

Miltonians honoured for efforts to preserve local history

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT

The Milton Historical Society (MHS) and Heritage Milton held their annual awards ceremony on February 20 to recognize the efforts of Miltonians who have completed heritage projects.

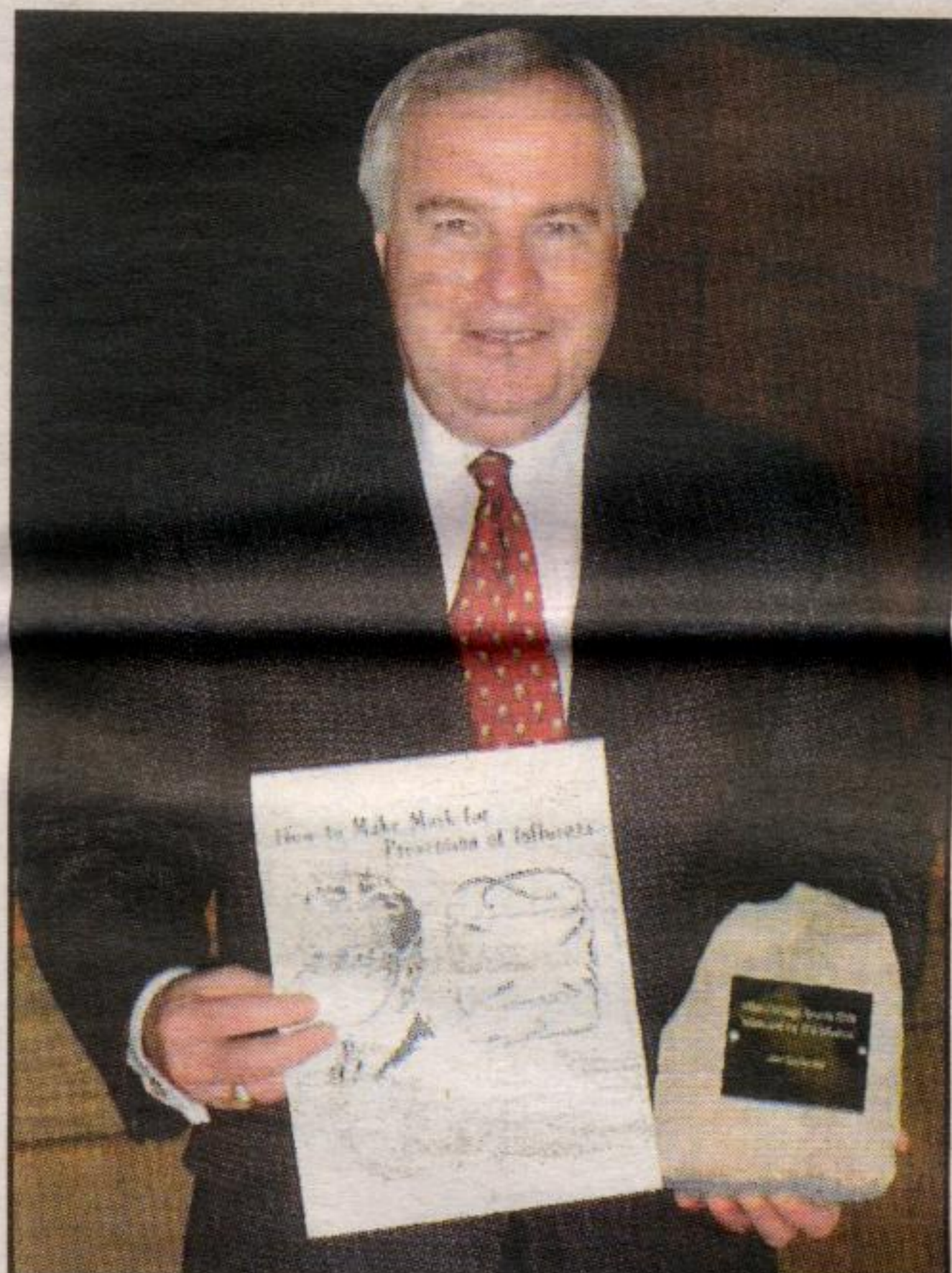
The awards are designed to celebrate the work of residents who contribute to the enrichment of local history whether through architectural renovation, the visual arts, education or writing. But one award recipient, Gail Richardson, suggested that at least part of the credit for her award should go to the community of Milton itself. "It has been a real privilege to bring up our family in Milton. There's a real respect and love of what's in the past (in this community)."

The 2005 awards for the Milton Historical Society included three categories: an educational award, a visual arts award, and a writing award. John McDonald, a well-known local historian and author of *Halton Sketches and Halton Sketches Revisited*, received an educational award for his historical research on the 1918 influenza epidemic in Milton. Angelo De Medicis of Milton Home Hardware received the visual arts award for historic photos of Milton and an antique tool display, both on display at his store on Steeles Avenue. And the writing award was given to Jim Dills, another well-known historian, for a newspaper insert he produced for the Canadian Champion entitled, "A Look Back - A Peek into Milton's Past."

