

School board budget to get a closer look

By Janet Baine

Special to The Champion

A new policy may help slash the Halton Board of Education's budget.

All trustees will now be members of the finance committee instead of only half of them, and they'll begin scrutinizing the budget in October, much earlier than in the past.

The Halton board budget for 1990 was 12.8 per cent higher than in 1989, an average tax increase of \$143 for education.

The jump was roundly criticized by area politicians.

The provincial government has steadily whittled down the amount of money it transfers to help pay for education, shifting the burden onto

the municipal tax base.

Education director Bob Williams says money is the biggest concern faced by the board and this change could help remedy financial woes.

Last year, the finance committee met only four to five times, starting in February. This year they'll start meeting in October.

Board staff have prioritized spending, suggesting items that could be cut.

"At the end of the process, even if we haven't been able to cut out one cent, if we've had a good look and discussions on it, then I will have felt the whole process has been worthwhile," Halton Hills trustee Dick Howitt said.

Great pumpkin challenge at Andrews Scenic Acres

Andrews Scenic Acres invites students to enter its Pumpkin Challenge.

A \$200 prize will go to students who grow the largest jack-o-lantern and the largest giant pumpkin. In addition, the berry farm will donate \$200 to a charity selected by each winner.

The weighing will take place Sunday, Oct. 14 at 2:30 p.m.

Andrews Scenic Acres is located on 10 Sideroad between Third and Fourth Lines. Call 878-5807 for more information.

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HALTON AGREEMENT FOREST USERS

Regional Council has CONTINUED the ban on hunting and the discharge of firearms within the Coulson Tract Agreement Forest. Described below are the periods of time when certain hunting and discharge of firearm activities are allowed in all other Halton Agreement Forests except the Coulson Tract.

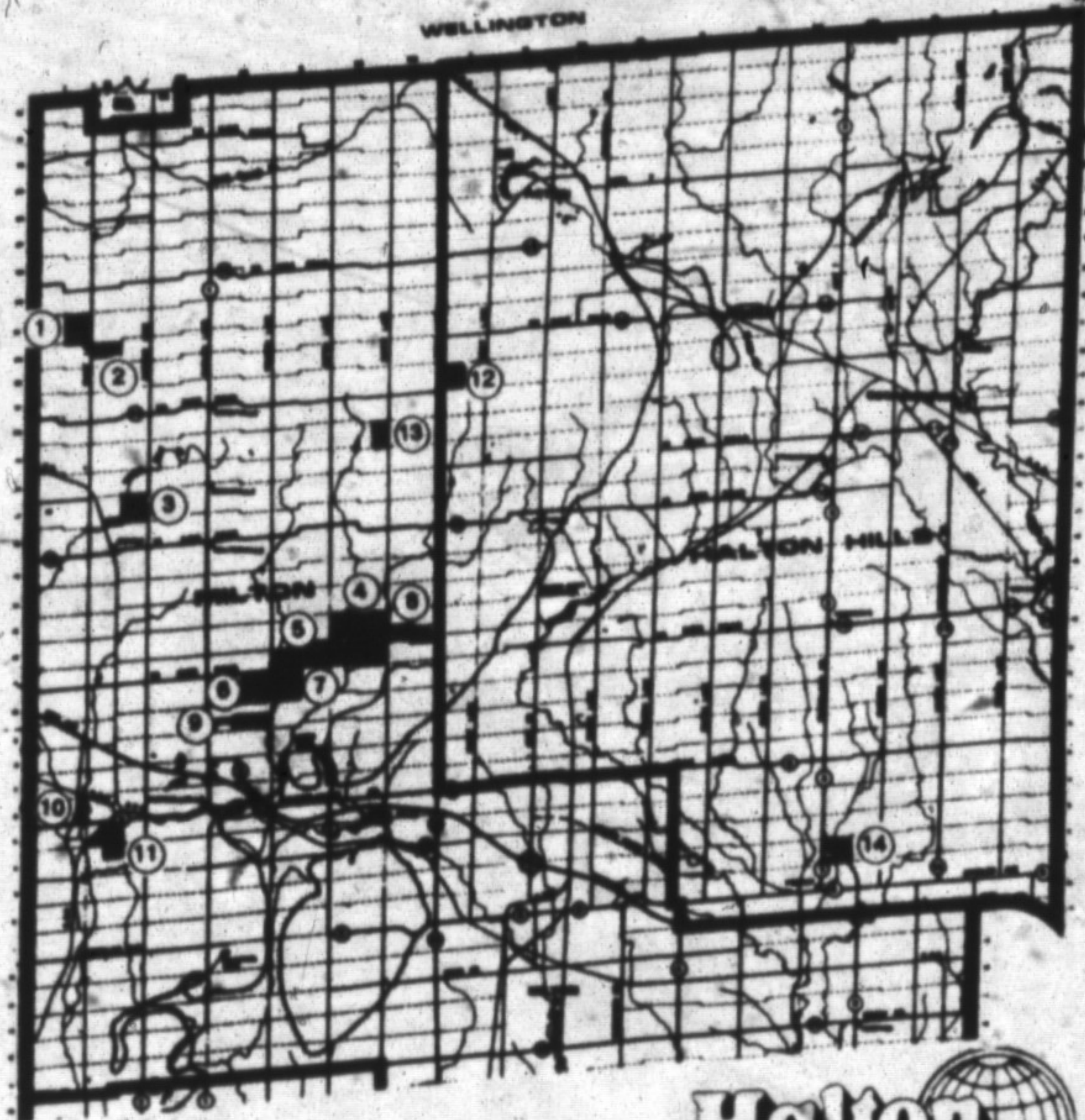
Beginning October 15, 1990 through November 4, 1990 and from November 9, 1990 to December 31, 1990 inclusive ARCHERY HUNTING will be permitted. Archers may be in the Agreement Forests hunting deer and other small game if in season.

