

Halton Region won't move on composting issue

By ANGELA BLACKBURN
The Champion

A year after a joint Halton-Peel composting strategy fell flat, Halton regional councillors, surprised Peel will move ahead with a composting pilot project, won't themselves take a stand, opting to sit on the fence and observe.

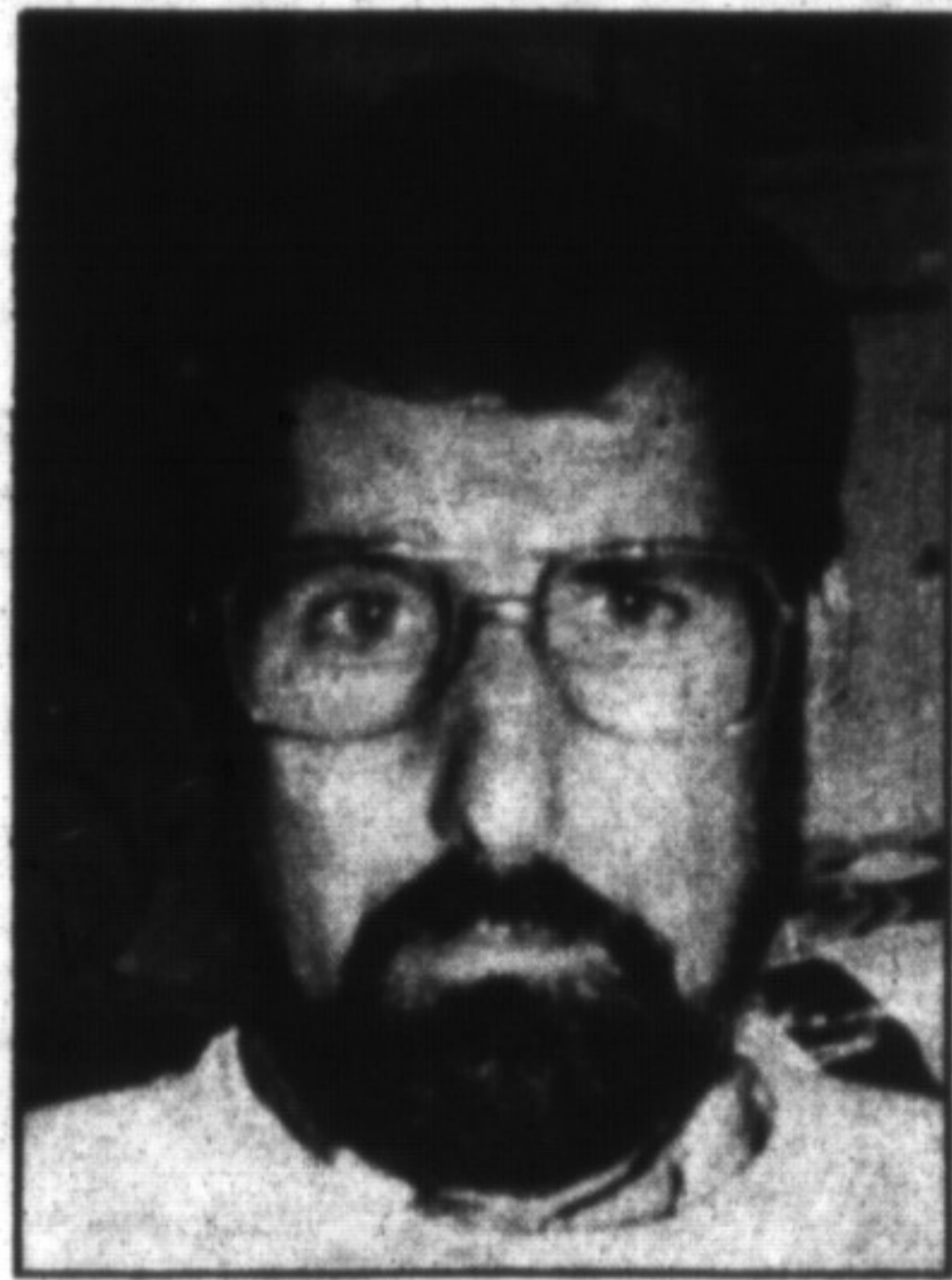
At Wednesday's regional composting subcommittee meeting, a staff report on composting asked councillors to take a stand.

