



The variety of impressive vehicles on display for the Classics For Cancer car show Sunday at Cedarvale Park gave visitors a great deal to enjoy. At left is a 1921 Model-T Ford, used at the Dominion Seed House Garden Party Saturday to promote the show. Among the other classics on display were a Corvette (with a licence plate that said it all), owned by Bob Robinson of Brampton, and a 1966 Morgan, seen here with owner Ray Shier of Limehouse.

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Growth blueprint studied

If Halton is going to grow in the next 20 years the most active growth areas would be best located in North Oakville/Burlington and in the Milton urban area.

These are the conclusions of a report on Halton's urban structure compiled by the IBI Group for councillors June 15. IBI is conducting a multi-phased review of possible growth scenarios in Halton including the possibility of hooking up to water from Lake Ontario to allow more intense growth.

However, costs of hooking up to lake water are much higher than stream-based expansion, especially for the north.

The report names North Oakville/Burlington and Milton Centre as the least costly growth scenarios using lake water in the future.

Projected costs for those proposals are \$167.6 million and \$168.5 million, respectively.

The report identified the Milton/Halton Hills south growth scenario using lake water as the most expensive costing about \$179.6 million.

In the last 20 years Halton Hills has had the slowest growth rate among all the Region's municipalities growing by 9,000 people or just 1.5 per cent a year. In contrast, Burlington grew by almost 51,000 people or about three per cent in the same time period.

By the year 2011 Halton's population could range anywhere from 398,000 to 474,000, the IBI report said.

If the lower end of the growth scale occurs then Halton's urban areas will still be able to accommodate another 63,000 people and Halton Hills alone could handle another 20,000 people in the urban areas.

If growth proceeds much more rapidly and the population of Halton expands to almost 500,000, the Region's urban areas would have a shortfall of space for about 25,000 people while Halton Hills' urban areas could still handle another 2,000 residents.

The impact of growth on residential taxpayers in Halton is quite substantial for the lake-based scenarios. The North Oakville/Burlington growth scenario would cost taxpayers in the Region an extra \$8 on their taxes and the Milton centre growth concept would cost about \$9 per resident. The Halton Hills south/Milton centre growth scenario would cost from \$6 to \$8 per household, the IBI report indicates.

Halton's Treasurer Joe Rinaldo

said those tax increases likely wouldn't be steady.

Taxes would need to be raised substantially for five or six years of concentrated development, said Mr. Rinaldo.

However, tax increases to pay for growth could virtually be eliminated if the Region implements commercial and industrial lot levies, said Mr. Rinaldo.

Population growth always assumes a certain amount of industrial growth and lot levies plus front end investment by that sector could eliminate the cost of growth to current residents of Halton, he said.

Lake-based growth would be "the largest size project that the Region by far would have ever undertaken," said Mr. Rinaldo.

The costs would have to be shared with the province, he said.

"If you're doing it yourself I'd say no, it's too big a risk."

Future reports are expected to delineate possible land use areas and development boundaries for some of the less costly growth scenarios.

The entire report is expected to cost \$180,000 split evenly between the province, Halton Region and the town of Milton, which initiated the study.

Legion ladies

By MID BRUNSKI
Herald Special

Your Sick Convener, Mae Lawr, informed us of the Walk-a-thon to be held at the Bennett Centre next week and your auxiliary have pledged our support to Myrt Zillio in this endeavor to raise funds to help research into Alzheimer's disease. Good luck Myrt. We are proud of you.

Glad to have Doris Chamberlin and Ethel Anthony home from hospital but unfortunately Barbara Reyce is still in hospital, and her friends wish her a speedy recovery.

The team of Jean Reid, Lottie Bottoms, Gwyneth Thompson, and Sharon Middleton, will be going to provincial darts tournament June 25 in Cockrane. Good luck ladies.

The appreciation dinner held by the Branch for the ladies last night was a huge success and our thanks go out to the new executive and especially Harold Badhams.

You will have all summer to prepare for your birthday dinner Sept. 10 and remember, it's our 60th. Your bazaar is Nov. 26 so please keep working on your knitting etc.

We will be entertaining our friends from Plymouth with a dinner Aug. 19. I know you will like to come out for this one. See you there.

This is my last column as Yvonne Graham will be your future public relations officer. I know she will do a terrific job. Good luck Yvonne.

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Closing criticized

The plans of the Canada Post Corporation proposing closing down rural post offices has drawn angry criticism from Carlo Testa, who seeks the nomination of the Progressive Conservative Party in the new Federal Riding of Halton-Peel.

Carlo Testa, a Director of the National Executive of the PC party has addressed a letter to Mr. Itarvic Andre, MP, reminding him of the Standing Committee on Government Operation's recommendation that Canada Post not take into consideration the closing of rural post offices to achieve economic saving.

In his letter to Mr. Andre, Mr. Testa commented: "I live and work in a small village. The post office is not only a place to collect mail. It is the social centre of our life. Neighbor meets neighbor. It is a place to talk and to exchange information. Closing the post office shows total lack of sensitivity to the fine elements of our life, all in the name of 'saving some money'."

In his letter to the Minister Mr. Testa continued: "We all wish Canada Post to be more efficient and cost conscious. But there are many areas where savings can be achieved (eg.: increase the postage cost of junk mail) without affecting the quality of the service."

Mr. Testa's letter concluded with an appeal to the Minister, asking him to instruct Canada Post to look elsewhere for savings, and publicly reassure the rural communities that there shall be no closure of existing facilities.

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