Beginning November 5, 1990 and continuing through November 8, 1990, SHOT GUN HUNTING will be permitted for deer and any other small game if in season. On these four days, archery hunting is NOT permitted in the Agreement Forests.

All users of the Agreement Forests are advised to exercise caution during the times that hunting is permitted.

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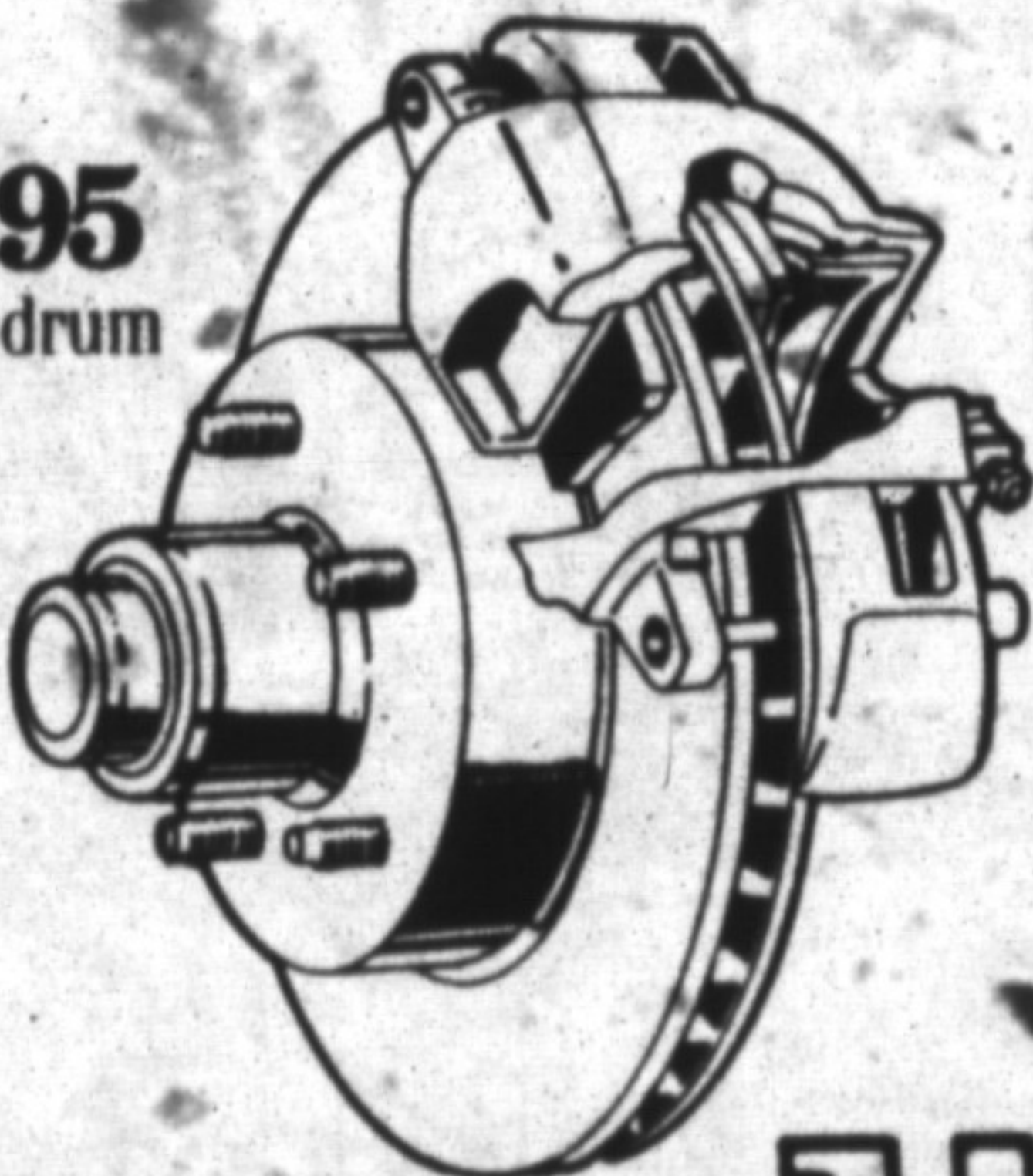
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