

Select Matthew Rowe for trade mission

Matthew Rowe of Glen Williams is one of 15 students from across the country selected to be part of the Junior Team Canada 2002 Program. He will represent Halton Region and its key growth industries on an upcoming mission to Mexico, on March 6, where the students will show that Canada is made up of more than snow, ice and polar bears.

Some of Canada's leading companies will be represented by the students on the Junior Team Canada Mission to Mexico. A national competition for the student team had over 500 applicants.

Junior Team Canada is organized by Global Vision; a non-profit organization founded in 1991 by business, government and education leaders. The goal of the program is to present youth, ages 16-25, with the opportunity to learn about Canada's role in the global marketplace and to promote our companies and organizations to its international trading partners.

Every year, Junior Team Canada holds its National Training Centre Tour at 14 university locations across Canada in partnership with the Export Development Corporation. Here youth are able to take part in activities such as networking sessions with prominent business people in the community and compete in case study presentations. At the end of the Training Centre, participants are invited to compete for a spot on the Junior Team Canada



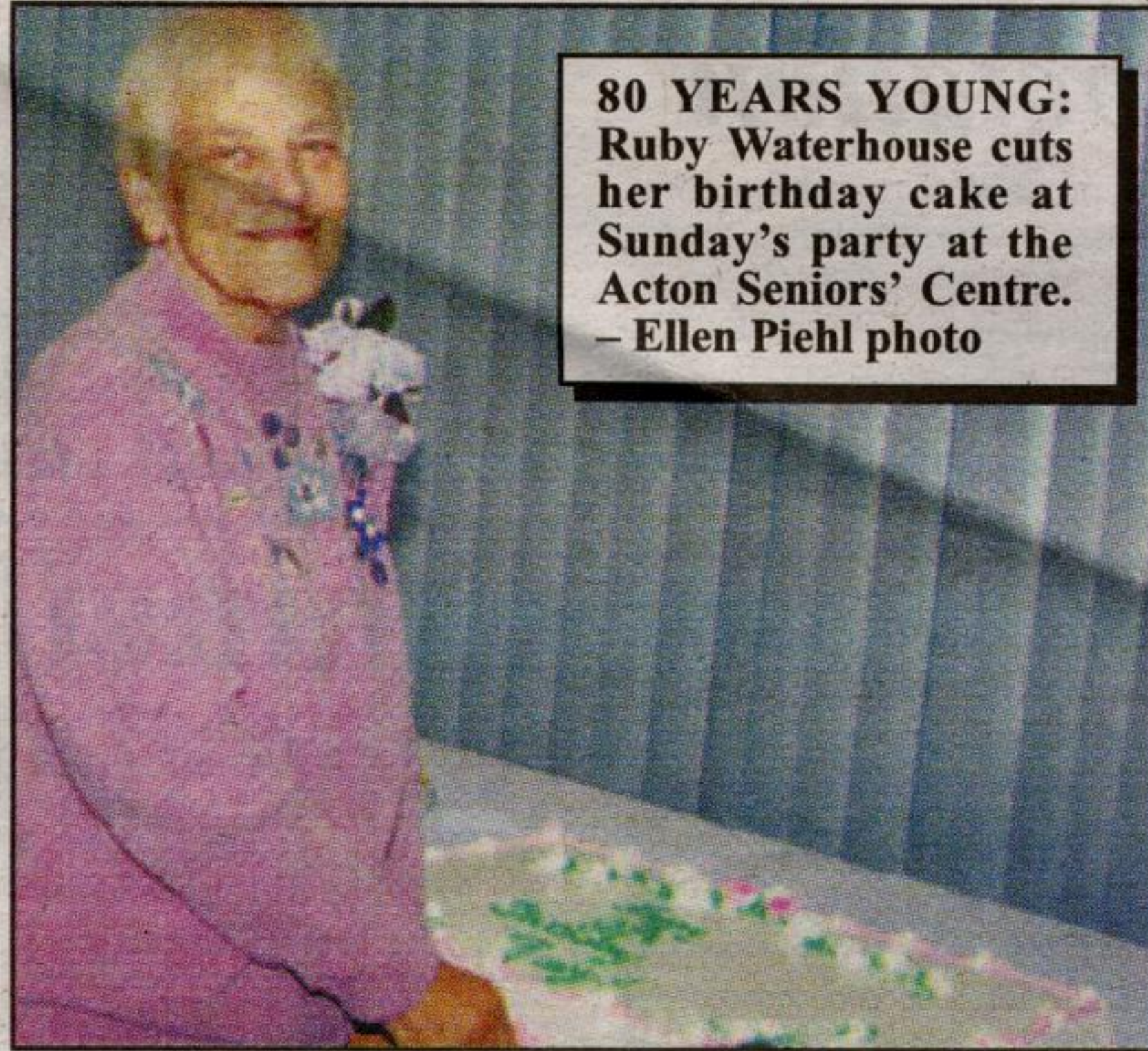
Matthew Rowe meets Duke of Kent

