

# Millside tenants lose rent review appeal

The Canadian Champion, Friday, September 8, 1989

Residents of the 82 Millside Drive apartment complex have lost their appeal of a 9.1 per cent rent increase.

According to an article in *The Champion* (Oct. 12, 1988), the building's owner claimed a loss on the purchase price of the property and was awarded a rent increase far above the 4.6 per cent allowed by rent control.

When the appeal process began, in 1985, tenants who had paid the increased rent received refunds of between \$750 and \$1,000. "Now we have to pay that back plus an additional \$35 rent for each month, retroactive," said Francis Clements, a resident of the building.

The building had a strong residents committee but that has faded away as people have moved out of the apartments. "We're all out of fight," said one of the residents, who requested anonymity. "The two main people in the residents association have moved out."

"I don't understand how he (the owner) has gotten around the rent review board," said one resident. "It's all very complicated and technical. I sat in on the meetings but I didn't really follow all the points that were being made."

Mrs. Clements said the owner, listed on letters given to the residents as Highmark Properties, has not made any significant improvements. In fact the same article in *The Champion* said tenants used the review procedure as an opportunity to unleash a verbal barrage at John Andrade, the owner's agent. They cited poor painting, inconsistent heating and bad lighting as major problems.

Many of the building's senior residents may find it difficult to pay the large amounts of back rent. No one from Highmark Properties was available to comment on the due date for the back rent.



Photo by STEPHEN UHRANEY

## Hats off to Max

It was a combination United Way campaign kick-off and Max Jaffe appreciation day last Thursday at the local land registry office. Mr. Jaffe, a regular customer at the office, was surprised to see the staff wearing caps like those his wife makes for him. They did it to show how much they appreciate Mr. Jaffe's friendly disposition as well as his colourful appearance. The 75-year-old, who works as a "good will ambassador" for a Toronto law firm usually wears a sweater to match his hat when he's in town to use the office services. He brought a cake with him last week to mark the start of the United Way fund drive. From left are; John Menard, Eileen Hall, Steven Small, Mr. Jaffe and Doreen Small.

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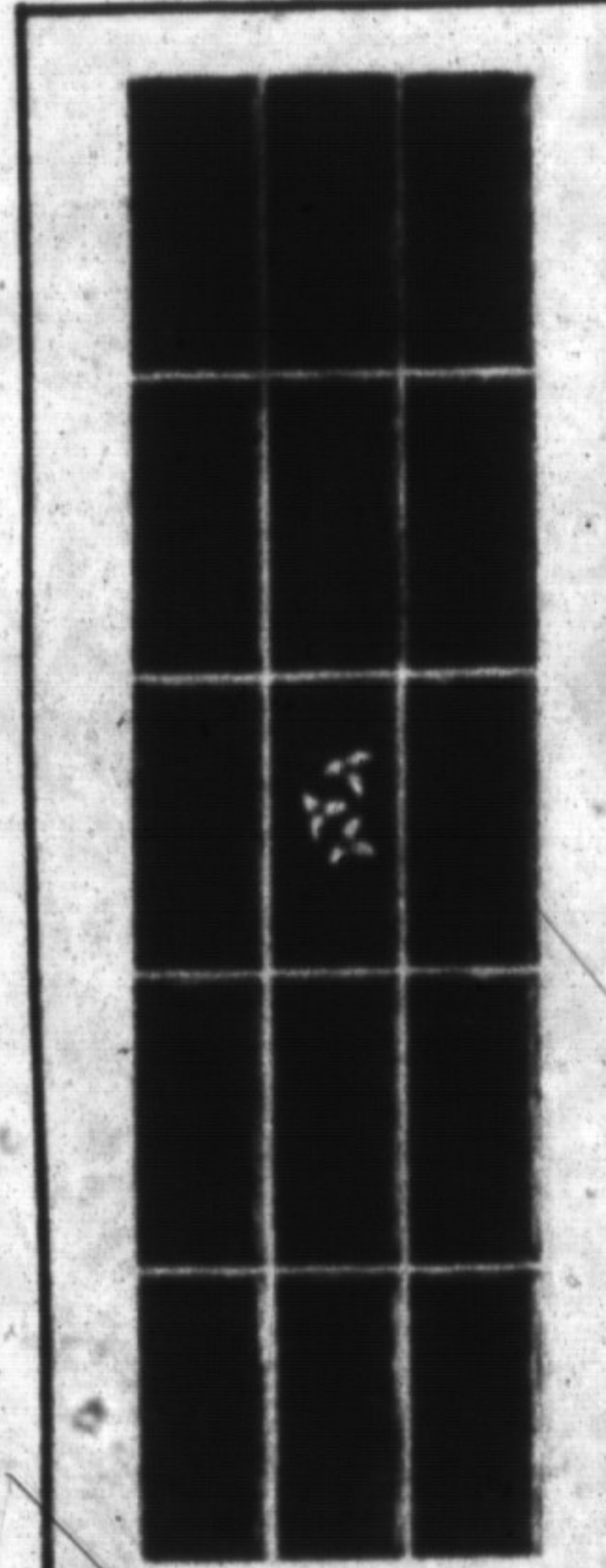
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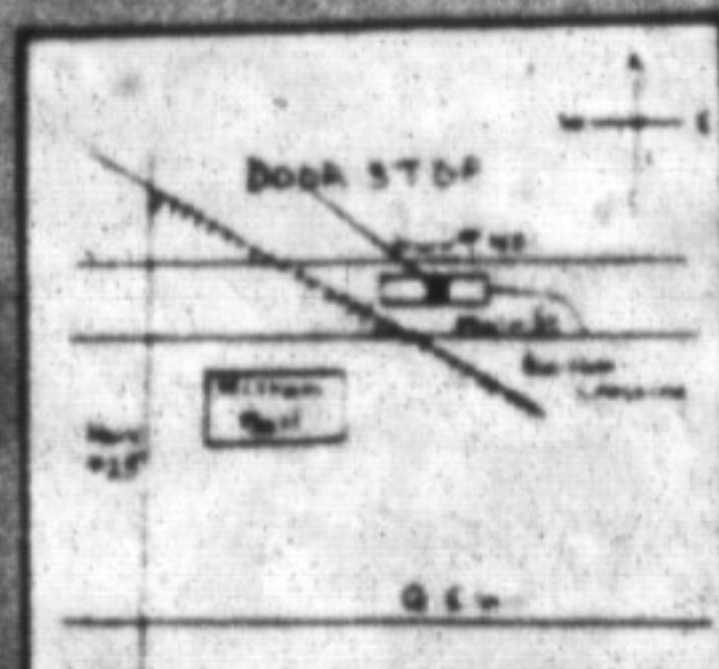
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