



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Frightful and furry faces

The Halloween fun has started early for many area residents. (Left) Staff members Michelle Delise (Viking) and Nicole Reiman (Monster) of The Dickens Restaurant display their outfits for the restaurant's annual Halloween Bash tomorrow evening. (Below) While they didn't quite make it to 101, these five local dalmations look as cute as can be. (Clockwise from top center) Heather Gibb, 6, Katelynn Thissen, 6, Nicole Thissen, 3, Lauren Krantz, 5, and Vicki Krantz, 7.



Flyer pins MVA decision on councillor

By **ROB KELLY**
The Champion

Burlington regional councillor Don Carter says the president of the Oakville Chamber of Commerce has blown any chance of negotiations on market value assessment.

Mr. Carter was to meet with John Hogg, the Oakville chamber president, today (Friday) in an effort to informally discuss the controversial market value assessment (MVA) property tax scheme that has cleaved regional council into two almost equal factions. Oakville and Halton Hills councillors oppose the tax change, while Burlington and Milton representatives support it.

But the meeting is unlikely to take place now that leaflets slamming Mr. Carter's MVA stance have appeared in his downtown Ward 6. The material was printed and distributed by the Oakville Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Carter thinks it's dirty pool, because he had the impression from Mr. Hogg that the two would discuss the issue privately before any such action was taken.

Open mind now closed

"I was surprised because last Friday I was talking to John Hogg and I mentioned to him that my mind's still open," Mr. Carter recounted. "We had arranged to get together Friday (today) for a coffee. Then bang, this thing hits on Monday. As far as I'm concerned, he's closed the door on negotiating with me."

Mr. Carter charged that Mr. Hogg's group is "stooping to a method of trying to intimidate me before even talking to me."

The leaflet warns that "63.5 per cent of Ward 6 property taxes will go up" under MVA. It says that without Mr. Carter's support, "this unfair method of taxation would not have passed," and urges voters to fight MVA.

Mr. Carter said he got the leaflet from a constituent, who picked it up in a Ward 6 grocery store earlier this week.

Change of heart?

If Mr. Carter maintains his hard line, it would mean a sharp setback for the anti-MVA movement. Under regional bylaws, the only way the issue could be reopened is if someone who originally supported MVA has a change of heart. Mr. Carter was seen as a possible swing vote who would break out of the Burlington bloc.

see CHAMBER on page 4

Turn in weapons

Local police are conducting a gun and explosives round-up next month to allow for their disposal without fear of prosecution.

During the month of November, police services across Canada, will be assisting the public in getting rid of unwanted firearms, commercial explosives and military ordnance (live or souvenirs).

The Halton Regional Police Service, in support of this program, will receive firearms, commercial and military explosives and ammunition for disposal Monday to Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., November 1 to 30 at the Halton Regional Police Service Headquarters, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville.

NEWSLINES

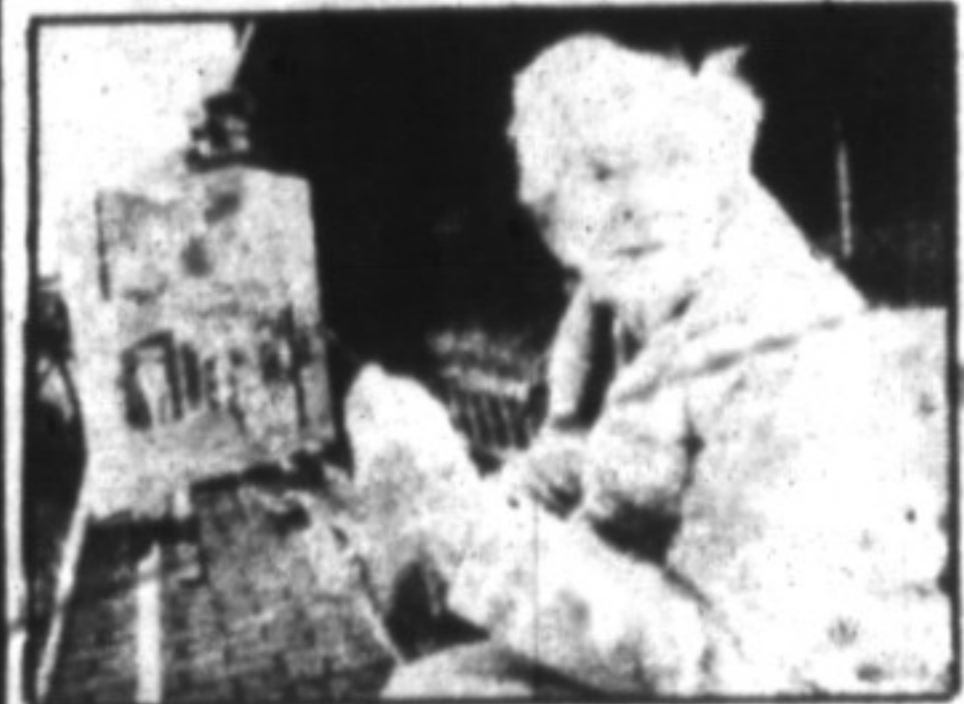
Gas pipeline makes progress

The \$1.25 million natural gas pipeline extension to Campbellville should be completed by the end of the year, Union Gas officials say.

Union Gas is building the 16-kilometre extension to offer natural gas to four residential subdivisions in Campbellville, as well as to Mohawk Raceway. Approximately 265 residences will have access to gas service.

Mark Jones, the divisional sales manager for Union gas, is pleased with the progress of the project. "The cooperation and support we've received from municipal staff and officials has been outstanding and has helped keep this project on track."

INSIDE



A lifetime of experience is behind the paintings of Marie Clements.

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