Instead, the subcommittee recommended — with planning and public works committee endorsement — further study.

"I think we can get some stuff in motion without causing political upheaval at all. We're not there yet, we're a long way from a pilot (project)," said Chair Peter Pomeroy.

A five-part recommendation goes to regional council next week. It calls for Halton to observe — at no cost — a 4,000 home, \$1.2 million Peel composting pilot project at the proposed Caledon dump site.

The region will also study existing composting programs, look at energy-from-waste (EFW) operations in Brampton and Hamilton (established prior to the NDP government EFW ban) recognizing the policy could change, and study organic waste collection systems, including proposed single tier regional garbage pickup and costs.



Barry Lee

"I have deep reservations about the whole issue. We're in a different position than Peel. We have a landfill site. We've got some breathing room Peel doesn't have and I think we should take our time," said Milton councillor, and chair of the region's waste management committee, Barry Lee.

Mr. Lee, a farmer, questioned the compost market. "Farmers aren't going to be lined up for compost." He said most rural Miltonians compost and are more concerned about a garbage collection system.

The province has directed municipalities to reduce waste by 50 per cent. Halton has cut by 35 per cent but public works commissioner Art Leitch said of the remaining 15 per

cent, "the only way that will be achieved is if we start diverting organic waste from the landfill site." He added, "it's not going to be inexpensive."

"Can the private sector achieve the 15 per cent you're looking for without us?" asked Burlington Councillor Bob Brechin, adding numerous types of garbage collection — waste, organic, blue box — "isn't going to wash" with the public. Nor would increased waste management costs.

"There's no doubt it's (composting) going to make our waste management system more complex and more costly," said Mr. Leitch, adding however, "the last thing we want to envision is three separate trucks trundling down the road."

Instead, the region is looking to economies of a single-tier garbage collection. A proposal is being fielded in the area municipalities and a presentation to Milton council is expected. The system has been proposed for a January 1, 1995 start date.

Mr. Leitch said an option the region would "dearly" like to investi-

gate is integrated garbage and blue box collection on alternate weeks, with weekly organic garbage pickup. Up to 40 per cent of Halton's waste is organic — papers, meat, food scraps, grass.

Mr. Leitch said a waste management "ideal" is a landfill with no organics. Wet organics would be composted with remaining organics

burned, to extend a dump's life from 20 to 60 years.

"Organics cause problems in a landfill site, the gases, leachate and seagulls," he explained.

Halton Hills councillor Marilyn Serjeantson advocated private enterprise partnerships in composting with "someone willing to risk as much as us."

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Farmer of year wanted

The Halton Federation of Agriculture is seeking a Farmer/Farm Family of the Year.

Nominations will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. October 11 at the federation's Georgetown office. Forms are available at that office or by calling Michele Cameron at (905) 878-6725.

The local federation and the late Ross Segsworth's family sponsor the award recognizing agricultural business success and rural community contribution.

Organizations or individuals can make nominations. Previous nominees are eligible.

The award emphasizes successful business operation (75 per cent) and community involvement (25 per cent). Selection is based on the nominee's agricultural career, management practices, consumer awareness and contribution to community, civic and farm organizations.

The award presentation will be November 30 at the Agriculture Awards Banquet at the Acton Legion.

