

Nassagaweya man battling with Fire at Scout camp Town over its sign permit bylaw

By IRENE GENTLE

The Champion

His sign may read 'Warmest wishes', but Milton's John O'Drowsky is ice cold toward some local bylaws.

Like the one requiring him to pay a \$100 building permit fee as a first step in

erecting a seasonal sign on his property. The sign, bidding pleasant wishes to passers by, was put up over the Christmas holidays.

But the seasonal cheer backfired when someone called the Town to complain.

Mr. O'Drowsky was then asked to take down the sign, at least until the building permit application was set in motion.

But Mr. O'Drowsky said he resents paying a fee for a sign that he claims fits all the requirements for the area.

"It meets the set back for the sign bylaw, and the size and content, too," he said. "But the Town thinks I should pay \$100 to have a building permit for the sign."

All similar signs require a permit, said the Town's bylaw officer Dick Belford.

"If you don't want a sign, remove it," he said. "If you do, get a permit."

He said the Town isn't intent on singling out Mr. O'Drowsky. It's just trying to do a job.

"We had a complaint," said Mr. Belford. "When we have a complaint, naturally we have to investigate it and see if it's justified."

Since no permit had been issued, it was justified, he said.

The Town duly sent a letter to Mr. O'Drowsky informing him of the requirement.

But all the fuss over a feel-good Christmas wish has Mr. O'Drowsky think-

A fire at Blue Spring Scout Camp on Sixth Line Saturday caused about \$25,000 damage.

The fire started shortly before 12:30 a.m. in a metal storage shed located on the property.

The building is connected to an alarm system monitored by the Halton Hills Fire Department, which responded to the blaze because its

station is closer.

Firefighters spent 15 to 20 minutes battling the blaze.

The roof of the building will have to be replaced, fire officials said.

There were also a number of cots with mattresses that were damaged.

Defective electrical lighting is being blamed for the fire.

No one was injured.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Nassagaweya resident John O'Drowsky is upset over a Town bylaw requiring him to pay a \$100 permit fee or remove his holiday sign.

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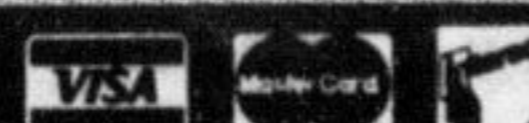
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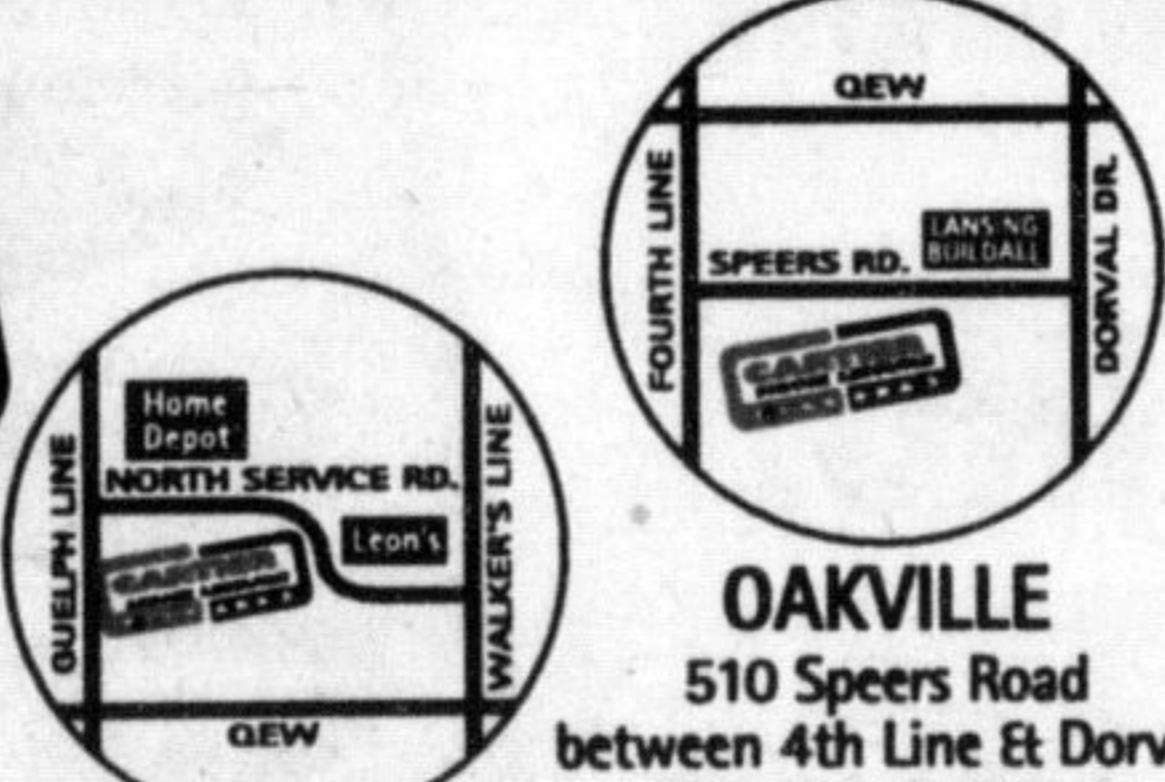
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