

Acton man saves child from burning car

By ANIPEDERIAN
Herald Staff Writer
A truck driver for 18 years, John Kriticos of Acton has pulled over to help put out car fires before, but Friday night, he was a hero, rescuing a 19-month old baby from leaping flames.

Timothy Lachance of Rexdale was strapped securely in a child car seat behind the driver when Mr. Kriticos, 34, jumped out of his CN Express tractor trailer, asbestos lined gloves on hands, to unstrap him from a burning car.

The 1971 Mustang in which baby Timothy was a passenger had stopped on the side of Highway 401 near Dixie Road because Timothy's dad Raymond Lachance, 24, was having trouble with the windshield wipers. The roads were wet and visibility hampered by the slush being slapped by passing cars.

REAR-ENDED. While Mr. Lachance was working on the windshield wipers, a second car pulled up and rear-ended the Mustang, sending it across three lanes of heavy traffic.



JOHN KRITICOS car seat, having a 14-month old son himself. With the thick gloves he

was wearing to protect his hands, however, it was difficult to work the buckles, Mr. Kriticos said.

Trucker, Timothy only had his nose burnt at the tip. The heat burned Mr. Kriticos' hair and melted his CN Express jacket in spots. His voice was still hoarse Monday from smoke inhalation.

Mr. Kriticos was on his regular run from Toronto to Brampton when he saw the accident and pulled off the road to help.

When he got to Timothy, the child was frowning and pouting, waving his arms, but he wasn't screaming, Mr. Kriticos said.

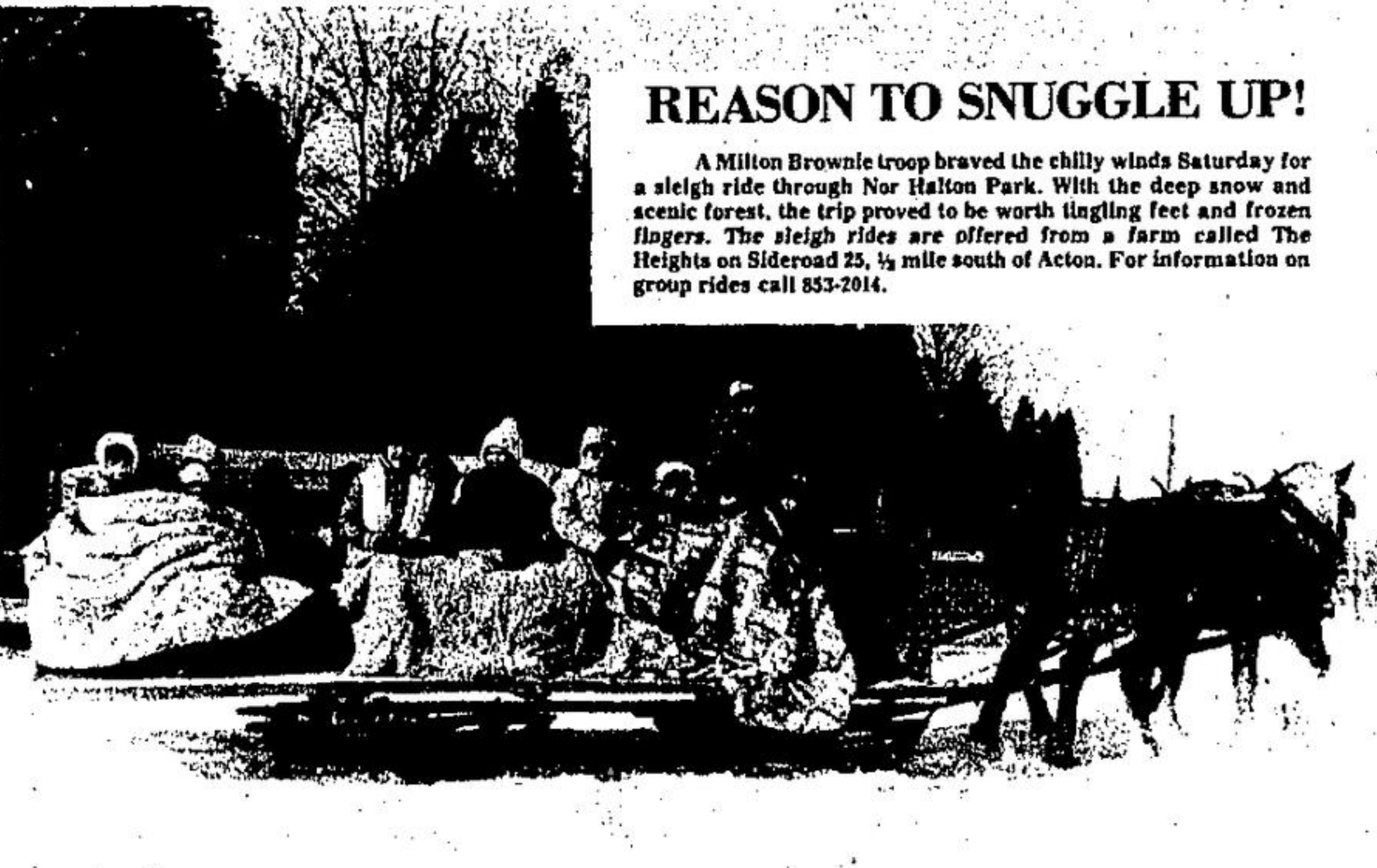
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REASON TO SNUGGLE UP!