program. Successful applicants will participate in one of two economic missions held during the year: the summer mission to Asia or the spring mission to Mexico held during the school year.

Matthew is currently attending Mount Allison University in Sackville, NB. He has a big task ahead of him. He is required to raise a minimum of \$3,500 in community support and corporate sponsorship.

On March 1, the team will convene in Ottawa to participate in the Junior Team Canada International Training Centre sponsored by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. During this intensive training session, the team members will be briefed on the culture and language, as well as hold meetings with Canada's top leaders to learn first hand about the opportunities for our key growth sectors in the Mexican market.

Matthew is the son of Mark and Kelly Rowe of Glen Williams, formerly of Acton, grandson of John and Helen Rowe of Acton.



80 YEARS YOUNG: Ruby Waterhouse cuts her birthday cake at Sunday's party at the Acton Seniors' Centre. - Ellen Piehl photo

80 Candles on the cake

Friends and family gathered at the Acton Seniors' Centre last Sunday (Jan. 27) to celebrate Ruby Waterhouse's 80th birthday.

Ruby Waterhouse came into the world on January 27, 1922 at her family home in Acton. She was the only child of Jim and Edith (Mae) Smith.

Her father, Jim, was well known around town for playing trumpet in the Acton Citizens' Band. Her mother, Edith, once owned a hat shop in town.