Recipients of Heritage Milton's awards included Carol and Alan Brooks (renovation to a non-designated building), Bill Mathers of Bill Mathers Men's Wear (renovation of a non-designated building), Berry Smith and Gail Richardson (renovation of a designated building), and the Milton Bible Church (infill development sympathetic to an historic area).

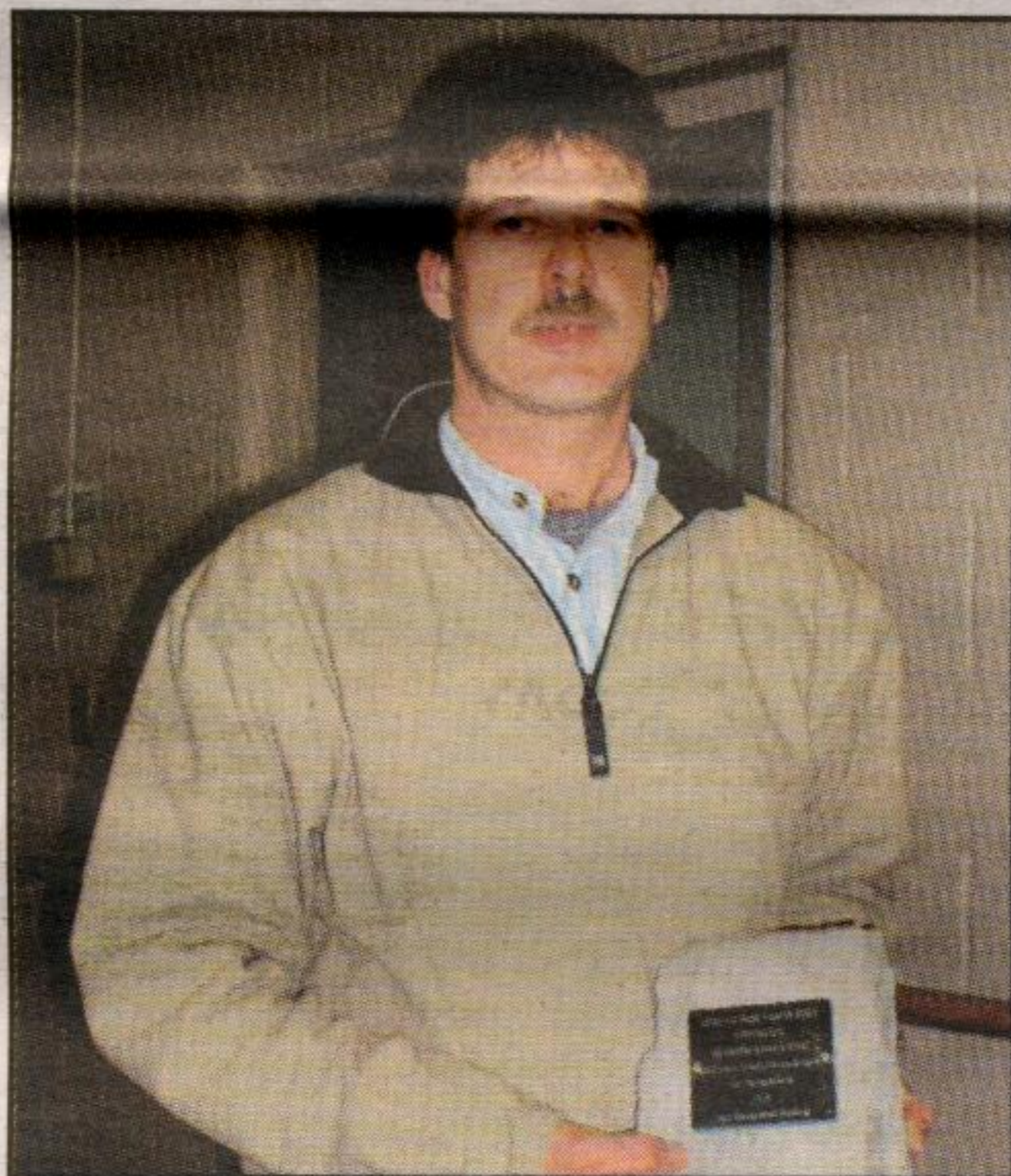


Angelo De Medicis (left), the owner of Milton Home Hardware, and his wife Vincenza, accepted an award recently presented by the Milton Historical Society. The De Medicis' business was recognized for its displays of antique tools as well as photos depicting Milton history. There to praise them for their efforts was Milton Mayor Gord Krantz.



Local historian John McDonald holds a picture of a mask that people were encouraged to wear during the 1918 influenza epidemic that struck Canada and other parts of the world. This month, McDonald received an educational award from the Milton Historical Society (MHS) during MHS's 2005 awards ceremony. McDonald, a well-known local historian, has been researching the 1918 influenza epidemic and how it affected residents in Milton as well as other parts of Halton.

Berry Smith and Gail Richardson received an award from Heritage Milton for their efforts to restore their home in Milton. Ken Keates of Heritage Milton praised the couple for deliberately trying to "keep the basic structure intact."



Nick Tor of Heritage Milton accepted an award on behalf of Bill Mathers during a presentation at the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre. This month, Mathers of Bill Mathers Men's Wear was recognized for renovating a non-designated building during Heritage Milton's annual awards ceremony.



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