

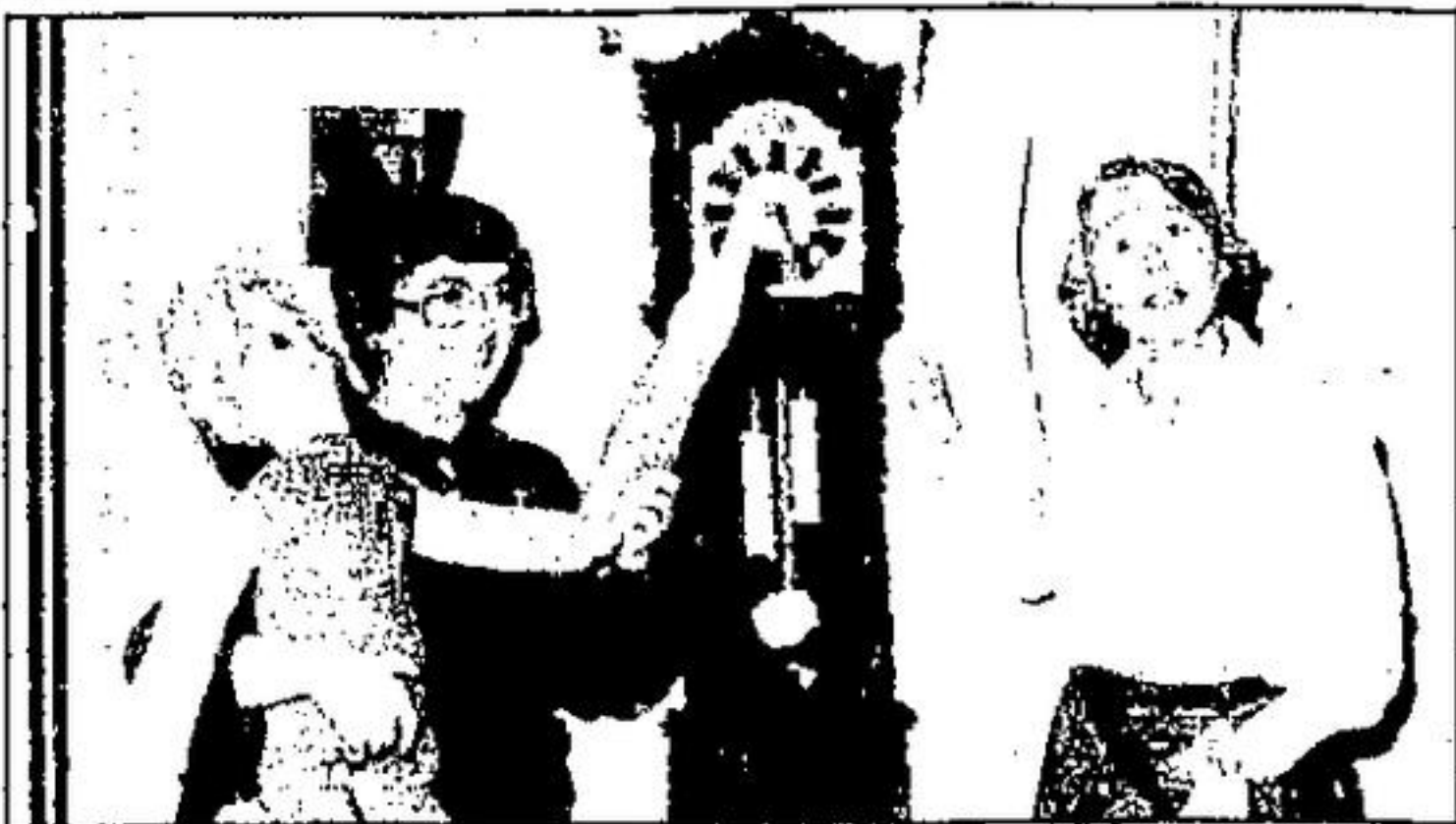
Eight claim water damage

Eight residents have sent in claims for damage to clothing which was washed in the brown-yellow water poured from Acton taps for seven days a month ago.

Regional councillor Dave Whiting reports the eight claims are "all in processing for payment."

Claims so far total \$587.71. Claims have been valued at \$32.70, \$38, \$36.69, \$30, \$11.50, \$185, \$206, and \$4.82.

Claims may still be submitted by dropping them off at the town office, sending them directly to the region or by contacting Whiting. Anyone with a problem making a claim for damages should call Whiting.



Ann Donston and Frances Marcoux sold tickets on the draw for the big prizes at the Catholic Women's League Saturday, a clock wall hanging, dancing doll and \$100 money tree.

Supermarkets wage war on food prices

Miracle Food Mart has fired the latest shot in the food price war, even though the food chain insists there is no price war.

At a press conference in Toronto last week, Miracle Mart marketing vice-president Doug Stewart released results of an independent price survey that claims that 35 per cent of its products are priced lower than in Dominion Stores, Miracle's largest competitor.

