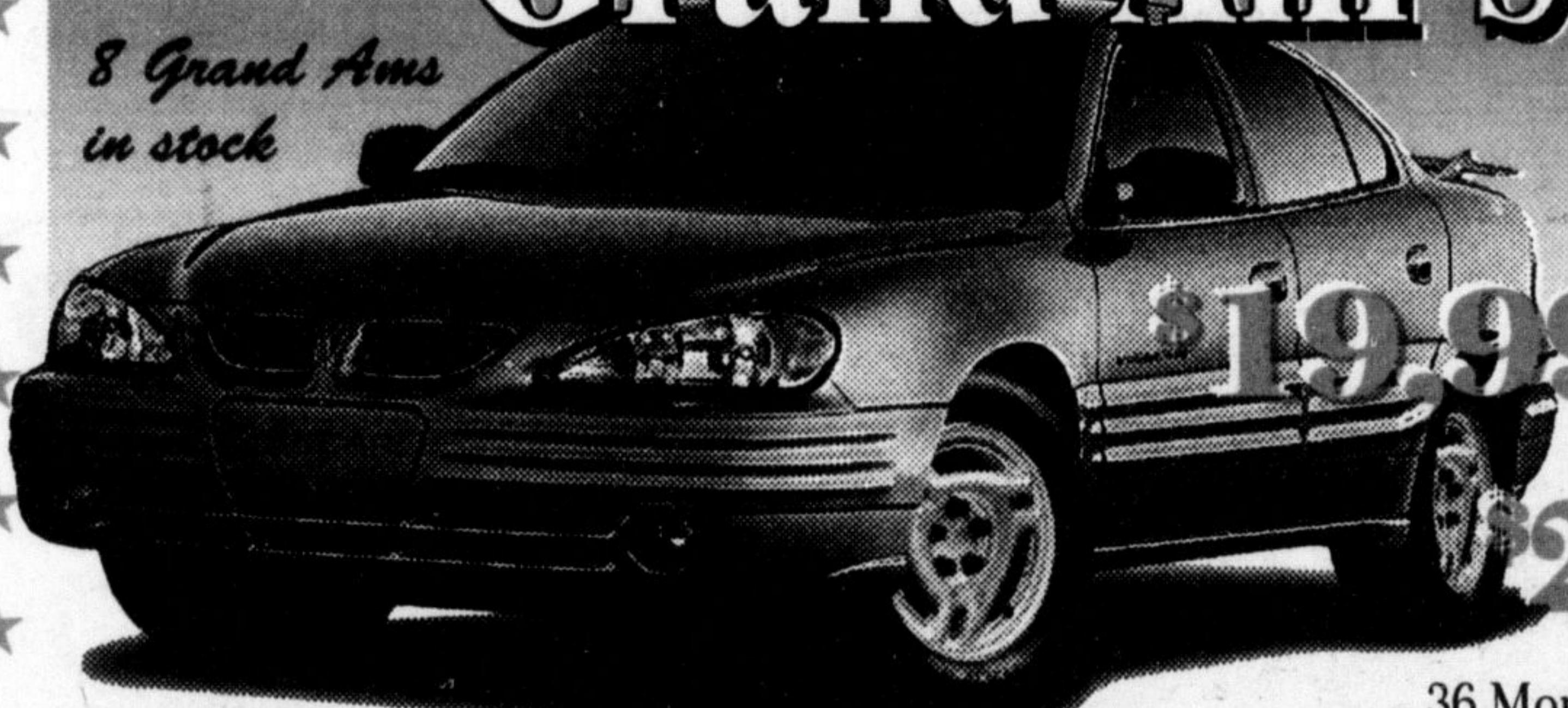
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