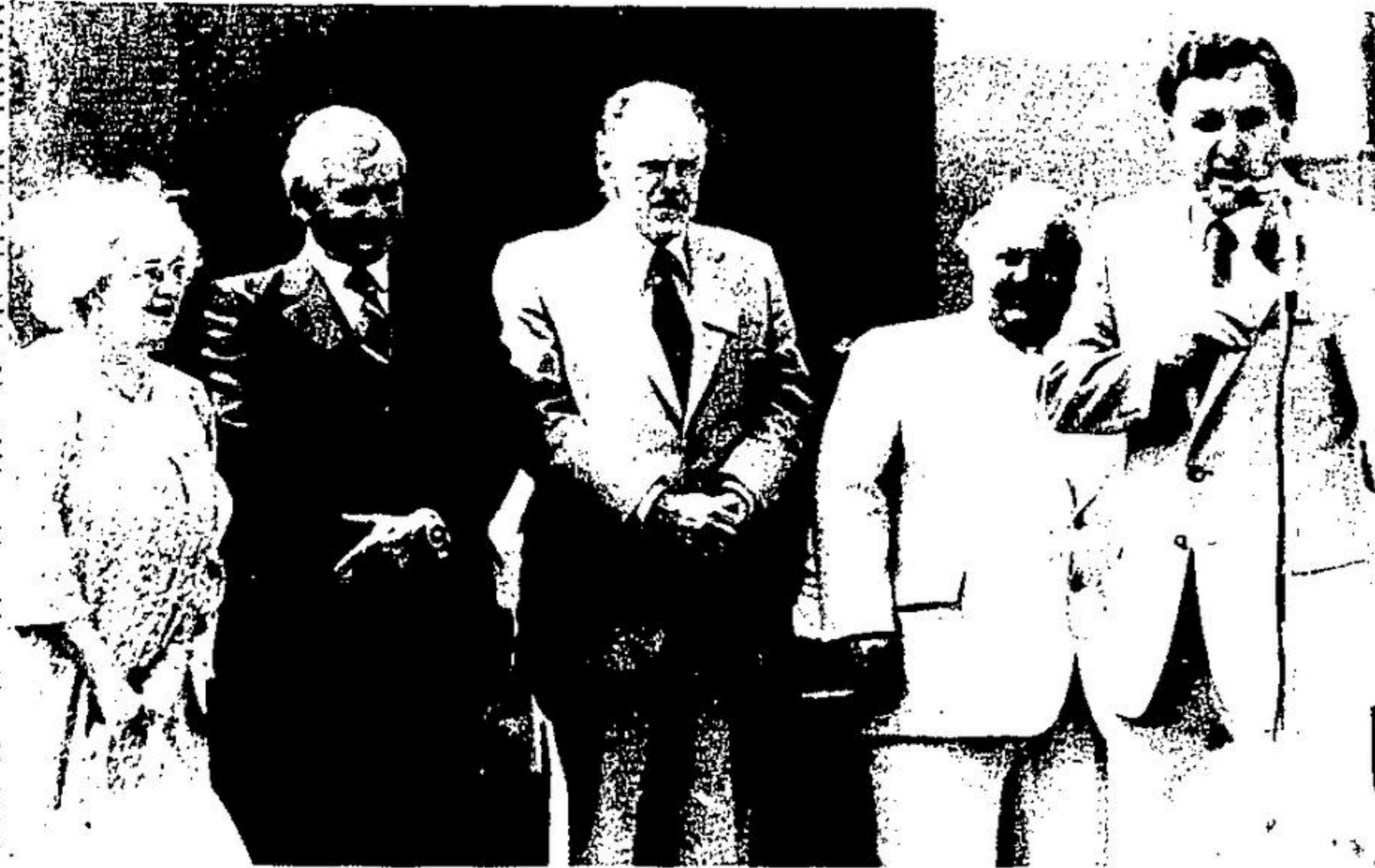


Political fanfare opens 'Jolly Green Giant'



Halton regional chairman Jack Raffits (right) invited Dorothy Stone of Halton Hills to centre stage during Friday's opening ceremonies for the region's new headquarters in Oakville. As Mr. Raffits told a crowd of more than 300 invited guests, Mrs. Stone designed the region's coat of arms four years ago using accepted heraldry symbols and mottoes to represent

Halton's four area municipalities. Looking on as the chairman thanks Mrs. Stone for her contribution are Premier William Davis, Burlington South MPP George Kerr and Burlington MP William Kemppling. Mr. Kemppling, a Conservative, polled the second largest majority in Canada during the recent federal election.

