

30 years ago

Georgetown Christian Reformed Church became the official charge of Rev. D.C. Los, formerly of Holland following an installation service conducted by one time guest minister Rev. John Van Harmelen, now of Oshawa. Rev. Los who came here from his homeland two months ago preached his first sermon as the church's resident minister.

The Georgetown Girls Pipe Band and a delegation of local Lions took part in the biggest parade in the history of Windsor when they attended the annual District A Ontario and Quebec convention this year staged in the motor city, from Sunday, May 31 to Wednesday, June 3, 1959.

Work has started at the Limehouse range where the Georgetown Revolver Club are converting their firing area to a modern indoor range. Completion date for the 75-ft. long structure has been set for July 1, 1989. Club bulletin editor Sam Meltzer told the Herald the building would cost in the neighborhood of \$2,700 and would be added onto the present club which has been in use for two years. As well as serving as an indoor range, the extension would double as a dance hall and will give needed meeting space for the expanding club.

15 years ago

A 47-year-old Halton Hills resident was selected as the New Democratic Party candidate for the Halton Riding at a nomination convention held in Milton last Thursday evening. Archie Brown, of Speyside, a community six miles north of Milton, defeated candidate Don Wackley, 43, of Milton. Mr. Brown in his speech said that the Liberals were guilty of "persistent mismanagement of the country."

More than a hundred youngsters of North Halton and District cub packs assembled at the Georgetown Fairgrounds for a "cubaree" festival. The theme of the day, native Canadian lore and customs, was received with enthusiasm especially by the brightly costumed cubs who participated in traditional games of skill and valor. The participating packs were the following: 5th A and B Georgetown, 1st, 2nd and 4th and 8th Georgetown, Ballinafad, Limehouse, Acton and Norval.

A significant chapter in Georgetown's history ended when Chapel Street School held its closing day ceremony. More than 500 people came out to recapture, in one sunny Sunday afternoon, the memories of their public school education.

Halton's History from our files

10 years ago

Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy cut the ribbon with the assistance of manager Bob Dudgeon and media personality Fred Davis to open the new Miracle Mart in Georgetown. The opening actually started the night before with the presentation of the Sports Builder Award, co-sponsored by Miracle Mart and the Herald, to Gerry Perkins. Following the presentation, guests were given a tour of the new store.

Stan Lorusso claimed the top prize at the Georgetown Raiders' Awards banquet Friday night at St. George's Hall as he was named the 1978-79 recipient of the Jack Harrison Award. "I've had a lot of bowling trophies," Lorusso said, "but this has to be the biggest and most prized award I have ever taken."

Amanda Humphreys, 18, won the gold medal in swimming at the Ontario Special Olympics held at the Etobicoke Olympian. Amanda was the only athlete from the Halton area to compete in the Special Olympics. She was also entered in three other swimming events, and her placings were good enough for a second place finish overall in the 18-19 year old, girls category.

5 years ago

A Montreal man bought the former Riviera Club in Norval. Ron Anderson is the new owner of the octagonal shaped building by the banks of the Credit River. He proposes to call his club The Madison. "We'll be trying things that have been tried in the U.S. before but never down here," Mr. Anderson said.

Business from Georgetown met to map out final plans for the BIG celebration. Show organizers and committee heads spoke at Alcott Hall to the 152 exhibitors about the exhibition celebrating Georgetown's 120th anniversary as a town.

After investing approximately \$35,000 in his car, Limehouse resident Bill LeFeuvre was ready to compete in car racing. Mr. LeFeuvre is involved with championship autocross racing and drives, what he calls, "a very sophisticated dune buggy." He raced at Exhibition Stadium in Toronto.

Fight for freedom breeds bloodshed

Kell's Korner

Donna Kell
Herald Staff

My friend's voice over the phone was emotional, but strong and aware. She had spent most of her life in China. Canada was her second home. And her brothers and sisters under siege in Beijing left a pain in her heart for the country that has suffered too long.

I was maid of honor at Maggie's wedding. We sat up many times until four in the morning talking from the heart about everything that mattered. So when the Chinese government under Deng Xiaoping commanded marshal law over the square known as the gate of heavenly peace, I wondered how Maggie felt.