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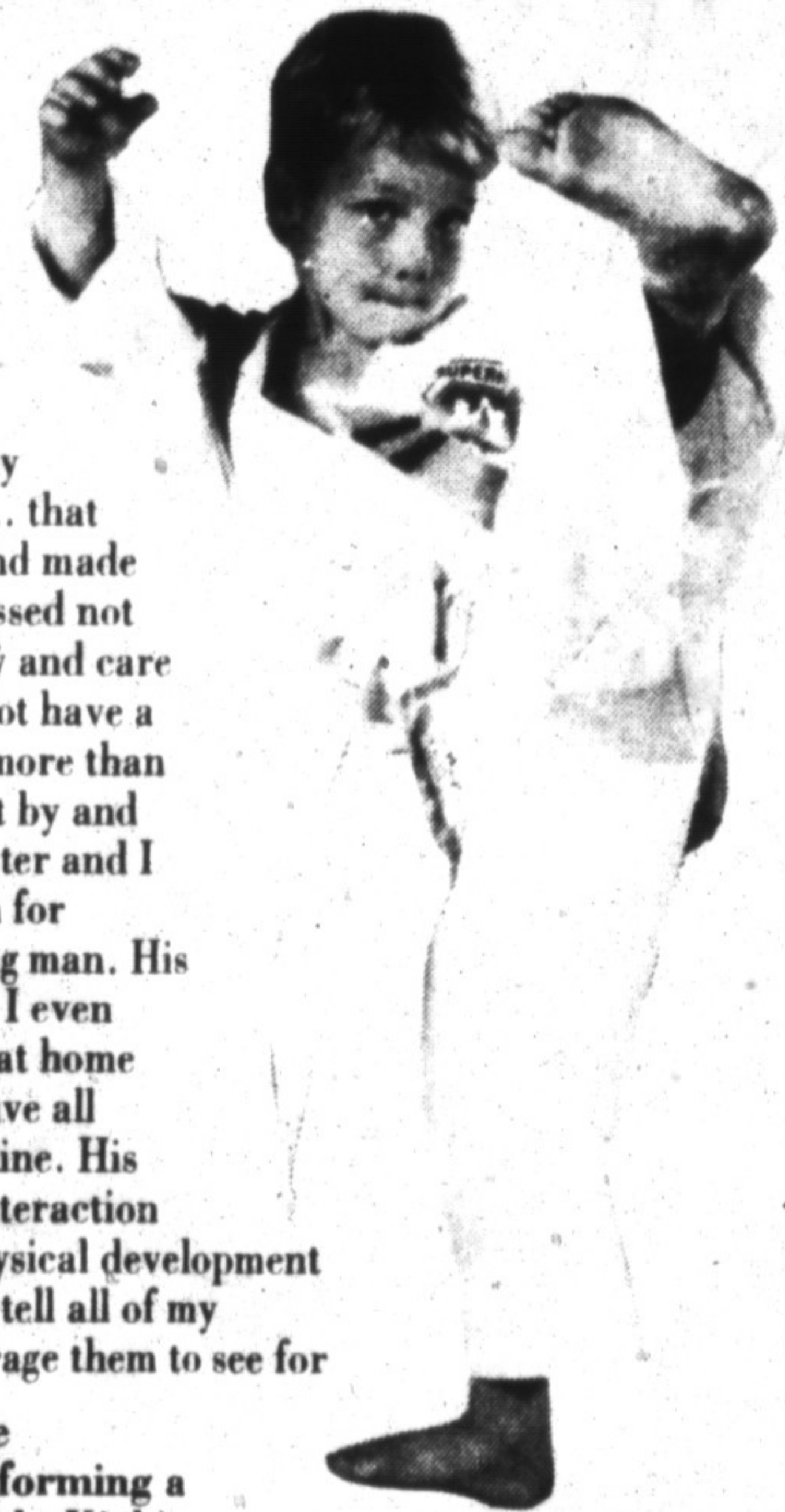
Superkids Impresses Mother

Dear Sirs:

Several years ago, when Jessie was still very young (he is now approaching his sixth birthday) his dad became enamored of the idea of enrolling Jessie in a Karate school and of course Jessie was just as easily excited by the idea. However, I must admit that I sincerely disliked the idea of Jessie growing up to be a Ninja Turtle. Well, Joe and Jessie persisted and they both shopped around for a Karate school. We saw many and most often we were unimpressed or disappointed ... that is, until my husband discovered an ad for Superkids and made an appointment to have you meet Jessie. He was impressed not only with your credentials, but more so with the dignity and care shown towards our son. Even though Superkids does not have a school in our immediate neighbourhood, he felt it was more than worth the drive from Brampton, to have our son taught by and cared for by professionals. Well, it is now six months later and I cannot begin to express my own delight and enthusiasm for Superkids. He has fast become a very responsible young man. His chores are done first thing every morning, often before I even notice. He is constantly pitching in and helping me out at home without being asked. My friends and Jessie's teacher have all commented on his respectfulness and new found discipline. His maturity develops and grows more every day and his interaction with his peers is wonderful. I have also seen Jessie's physical development and co-ordination dramatically improve. I will happily tell all of my friends and acquaintances about Superkids and encourage them to see for themselves what I am talking about.

Most sincerely,
Sandra

Jessie
age 6 yrs. performing a
Yoko Geri (Side Kick)



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