

# COMMENT

## *The way we were*



### *Early morning milk run*

Irwin Noble used his horse and cart to deliver milk from 1931 until 1959.

*Text courtesy of John Mark Benbow Rowe, Georgetown: Reflections of a Small Town  
Photo courtesy of Esquesing Historical Society*



*From our readers*

## SPRING IS IN THE AIR

Ross Pezzack took this photo on the Bruce Trail near Speyside.

Got a photo you want to share? Email [cgamble@theifp.ca](mailto:cgamble@theifp.ca)

## A new tool in war on strokes

On April 2, the Ontario Legislature debated and passed an important resolution aimed at improving rehabilitation services for victims of stroke.

While stroke is the third leading cause of death in Canada, it is estimated that there are 90,000 people in Ontario today who are living with the effects of a stroke.

Strokes account for 20,000 emergency visits and 15,350 in-patient hospital admissions.

Fifty-five per cent of stroke patients are discharged home from hospital, but 23 per cent are discharged to rehabilitation facilities.

Among patients who need outpatient or community-based rehabilitation, all will need physiotherapy and occupational therapy and half will need speech language pathology.

Almost every family has been touched by this debilitating condition, including my own.

In spite of all this, there is hope.

Research has shown that frequent and consistent post stroke rehabilitation— speech language pathology, physiotherapy, and occupational therapy— can significantly enhance the health and mobility of patients.

Unfortunately, there is currently a gap in coverage for rehabilitation services for stroke victims who are between the ages of 20 and 64.

If they do not have private health insurance, they may not be able to access the rehabilitation services they need, which would enable them to recover to the greatest extent possible.

My colleague Whitby-Oshawa

MPP Christine Elliott deserves credit for highlighting this issue in the Ontario Legislature.

Her motion, urging the government to find the necessary in-year savings to fill this gap in needed health services for Ontarians, received the unanimous support of the House.

Now, it is up to the government to respond.

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Congratulations to Fred Helson on being recognized as this year's Georgetown Lions Citizen of the Year.

I first got to know Fred a few years ago when, by chance, we sat together at a roast beef dinner which was being held at Knox Presbyterian Church.

I honestly don't recall if politics came up during our conversation, but I do remember how impressed I was to meet this fine gentleman.

Only later did I come to know of Fred's extraordinary community contributions (including his interest in politics).

As a trusted member of the legal profession, a dedicated volunteer in community organizations too numerous to list here, and a generous philanthropist, Fred Helson embodies community activism at its very best.

His devoted service and spirit are an example for us all.

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Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott welcomes your comments. He can be reached at 1-800-265-2366. His website address is [www.tedarnottmpp.com](http://www.tedarnottmpp.com).



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