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Plot thickens at Tuscan Ridge

Developer wants zoning assurances for two lots before restoring pioneer cemetery

By DONNA DANIELLI

The fate of the resting place for members of the Kean family is still undecided. A lengthy Town of Milton Council meeting ended with no resolution in sight on what to do about the pioneer cemetery that lies in the middle of a proposed subdivision site.

Tuscan Ridge Developments Limited applied to the Town last February for a zoning change to allow them to develop an additional two lots. A public meeting was held, and Town staff brought forth a recommendation that the zoning be approved, but only once certain conditions have been met.

The Kean family cemetery rests at the south west corner of Kean Hill and Second Line in Moffat. It consists of a collapsed fieldstone wall enclosing an approximate 3 x 3 metre area and two headstones. The larger of the two headstones reads "This Stone of Remembrance Marks the Burial Ground of Benjamin Kean and Jane McKinley and Family Interned 29th January 1831". Research done by the Nasagiyewa-Historical Society shows 11 children were born to Benjamin Kean and Jane McKinley but it is not known how many family members are interned at this site.

The Town's planning staff have recommended approval of the zoning change but only after Tuscan Ridge Developments has provided an archaeologist report confirming the boundaries of the cemetery, installed fencing to demarcate the limits of the cemetery, cleared the overgrowth within the demarcated area, provided permanent access to the cemetery and reinstated the headstones. Only then will the final approval be given.

"Tuscan Ridge is receptive to complying with Town staff's concerns and other people's concerns with respect to the cemetery, in terms of ensuring that it is properly defined, the walls restored, the brushes taken out, there's a proper trail and access to it," says Tim McCabe of Green Scheels Pidgeon Planning Consultants, (Tuscan Ridge's acting agent). "But they are not willing to put this time and cost into this unless they can be assured that the approvals are in place. I haven't run into too many situations where you actually have to undertake all the work, landscaping plans and certain things that you attach as conditions to development before the approvals are given."

Mr. McCabe went on to argue

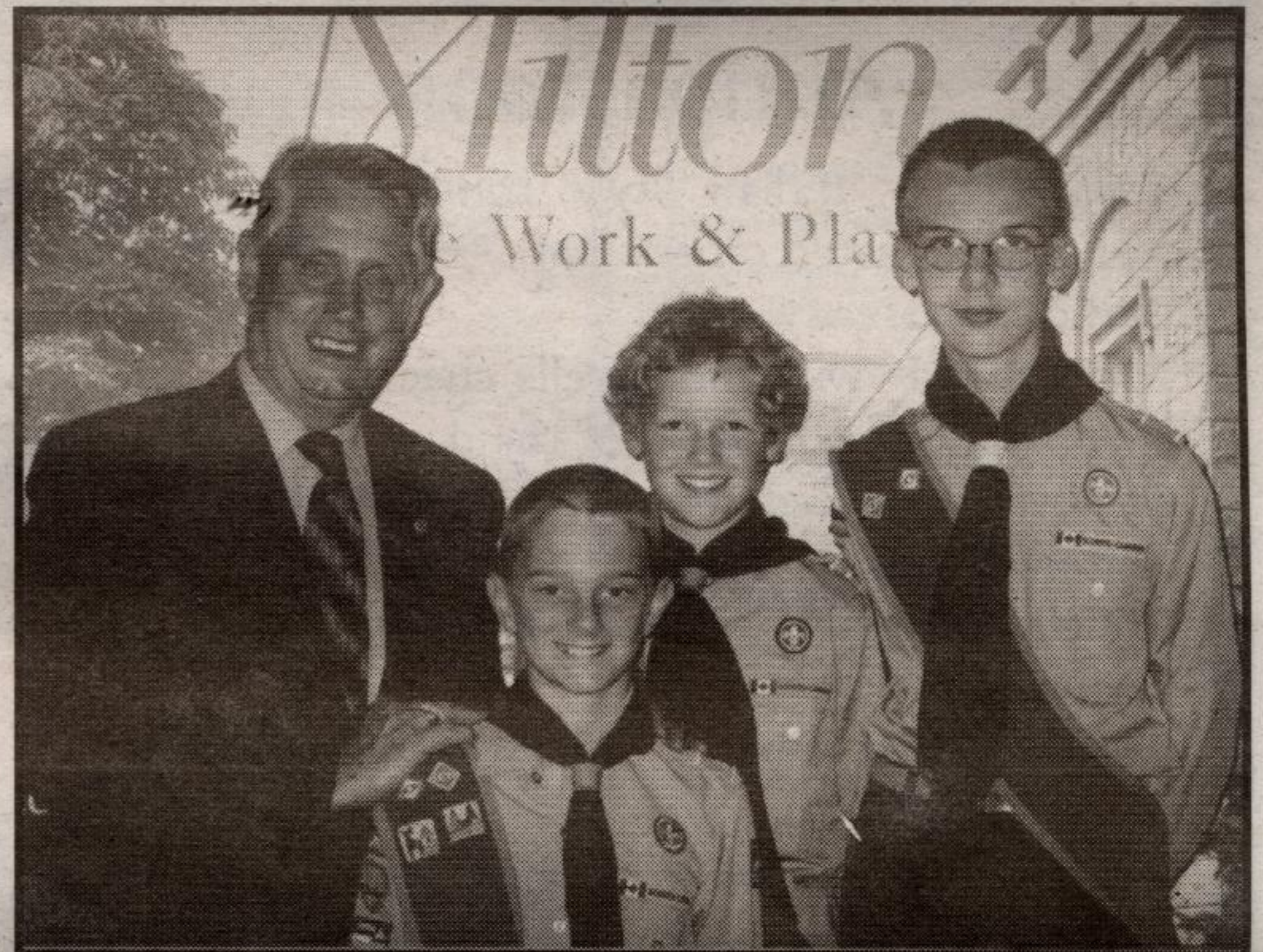
that the Committee of Adjustment and Consent has within its jurisdiction all the planning act authority needed to ensure Tuscan Ridge complies with these conditions, and the Town is out of order in attaching these conditions to its zoning approval.