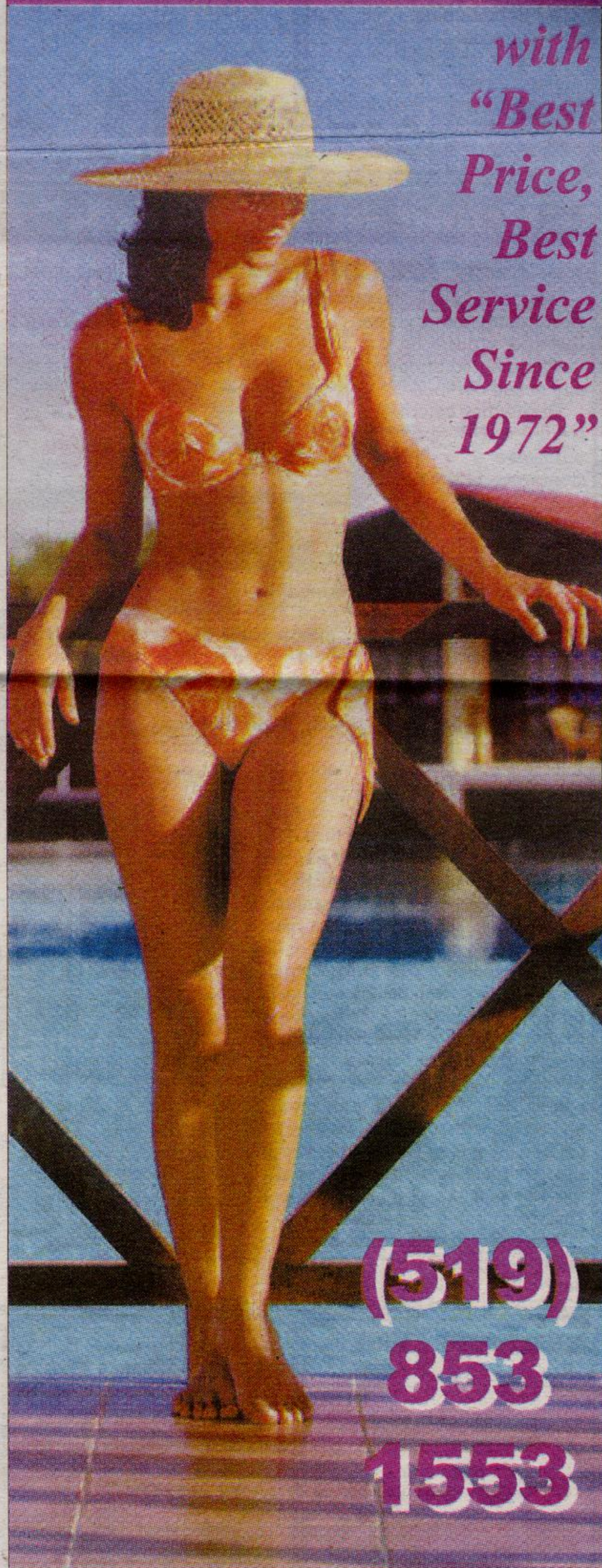
Ruby said the highlight of her life was when she got her first job at Beardmore's

where she worked for over 25 years. On Dec. 14, 1957, she married John Waterhouse (who was originally from Bracebridge, ON). They were married almost 41 years when John passed away in August of 1998. John, a veteran of WW2, worked at McKenzie Lumber in Acton.

Ruby, who still lives in Acton, says she has no regrets and suggests that being happy helped her to live this long.

She has some advice for all the young people out there. "Be happy and enjoy one another," she says.

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EWAG NEWS

Continued from Page 6.

Until recently, the Town used \$185,000 for an average assessment when determining tax rates, but DeSousa said it now uses Halton's \$220,000 figure, which reflects the 15 per cent increase the Town had after going through reassessment last year.

Still with taxes...

Halton's 2002 budget includes a 3.1 per cent tax increase and a 7.5 per cent increase in water and sewer rates.

For the average homeowner that means an extra \$34.88 on their \$1,073 Regional tax bill and \$33.21 more on the water bill.

Survey says

Halton wants a narrower focus of a municipal competitive survey to give a clearer picture of value for service among Halton's four municipalities and immediate neighbours.

A BMA Consulting survey, originated by Hamilton to address concerns that high tax rates were hindering growth, was expanded to include 41 municipalities, ranking them on how much they charged per capita for municipal services, including taxes, water and sewer charges, development charges and hydro rates last year.

Halton Hills charged \$675 per person, the seventh lowest among those surveyed.

Halton's director of budgets and fiscal policy division, Dave Birkett, said the results are "interesting, but need more analysis."

"Comparing us to Ajax for example. You're not going to get a lot of information if you're really looking at whether our tax policies or water and sewer rates are detrimental to attracting new industry and homes to an area," Birkett said.

Birkett said the report won't be made public until after Regional councillors deal with it on February 27.

Free Youth Event

The **R.A.D. Rally**

Free Live Band

WHEN! February 10, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

WHERE! Trinity United Church

WHY! It's EXCITING to be a Christian

WHO! Non-denominational

- EVERYONE WELCOME

IT'S EXCITING TO BE A CHRISTIAN!!!

Check it out...

...I dare ya

J.C.

\$100 1st Prize for the youth that brings the most friends.

Contest rules and registration forms can be picked up at Power Entertainment, Credit Union, and the Holland Shop.

Register by Sunday February 3rd.

The Radical Rally is sponsored by the Acton Ministerial Association

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