

Bill Gibbs celebrates 95th birthday

At the age of 95, Bill Gibbs can attest to experiencing many things most of us will only know of from history books.

To begin with, he's probably handled more jobs in his lifetime than most people could imagine, he's seen the passing of two world wars, and he's been a witness to the steady growth of his community, here in Halton Hills.

Mr. Gibbs, who lives at the Bennett Health Care Centre in Georgetown, will turn 95 on Aug. 14, and in tribute, a celebration is being launched by the local Legion he helped to found. A reception will be held at the Legion, on Saturday Aug. 13 from 2 to 4 p.m.

"I was almost the first Legionnaire in town," said Mr. Gibbs, conceding there were about six men ahead of him.

The town back in thirties was not the Halton Hills we know today, said Mr. Gibbs. "There were no sidewalks, nothing - all dirt roads," he said.

Mr. Gibbs served in the First World War in France, which is where he lost his hearing, said his son William Jr.

Mr. Gibbs was a part-time blacksmith, "shantying" in the back woods after the war, has been a railroad worker on the Grand Trunk. He worked in Brampton for a horse trader, was landlord at a Sargent Court apartment building and worked at Smith and Stone for 30 years until he retired at age 69 in 1961.

Bill Gibbs Jr. said his dad quit smoking at age 84, hasn't had a drink since age 80 and stopped driving a car five years ago.

"He used to come to my place when he was 90, change his oil and grease his car," said the younger Mr. Gibbs.

Bill Gibbs originally from Sprucedale Ontario, near Haliburton, and moved to Georgetown around 1920, where he met his wife-to-be Elsie Blythe and got another job.

"We used to stone quarry in Glen Williams for quite a while," said Mr. Gibbs.

He recalls his family home near Smith and Stone and the humorous experiences the family had there.

"We built a boat in the basement and couldn't get it out the door. We had to section the basement to get it out," he said.

Mr. Gibbs remembers being a fan of the Georgetown Raiders hockey team, lining up at the arena for tickets for his mother and father, and joining the throngs of adoring Raiders fans.

And Mr. Gibbs can recall the McGibbon tavern on Mill Street where salespeople used to show up to peddle their wares. "We used to take the big trunks and put them in the windows of the McGibbon," he explained, claiming that the trunks would not fit through the door.

Almost a century old, Mr. Gibbs has lived a very full life, but he remains a man-on-the-go.

He is a popular man in town. Everyone in the Bennett Health Care Centre where he lives says "Hello Bill" as he walks past. And his ability to try his hand at any occupation hasn't waned.

He still gets out to water the garden.

Celebrates 50th anniversary



John and Elizabeth McLean celebrated their 50th anniversary on the weekend, as a reception was held in their honor at the Holy Cross auditorium. Mr. and Mrs. McLean were married on Aug. 7, 1938 in Bell Island,

Nfld., and have lived in Georgetown for the past 22 years. They have five sons and nine grandsons who also live in Georgetown. Guests attended the reception to honor the couple from as far as Newfoundland, New York and Toronto. (Herald photo)

Workers continue at station

The Georgetown VIA railway station receiving a facelift should be completed by the end of the summer, according to VIA representative, Bev Smith. Workers began refurbishing the station in the late fall of 1987, but had to stop for the winter months, she said.

The work, which is contracted out to various companies, includes restoration of the old cathedral ceiling, enlargement of the waiting room and replacement of the ticket counters. Outside the station workers will be painting wood trim, replacing eavestroughs, installing a new shingled roof, repointing the masonry (adding mortar and bricks) improving drainage and resurfacing the platform. Ms. Smith added that entrances and washrooms will be made accessible to the handicapped.

Work on the joint VIA-GO station is funded exclusively by VIA.

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People help wishes come true

By Bryan Lewis
Make A Wish Chairman
Prior to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of Make A Wish of Halton; it is our intent to report to the residents of Halton Hills regarding some of the activities that Make A Wish has been involved in during the past year.

Any organization is as good as those that assist in the tough task of fundraising, and the first order of business is to acknowledge the hard-working pair of Wayne King and Dave Kemshead who have been prominent in their endeavors, all on behalf of Make A Wish.

After being contacted by the Halton Children's Aid Society, Make A Wish donated \$2,000 to assist in the purchase of a wheelchair lift for the family van, to enable a 9-year-old to enter with ease. We joined Elizabeth McNeilly of Elizabeth's Fashions in her assistance of Paul Franks and donated \$2,000 to cover transportation costs of moving Paul from Georgetown to a U.S. hospital.

Make A Wish assisted Centennial School in the organization of a trip to Disneyworld for a three-year-old

Volunteers needed

Your local Volunteer Centre is in desperate need of volunteers in Georgetown and Acton.

Programs such as the Friendly Visitor Program of the V.O.N., urgently needs warm and caring people to give support and assistance to client and/or family members.

The Volunteer Centre has a variety of placements available from which to choose. Help improve the health and social well-being of the citizens of Halton Hills.

For information contact the Volunteer Centre at 877-3219.



necessary monies, for a school trip, due to family problems.

To the many individuals, companies and corporate sponsors at Make A Wish events, a very sincere Thank You, and as one can see by the aforementioned, the causes are there; the need is there; and the rewards are great.

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cancer-stricken youth. In addition to the planning, ticketing, etc., Make A Wish guaranteed the funds needed to make this trip a successful reality.