Maggie's heart is with the students. Her husband and her 90-year-old mother-in-law met with thousands of Chinese in Toronto who felt the same thing for their homeland. Maggie's mother-in-law may not truly understand what is happening to her homeland, but

she was there, holding a banner for her countrymen, and failing to relinquish tight bonds that climb over miles of oceans and mainlands.

The media reports say that anywhere from 500 to thousands of protesters were killed. The communist government in China is calling the incident a counter-revolution that needed to be quelled.

But the Chinese everywhere are calling it a revolution to install democracy in a country now torn by poverty - now unable to speak freely.

It's time for a change, Maggie said to me over the phone Sunday from her East Toronto home. She said that civilization in the form of communism had left people poverty-stricken.

And the fight is more than the students, said Maggie, whose years at the University of Toronto helped her gain an understanding of different political situations. The students simply spurred on what was in the hearts and minds of many Chinese.

The bloodied Tiananmen Square is now littered with the bodies of those people, whose spirit kept up throughout hunger strikes - those who saw light at the end of the dark tunnel of political constriction.

LETTERS

Auto Club members angry over "regressive" budget

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter to Ontario Premier David Peterson was filed with the Herald for publication.

Dear Mr. Peterson:
I must firmly state that never in my more than thirty years of working on government matters have I seen anything so regressive, discriminatory or inflationary as the heavy handed budget thrust upon motorists by your government on May 17, 1989.

There has never been an Ontario budget which has generated such angry response - by telephone and by visits - to our offices in Halton, Hamilton-Wentworth, Haldimand and Brant County. Senior citizens, motor home owners, truck operators, car owners and motorists generally are incredulous when they learn the full range of the impact upon them caused by your proposed tax measures. "Tax Revolt" are common words being used.

Through the gasoline tax increases of one cent per litre on May 17 and again on January 1, 1990; through the propane fuel tax of 2.3 cents per litre on July 1 and 4.3 cents on January 1; through the fuel consumption tax; through the hefty motor vehicle registration fee increases ranging from 22 per cent to 67 per cent; through the increase in drivers' licence fees from \$21 to \$30; and through the \$5 tire tax your government has struck at

motorists regardless of their ability to pay; regardless of their need of a car for essential travel; regardless of their need of a car to earn a living; and regardless of the added cost to companies to do business.

The regionalization of motor vehicle licence fees is ill-conceived. Apparently designed to assist the Toronto transportation infrastructure, it assumes that everyone on the periphery of Metro gravitates to Toronto. This regressive tax further penalizes those on low or fixed incomes. Unfortunately, those Regional Municipal Chairman (especially Mr. Peter Pomeroy) who advocated a third level of taxation are not elected by the voters as in Hamilton-Wentworth. Elected officials would be more accountable to the voters and would think twice before asking for extra motor vehicle fees. This application of a third level of taxation is totally ill-advised.

To suggest that these new tax revenues will be used to improve transportation and the environment is totally unjustified. For years the Ontario Government (unlike most other provincial governments) has been collecting far more in revenue from motorists than it has been willing to spend to maintain and upgrade our road system - once the premier system in North American and

much envied by other highway authorities - now desperately in need of repair.

With your new tax proposals, you will be collecting about two billion dollars from road users and spending about one billion on roads. We have clearly established in previous submissions that subways and transit costs should not be charged to the motorist. Ontario motorists are also paying one third of federal taxes nearing another \$1.8 billion in federal excise and sales taxes on gasoline and fuel charges to Ontario motorists, and the Federal Government is putting virtually none of that into roads in this province. Between your government and the Federal Government you will be collecting \$3.9 billion from Ontario motorists and approximately 30 per cent is put back into our transportation system.

Mr. Peterson, our 200,000 HAC members are angry, and our 1.3 million Ontario members are angry. We wish to discuss their concerns with you. May we please have the opportunity to meet with you for that purpose.