(Herald photo)

By PAUL DORSEY
Herald staff writer

Although it was jokingly referred to as the "Jolly Green Giant" and the "Incredible Hulk", Halton region's new \$3.8 million headquarters in Oakville was hailed by provincial officials at its official opening last week as a symbol that regional government is here to stay.

Premier Bill Davis headed an impressive list of federal provincial and municipal officials who, along with some 300 invited guests, gathered for the opening festivities Friday afternoon.

On hand to watch the Premier and regional chairman Jack Raffits were MP William Kemppling (PC-Burlington), MPP's Julian Reed (Liberal - Halton Burlington), George Kerr (PC-Burlington South) and James Snow (PC-Oakville), Ontario's minister of transportation and communications.

TOWN REPS

Halton Hills was well represented by Mayor Pete Pomeroy, regional councillors Ed Wood, Roy Booth and Mike Armstrong, town councillors Marilyn Serjeantson, John McDonald, Walter Blehn and Pat Patterson, former regional councillor Pat McKenzie and a variety of special guests.

Colorful tapestries prepared for the council chambers in each of Halton's four area municipalities were "presented" to the region by the four mayors, although the tapestries themselves were not on hand for the occasion. Mayor Pomeroy thanked local residents Marjorie Nazer and Maria Jennings for the tapestries they prepared for Halton Hills, investing more than 450

hours of work into the project. After noting that the sprawling regional building on Highway 25 just north of the Queen Elizabeth Way has been repeatedly referred to as the "Jolly Green Giant" because of its

bright, Kelly-green color, Mr. Snow was jokingly commended for providing the paint. Plenty was left over, someone laughed, after Mr. Snow's employees in the ministry finished repainting highway signs.

Premier Davis similarly ribbed his Cabinet minister for ensuring that his home riding (Mr. Snow is a Hornby resident) has some of the finest and best-kept roads in the province.

Humorous comments abounded in speeches by the various dignitaries who were no doubt encouraged by the brilliant, warm sunshine, decorative canopies and the festive mood of the crowd itself.

Mr. Kerr struck one of the more serious notes, however, when he cited the reluctance with which many Halton residents embraced regional government five years ago.

REGION'S HOME

"Now this region has a home," the former environment minister said, "and we won't have any more talk about dismantling regional government. I'm sure you civil servants will be glad to hear that."

Many of the jokes from the podium were politically-oriented, often referring to the Progressive Conservative victory in the recent federal election.

"I made a small wager with the Premier a couple of weeks ago and had to pay him off very unceremoniously in the Legislature," Mr. Reed laughed.

ed. "I lost two of my colleagues in the north (Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook and Brampton-Georgetown MP Ross Milne, both Liberals) so I'm feeling very humbled. I even wore a blue suit today, but I'm starting to feel like a rose among thorns up here."

Mr. Reed commented that it has been an "awesome honor" for him to have played a part in Halton's development in recent years. He expressed hope that political parties at all levels of government will continue to move in a positive direction so that changes which must occur will be "tempered".

In his address, Premier Davis took numerous witty potshots at Mr. Reed and joked that his home region of Peel would be glad to take over Halton's regional headquarters if Haltonians don't like the color.

"I think it's tremendous," he said. "Nowhere in this province has there been greater growth than in Peel and Halton."

Premier Davis said that the people of Halton are "well served" by their municipal governments and should be

happy their elected representatives recognize that issues and public needs have changed dramatically during the past decade.

GOLD KEY

Before accepting a large golden key to the regional building from architect Dennis Peters of the firm of Shore, Tilbe, Henschele, Irwin and Peters, chairman Jack Raffits thanked staff members Susan Jacobs and John Byrne for organizing the opening ceremonies.

He noted that the building's ten-acre site was purchased by the province for inclusion in Bronte Provincial Park but ultimately considered surplus to the park plans. The region then acquired the land and laid plans for a 48,000-square foot headquarters to house 11 departments and some 230 employees.

The new building was blessed by His Excellency Bishop James MacDonald. Music for the occasion was provided by the Burlington Teen Tour band.

Following the ceremonies, guests were treated to wine and hors-d'oeuvres and a tour of the building.

Timbrell discusses proposals with Halton health council

The Halton District Health Council may know by mid-July whether or not the provincial government will be able to finance its proposals to implement a region-wide home care program for the chronically ill and to provide Halton Hills with nursing home accommodations.