Recently Make A Wish supplied three handicapped youngsters with over \$700 to ensure their ability to have a summer-ending trip to Northern Ontario. A further glance back through the Make A Wish Scrap Books find car molds purchased for a needy deaf girl and funds supplied to a youngster unable to provide the

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Bill Gibbs celebrates his 95th birthday with a party at the Georgetown branch of the Royal Canadian Legion this weekend. Mr.



Gibbs served in the First World War, and was one of the original members of the Georgetown legion.

Golf fun day was a success



Legion Lines

By Jim Hayes

The golf fun-day invitational was a great success. Chairman Harold Badham wishes to thank all who donated prizes, and worked to make this event go over so well. The Ralph Hawes Trophy for low net score was awarded to Mad Korzack. Well done, Mac.

CAR CLUB. Winners in the draw held Aug. 4 were 130 Myra Peasey, 201 Brian Millere, 442 Joan Herr-

ington, 277 Wayne Norton, 353 Ab Tennant, 125 Dennis Thorogood.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON MEAT DRAW: Winners were Bea Clark, Dolores Doucette, Colin Gibson, Dave Capperault, Harold Badham, Pete Smith, Larry Doucette, Marg Hodder, Bruce Collins, Frank Nicholson, Gib Telford. The steaks were won by Bea Clark. Entertainment in the Lounge for Aug. 13 is BOOTS.



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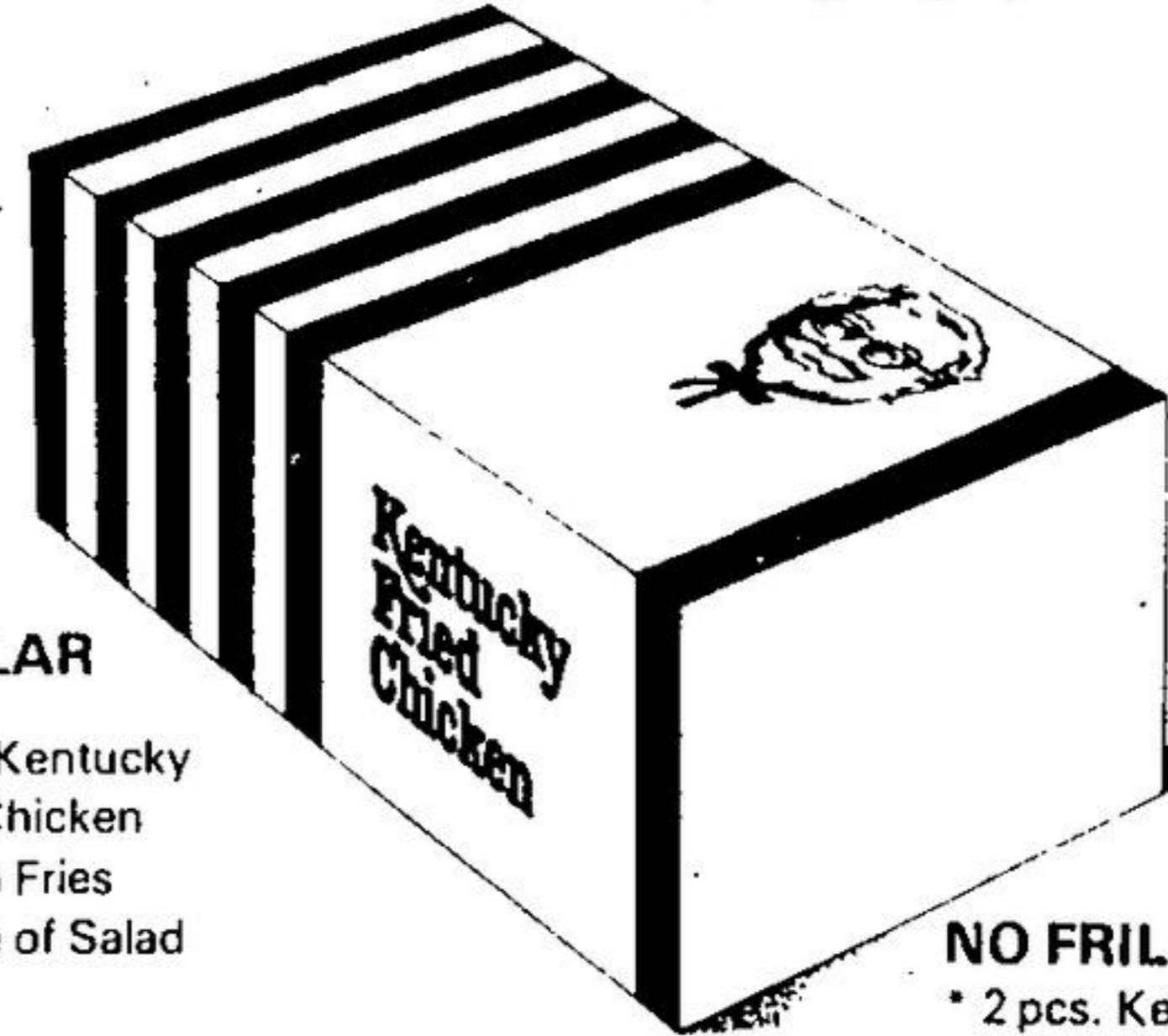
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