Yours very truly,
A.U. Oakie, President
Hamilton Automobile Club
Spokesman for CAA Ontario

Civic Centre should be the heart of the community

Dear Citizens of Halton Hills:

On Tuesday, May 30, the Halton Hills Civic Centre opened its doors to the community. The architect, the contractors, workmen and town staff have succeeded in turning blueprints into Council Chambers, offices and meeting rooms. In addition, the Civic Centre has many public areas to be shared by all of us, the citizens of Halton Hills.

Making the Civic Centre the heart of our community and a showplace that reflects the beauty, spirit and history of Halton Hills is a job we think you might like to share. There are still opportunities

to donate items or money to provide the extras which are not considered essential and therefore are not covered by the construction budget.

The Civic Centre Donations Committee invites individuals, community groups and local businesses to participate in furnishing the public spaces inside and out through commemorative gifts that will purchase landscaping materials, art works, decorative items and equipment. Our goal is to have our centre in beautiful shape for the official opening, August 26, 1989. All donations are deductible for income tax

purposes and individuals donating over \$50 will receive recognition on our plaque placed at the entrance.

Our committee has prepared a gift list with suggested donations for consideration. We will be happy to discuss any of these items with you or any additional ideas you might have. Won't you join us in making our Civic Centre a beautiful as well as useful place? Please call Fred Helson at 877-5206 or Gary Brand at 873-0300.

Sincerely,
Lois Fraser,
Publicity Co-ordinator
Civic Centre Donations Committee

Post Office passing along its secrets



Weir's View

By Ian Weir
Thomson News Service

It is so thrilling to learn that Canada Post has launched a top-secret and futuristic research program to upgrade mail delivery.

Just think of it. Good ol' Canada Post, serving as a prime example of the advantages of high-tech ingenuity.

Quite a change from its traditional role, which has been to serve as a prime example of the advantages of using private courier services.

There's been controversy ever since news of the research program leaked out last week, due largely to reports (since denied) that part of the plan is to introduce a 10-digit postal code.

Apparently, 10 digits would enable Canada Post to assign a separate code to each and every dwelling-place in the country. Or to put it another way, it would let them identify the precise destination to which they will not be delivering your letter until December.

But according to the news report, introduction of the new

code will depend on public reaction to the idea, and on "the perfection of technology now in the hands of Canada Post."

This is the part I really like. Kind of conjures up visions of the postmaster-general delivering that famous line to the Six-Million-Dollar Man: "We have the technolog to rebuild you. On the other hand, we don't yet have the technology to get you anywhere for three or four weeks, unless you'd like to go Priority Post..."

But stop. Shame on me. I'm being snide and cynical, instead of sharing in the excitement of the research program.

And boy, it's exciting. According to none other than The Globe and Mail, plans for the 10-digit code are just one small part of a massive and secret research effort known as... wait for it... the Paradigm Project.

Kind of sends chills up your spine, doesn't it?

Previous attempts to upgrade postal service have been outlined in boring old White Papers, and have been discussed openly by politicians and bureaucrats.

But the Paradigm Project sounds unmistakably like something that can be discussed only by Maxwell Smart and the Chief, and only then under the Cone of Silence.

And it gets better. According to the report, the Paradigm Project is actually based "in an unmarked warehouse in the east end of Ottawa."

It is not known for certain whether this is the very same "seemingly abandoned warehouse" used by the Green Hornet. But we can always hope.

In this warehouse, the report claims, technological wizards are looking for ways to upgrade delivery and streamline sorting processes by conducting experiments in a fictitious computer-model town called Paraville, Alta.

This is the point at which it actually becomes spooky. Somewhere in the east end of Ottawa, Canada Post is trying to upgrade its services by sending non-existent posties out to deliver non-existent mail to non-existent homes.

Close your eyes, and you can almost hear a dark voice intoning: "Wilber Finsterwald was fed up. Wilber Finsterwald demanded to know why he couldn't expect next-day delivery. And then one morning Wilber Finsterwald woke up in Paraville, Alberta... in the Twilight Zone."

And meanwhile, we're told, Canada Post has launched an "extensive internal investigation" to determine who leaked word of the top-secret project - which in itself brings certain intriguing scenes to mind...

"Finch, did you leak word of our project to the newspapers?"
"Well, I... I suppose I may have passed a few tidbits of information along..."