A five-member delegation outlined the proposals for health minister Dennis Timbrell during an hour-long meeting May 25 at Queen's Park.

Health council chairman Terry Baines and executive director William Leonard described Mr. Timbrell's response to their presentation as "receptive" and "sympathetic".

COUNCIL HOPES
The Health Council's hopes of launching a \$600,000 to \$700,000 per year home care program for chronically ill residents of Halton numbering

about 1,500 appear to have the greatest chance of success, according to Mr. Baines. The health minister agreed to submit the proposal to the provincial Cabinet's board of management and give each of the Halton projects a priority rating for eventual funding.

Mr. Timbrell was reportedly receptive toward the Health Council's proposal to provide additional nursing home beds in Halton Hills but questioned the need to establish a full-fledged nursing home. He cited recent estimates which indicate that a 75 to 100-bed nursing home will not be needed in the municipality for another five years.

Mr. Leonard explained that the health minister wants to "nail down the number of nursing home beds required" over the course of the next few years and then negotiate their financing with the Cabinet board of management.

Mr. Timbrell told the Health

council delegation that he hopes to have a firm indication of the availability of funds for the Halton proposals by mid-July.

Attending the meeting in Toronto along with Mr. Baines and Mr. Leonard were Joy Parsons, administrator of Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital and chairman of the Health Council's long term care subcommittee, and Health Council research co-ordinator Patricia McLean.

HOME TREATMENT
A report prepared by Ms. McLean outlined the need for a home care program which would alleviate pressure already being felt by area hospitals and nursing homes by allowing patients with long term illnesses to be treated in their homes.

The Health Council's proposal have been sanctioned by Halton Hills town council and by Halton region's health and social services committee. Regional council endorsement is anticipated, Mr. Leonard said.

"All in all, Mr. Timbrell seemed quite familiar with the subject," Mr. Leonard commented. "He appeared to have been well-briefed and quite sympathetic, bearing in mind the number of competing proposals before him."

Proposals requiring provincial funds have already been submitted by health care authorities in Grey-Bruce, Brant and Essex counties and

are expected to receive a higher priority rating, Mr. Leonard said.

BYLAWS DON'T WORK

The town's bylaws prohibiting loitering, littering and vandalism are "unenforceable" according to Halton regional police officials contacted by downtown Acton merchants. Coun. Ed Wood related the appraisal to council Monday night and asked clerk-administrator Ken Richardson to prepare a report on the pertinent bylaws and their adaptability. Calling the request a worthwhile move, Mayor Pete Pomeroy acknowledged that Actonians "are having a hell of a time up there."

CARPET CORNER

SHOP-AT-HOME SERVICE

SHOP AT HOME SERVICE ONLY
653-3620
Carpet Corner
Drapes

The proper way to select your carpet - flooring - draperies is in your own home!

MANY ROOM SIZE REMNANTS IN STOCK

We specialize in courteous service, low prices, professional installation and Free Estimates

Call Today for Shop-At-Home Service

853-3620

Save And Save In Every Way

Frank Cuzzupe

DELICIOUS QUALITY VEGETABLES, FRUITS AND BRAND NAMES

WATCH FOR OUR

'DAILY SPECIAL'

Posted at the Entrance

CHECK THE YELLOW TAGS FOR MORE IN-STORE SPECIALS

Joe Scibilia

<p>Bananas</p> <p>Reg. 39¢ lb.</p> <p>4 lbs. \$1</p>	<p>USA Large Cantaloupes</p> <p>Reg. 99¢</p> <p>Only 59¢ ea.</p>	<p>Watermelons</p> <p>Reg. \$3.49</p> <p>\$2.49</p>
<p>Home-Grown Fresh Aparagus</p> <p>Reg. \$1.49</p> <p>99¢ lb.</p>	<p>Hostess Potato Chips</p> <p>Reg. 99¢</p> <p>75¢ bag</p>	<p>Ontario No. 1 Cooking Onions</p> <p>Reg. \$1.49</p> <p>10 lb. bag 99¢</p>
<p>Pepsi Cola</p> <p>Reg. \$6.49</p> <p>24 - 10 fl. oz. cans</p> <p>\$4.99</p>	<p>Canada Dry Ginger Ale</p> <p>Reg. 49¢ ea.</p> <p>750 ml Bottle</p> <p>3 FOR 98¢</p>	<p>Large Selection of Box Plants</p> <p>at</p> <p>Low, Low Prices</p>

GEORGETOWN FRUIT MARKET

140 GUELPH ST. We are Open Sundays 877-8882