A Milton Brownie troop braved the chilly winds Saturday for a sleigh ride through Nor Halton Park. With the deep snow and scenic forest, the trip proved to be worth tingling feet and frozen fingers. The sleigh rides are offered from a farm called The Heights on Sideroad 25, 1/4 mile south of Acton. For information on group rides call 853-2014.

Our town may face higher tax increase than Milton, Oakville

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer
Halton Hills residents may face a higher increase in their regional tax bills than homeowners in Milton, Oakville and Burlington this year.

The two main reasons for the difference is a special levy to pay for work in Halton proposed by the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) and the loss of a provincial grant.

CVCA PLANS
The CVCA wants to carry out a number of projects in the Credit River watershed through Halton Hills this year, including major drainage improvements along Georgetown's Armstrong Avenue which borders the river.

grant from the province which has helped offset Halton Hills' share of the regional levy for about eight years, regional treasurer Joe Rinaldo explained.

Lights at Fairgrounds damaged Rec official fumes over vandalism

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer
"It's senseless. Totally frustrating and aggravating." Those were the words of the recreation department's Al Hay as he

mulled over a damaged light control box Monday at Georgetown's Fairgrounds Park.

There was no estimate of the damage at press time.

and shut off automatically when the park closes at 11 p.m.).

Wine and Roses

The Georgetown Choral Society will host a party, gentle wine and munchies, Saturday Jan. 28, at 8 p.m. at Sacre Coeur Roman Catholic Church.

Vandals smashed the box - one of two at the park - over the weekend. The boxes, which stand about five feet off the ground and measure about four square feet, house timers and controls for field lights used during the summer baseball season and broomball in the winter.

This year, the recreation department iced a full-sized rink, regularly used by a local broomball league at night.

Whoever did this has hurt a lot of people planning to use the rink for nighttime activities," Mr. Hay said.

Pedestrian hit

The 46-year-old Acton driver of a 1982 GMC pickup truck didn't see a pedestrian crossing with a green light and struck a 53-year-old man Thursday.

Because of the action, nighttime winter sports at the park are in jeopardy, Mr. Hay, the department's superintendent of facilities, told The Herald that the damage won't be repaired until spring.

The league makes arrangements with the rec department to have the timers set so the lights go on for games

While the vandalism has curtailed nighttime use of the rink, he said the facility will be regularly watered.

Most controversial

Councillor John McDonald said it was the issue he has heard about most from his constituents since 1978.

SECOND INCIDENT
It was the second time in a week that one of the park's light control boxes had been vandalized. Chips and debris inside the most-recently damaged box and on the snow indicate that the damage was done with a heavy wooden object, Mr. Hay said.

The extent of the damage and the fact that heavy padlocks were snapped also suggests that the vandalism "wasn't done by ten year olds", he added.

Industrial landfill site planned for Lewiston, New York.

Sports

One of Georgetown's most successful hockey coaches has been named the seventh Hockey Heritage Award winner. See Sports Page B1 for the details. Also, the Raiders are on a five-game winning streak.

Halton supports Pollution Probe

With the safety of drinking water in mind, regional councillors last week gave \$1,000 to Pollution Probe, a non-profit organization currently opposed to an

expressed concern that the landfill operation could threaten Oakville and Burlington drinking water which is drawn from Lake Ontario.

It's unlikely the region will get a \$122,000

where in the region, again because a reduction in the provincial levy grant.

ment subsidies, Halton also estimates that it will need a \$9,022,000 capital budget this year.

Entertainment

Ballinlad residents will be rooting for Daryl Johnson. Snow White at JET. Page A11.



Halton Hills students are keenly aware of fire prevention, as awards presented by Halton's firefighters indicate. Holy Cross School's Leslie Dodson drew a poster about the dangers of throwing lit cigarettes and matches in the garbage. She captured first prize among all the girl competitors in the region in the annual poster contest. George Kennedy School's Paul Gardiner was the top boy competitor in Halton Hills with a poster captioned "Smoke In Bed... Turn Out Dead". Official presentations were made by firefighters at Halton's regional council headquarters last Wednesday.

MINOR HOCKEY WEEK



It may be a battle when they're on the ice together, but back in the dressing rooms most minor hockey players are happy to talk about the game with their opponents. Here Jeff Smith (right) of Andrew Murray Motors prepares for a game against Gordon Burke, and his A and S Engraving minor poewee team. Jan. 22 is Minor Hockey Week in Canada where some 500,000 boys and girls are involved in the sport.

Features

Minor hockey week stories on Page A4. A look back at Norval's old flour mill. Page A8.

(Herald photos)