"If Tuscan Ridge does not perform in terms of satisfying the Town with respect to the cemetery matter, we're never going to be able to create the lots."

Mr. McCabe and the Town also disagreed on the best access route to the cemetery. The Town staff report indicates having direct access to the cemetery from Second Line is unacceptable due to sightline problems and recommends that access be given from Kean Hill Drive. A traffic consultant hired by Tuscan Ridge has recommended that as this would mean an access trail of approximately 133 metres that includes a steep 20 foot embankment, that a small parking lot created just off Second Line would be more appropriate.

Yet another issue to be resolved is one of ownership. Who will ultimately take responsibility for the Kean family cemetery? Tuscan

(Continued on page 6)



Smiling Scouts

Photo By DONNA DANIELLI

The 1st Campbellville Scouts were selected as one of the many recipients for the Milton Community Fund. The group received \$11,417 to purchase camping equipment and storage containers.

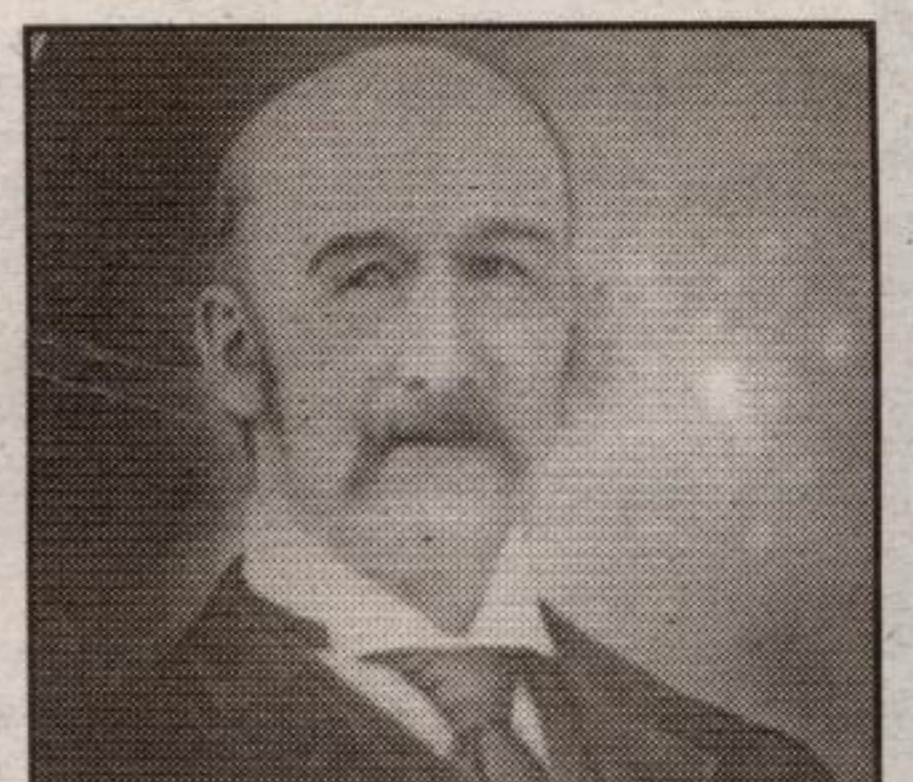
On hand for the July award ceremony were (right to left): Milton Mayor Gord Krantz, Andy McClelland, John Russell and Dylan Sands.