The survey, conducted by Campbell Sharp, a national accounting firm, compared the prices of 5,000 sample items in Miracle Mart and Dominion supermarket stores.

According to Stewart, Campbell Price put the results of the survey into a computer, which selected at random 260 representative food and grocery items. Of those 260 items, Miracle had lower prices on 92 items (35 per cent); Miracle was higher on 48 items (18 per cent) and 120 items (47 per cent) were similar in price.

The food price survey is the latest in a series of moves by Miracle Mart to expand its share of the Ontario retail food sales market.

Dominion Stores control an estimated 36 per cent of the retail food sales market in Ontario, followed by Loblaw's at 21 per cent, and Miracle Mart running third with 10 per cent of the market.

Miracle Mart opened

what food industry critics have dubbed "a price war" in October by reducing the retail prices of 2,000 grocery items. The price reductions were quickly met by its two major competitors, and Miracle Mart was in a price war whether it liked it or not.

At the press conference, Stewart maintained that the lower prices are part of a long-term strategy, not a temporary measure to attract customers, as some critics have claimed.

"A 16-page full-color flyer costs about \$250,000 per week," he said. "By cutting down to a black and white ad, we cut our advertising costs to \$120,000."

In response to a question, Stewart stated that although the chain is cutting down on in-store stockboys and other staff, Miracle Mart won't have to lay off any employees.

"This has been planned for some time, and we've not been hiring new staff," he explained. "We're opening two new stores in the Toronto area, and staff can be shifted to the new stores."

Miracle Mart currently has 73 stores in Ontario and Stewart claims that the firm is "always aggressively looking to expand our operations."

One of the aspects of Miracle's new strategy that has met considerable criticism from both consumer groups

and industry opponents is the four cent charge for grocery bags.

John Toma, senior vice-president of Dominion Stores, scoffed at the pricing survey that Miracle released.

"I'm very surprised that Steinberg's (Miracle Mart's parent company) would stoop this low," Toma said. "I've always had a lot of respect for the firm, and I'm disappointed that they would stoop to deceive the consumer."

According to Toma, the pricing survey is inconclusive because the price comparison is based on only 260 items.

"A store of this size would carry up to 10,000 items. It would be easy to select certain items where one chain has a lower price than another," he said. "The fact that they had lower prices on 92 out of 10,000 items is insignificant."

Toma said that Miracle Mart released the survey "in retaliation."

"We have one store in Montreal (where Steinberg's control the market) and we reduced our prices, which angered them because we have only one store and they had to match our prices," he said.

"They were just retaliating, but anyone who is knowledgeable about the food industry will see through it."

Does the consumer really benefit from the so-called food price war? Yes, says Dagmar

Staff, chief economist with the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations. Food prices have dropped, she said, but the consumer has to shop around to find the best buys.

"We do a monthly food price monitoring program, comparing the prices of 72 high-volume items," she explained. "Since the price war started, the prices of those items have dropped an average of nearly six per cent."

Staff pointed out that her department included weekly specials in their survey. Miracle Mart has cut down on the number of their weekly specials, while Dominion and Loblaw continue to actively promote special buys.

"Now, more than ever, it is important that the consumer compare prices, using the weekly food advertisements," she said. "The consumer has to be careful."

The results of the ministry's food price surveys indicate that the difference in food prices between the three largest Ontario food chains is as little as two per cent.

"We're doing our end of the month survey this week, and we will be able to compare Toronto food prices with prices in other communities in Ontario," she added.

"That will give us a better idea of how the 'price war' has really affected food prices."

A.P. Green, Blow Press

Rumored layoffs wrong

A two week rotating layoff of 175 workers at Beardmore and erroneous reports of 400 people being laid off there have sparked inaccurate rumors of layoffs at two other local plants.

Last week there were reports circulating that there had been or will be big layoffs at A.P. Green and Blow Press.

Spokesmen for both firms deny the rumors.

Ed Wilson, Blow Press plant

manager, says two workers were laid off in the fall because of work shortage. However, he expects all the workers at the plant, approximately 20, will continue working. He certainly anticipates no layoffs, especially between now and the end of this year.

Orville Chapman, A.P. Green, said they have only 15 employees and all are working. There haven't been any layoffs at A.P. Green in the past couple of years and with the number of orders the firm has Chapman sees no layoffs coming.



Doug Leys and Sue Robbins were selling lots of great stuff at Saturday's Y bazaar.

Quintet at library

Acton High School band leader Dave Sale is one of five members of the Community Players Wind Quintet which will perform at the Acton Library this month.

The concert for the whole family is scheduled for December 12 at 11 a.m. and Sale will play the oboe. Other players are Anne Monkhouse, Warren Leighton, Judith Sheppard and Lutzen Riedstra.

Admission to this celebration of the holiday season is free.

