

Dump takes a jump

It's taken more than a dozen years, but Halton officials are finally enjoying some good news about their new landfill in Milton — it's ahead of schedule.

Public works commissioner Art Leitch said Wednesday that "superb" general contractor Pre-Eng Contracting Ltd. has Phase 1

"well ahead of schedule," enabling the Region to reschedule Phase 2 work as part of Phase 1.

Regional Chairman Pete Pomeroy noted that Halton is spending \$1.5 million a month while the dump is being prepared. It's scheduled to open next November.

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Longtime Georgetown resident Roy Snell was surprised Wednesday as his sister, Edna Court of Brampton, delivered his belated war medals to his bedside in Georgetown Hospital. The medals were awarded for his years of service in the Merchant Marines during WW2.

TED BROWN Halton Hills Weekend

Medals for valiant man

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Gaspesian.

"Both the Gaspesian and Mount Robson were brand new ships when we boarded them," say Roy. "They were used to haul all sorts of cargo; everything from explosives to lumber to lead. The lead was used to make bullets and we drew it to New Zealand."

"We even hauled wheat to Australia, and most times sailed lone ship, without a convoy," recalls Roy. "When I was down in the engine room, I kept looking up those long ladders, and asked myself, 'How long will it take me to get up that damn ladder if we get torpedoed?'"

Roy also reminisces about sailing out of New York harbor one night in a convoy, but by morning their ship was alone.

"Subs were sighted in the area, so we (the convoy) split up and drifted

in a zigzag course, to throw 'em off, just off the coast of England," grins Roy. "Another time some mines busted loose in a storm and we spent most the time looking out for them. If you hit one of them, you didn't have to worry a whole lot about the end of the war."

Roy's not the only Snell who's a WW2 veteran. Brother Elmer served four years in the Ordnance Corps in Europe, while older brother Jack served with the Argyle Southern Highlanders from Hamilton, and was killed in action in France in 1944.

The Snell family originated in Snelgrove, and all Roy's family members live nearby. Sisters Edna, Vi, Evelyn and Irene all live in the Brampton area.

When asked how he felt about waiting more than 40 years for his medals, Roy was straightforward;

"I'm just glad they got here. Let's face it, they're better late than never."



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