Inside this Month's Compass

Shoebox Memories

William, youngest son of John and Agnes Fisher, remained on the Lot 9, Conc. 5 homestead. He married Mary Miller, raised a large family, and the couple were dedicated members of Boston Presbyterian Church.

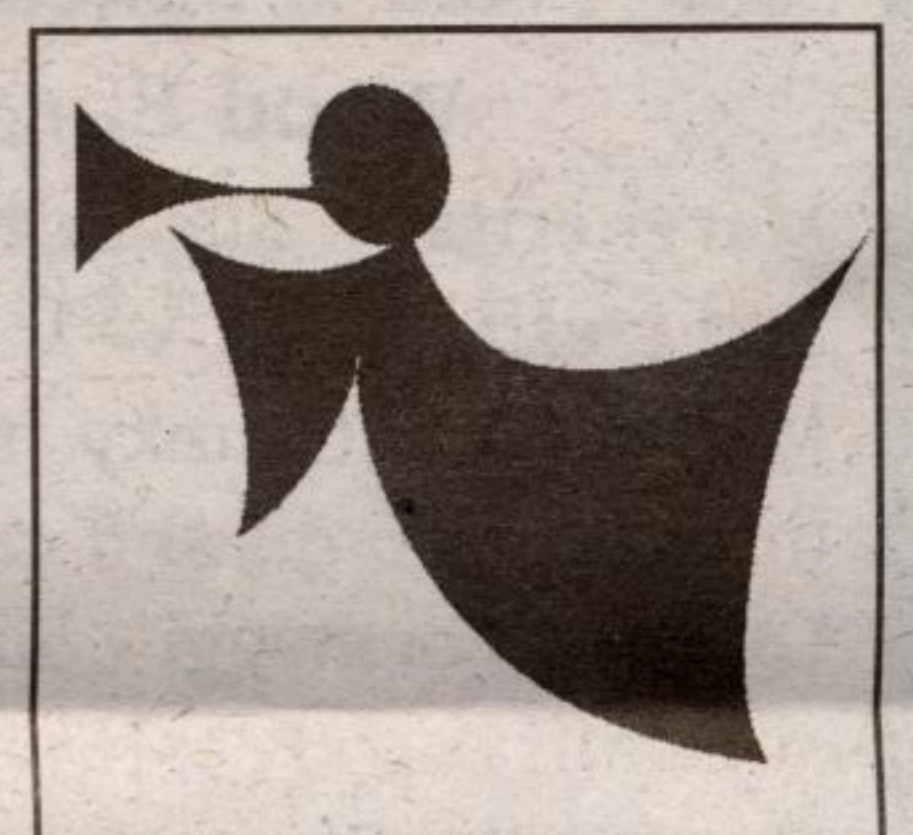
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Idle Pursuits

Sure it's still summer but that doesn't mean it's too early to be thinking about the winter months, in particular Christmas. Local church members are already preparing for a very special Nativity Pageant.

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Community Cornerstone

Hiding behind his lens you may not recognize Robert McCaw, but you'll sure recognize his work. He captures nature shots that are published in numerous sources - magazines, books, calendars and more.

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