A friend of yours win a draw or lottery? Tell Acton. Call on the Leavell, 853-2010 or 853-3224.

Circus here Saturday

The big top is coming to Acton Library this Saturday. Youngsters will see "great feats of derring-do" performed by the Brick Brothers Circus December 3 at 11 a.m. Admission is free.



Father Leo Spengle, who is leaving Acton, was honored at a tea at St. Joseph's Sunday afternoon and Mike McMahon presented him with a gift.

Woman cut in collision

An improperly lit farm machinery vehicle is blamed for a three car crash which sent one woman to hospital last week.

Tineke Vryenhoek, 26, of Rockwood was treated in Georgetown Hospital for head lacerations after her car was in collision with a cultivator driven by Fred Anthony, 29, of RR 1 Limehouse.

Milton OPP say Vryenhoek was east-bound on Highway 7 just east of Acton at 5:30 p.m. November 20. She saw the lights of the tractor pulling the cultivator but in the dusk and light rain did not see the cultivator until she struck it.

The impact of the Vryenhoek vehicle pushed the tractor into the oncoming lane where it struck a car driven by Antonios Dimou, 26, of Acton.

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The Corporation of the TOWN OF MILTON BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Applications are requested for appointment to the following Boards and Committees:

(A) **MILTON COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT**—Two (2) Persons required for a three year term. Some knowledge of The Planning Act and Municipality By-laws an asset.

(B) **MILTON LIBRARY BOARD**—One (1) Person required for a three year term to fill an upcoming vacancy.

(C) **HALTON REGIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL**—One (1) Person required for a one year term to serve as Milton's Representative on this Regional Committee.

All appointments take effect in January of 1982.

All applications must be in writing, preferably setting out your qualifications for the Board or Committee and will be accepted up until 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9th, 1981.

Further information on each of these Boards and Committees, including details of the responsibilities of the member, can be obtained by contacting the undersigned during business hours at 878-7211.

R. Main, Clerk Co-ordinator,
Town of Milton,
251 Main Street East,
P. O. Box 1005,
MILTON, Ont. L5T 4B6.

Property Owners and Tenants

Your 1981 Assessment Notice

Mailing of Assessment Notices

A 1981 Assessment Notice for 1982 property taxes will be mailed on or before December 1st to every property owner and tenant in the following municipalities:

Regional Municipality of Halton-Peel including the City of Burlington; and the Towns of Halton Hills, Milton, Oakville; Cities of Brampton, Mississauga; and the Town of Caledon.

An Information Insert mailed with your Assessment Notice explains the appeal procedure and provides the timetable for Open Houses in your area.

Open House Sessions will Answer Questions

Open House sessions have been planned at convenient times and locations in your municipality to afford you the opportunity to review your assessment with staff of the Regional Assessment Office.

Assessment staff will be pleased to explain the basis of your property assessment and are authorized to amend all data (school support, assessment, etc.) on your Notice.

You are encouraged to take advantage of this service.

Rolls Available For Review

The Assessment Roll will be available for review at your local Municipal Office during regular business hours beginning December 22, 1981.

If you wish to Appeal

If you believe you have been improperly assessed in any way, you may file a formal complaint with the Assessment Review Court. The final date for filing an appeal is January 12, 1982.

Information on appeal procedures is provided on the back of your Assessment Notice and Information Insert.

taxes will be directed to support public or separate schools.

If you wish to review your school support designation, contact your Regional Assessment Office or attend an Open House in your area.

R. H. Beach, MIMA
Assessment Commissioner
Halton-Peel Regional Assessment Office
55 City Centre Drive
Mississauga, Ontario
Telephone: 270-8050
Zenith no. 86730

Ministry of Revenue Ontario

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- 1981 Reliant 2 Door "Air" serial no. 296099
- 1981 Aries 2 Dr. serial no. 216476
- 1981 Aries 2 Dr. serial no. 218475
- 1981 Omni 5 Door serial no. 312429
- 1981 D150 Van serial no. 283680
- 1981 D150 Van serial no. 283681
- 1981 Reliant 2 Door "Air" serial no. 296060
- 1981 Aries 4 Door serial no. 282267
- 1981 Omni 5 Door serial no. 120259 Demo
- 1981 Aries 2 Door serial no. 134112 Demo
- 1981 Aries Wagon serial no. 125162 Demo
- 1981 Aries 2 Door serial no. 198581 Demo
- 1981 Mirada Licence Number RFA034
- 1981 Omni 024 Licence Number RFA038
- 1981 Horizon TC3 Licence No. RPH307
- 1981 Caravelle 4 Door "Air" Licence No. RPH897
- 1981 Ramcharger (loaded) Licence No. RLV027
- 1981 Aries Wagon "Air" Licence No. SCV983
- 1981 Aries 4 door "Air" Licence No. SAA808
- 1981 Omni 024 "DaTomato" Licence No. RLV630
- 1981 Omni 5 Door Licence No. RLV318

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