

Fall session will be a busy one

Summer is almost over and MPPs across Ontario are preparing for this fall's session of the legislature. The legislative chamber is undergoing renovation so my colleagues will begin the session next month. Once begun, the legislative session will be a busy time with much legislation needing attention. The schedule has not yet been finalized but it was much-discussed at our recent caucus meeting north of Toronto.

Premier Mike Harris asked all government MPPs for advice on the timing of promised legislation and for any new ideas. He will have to sift through a mountain of thoughts before deciding exactly what to do.

While the premier toils on the legislative agenda, MPPs from around the province have the opportunity to take in the annual slate of fall fairs and other events in communities across their ridings.

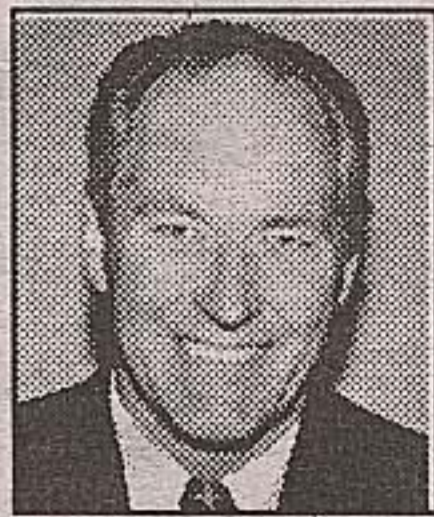
Always an excellent time to renew acquaintances and get a first-hand account of the concerns of constituents, I look forward to spending time at local fairs.

Of course the fairs themselves have much to offer, including games, rides, exhibits, vendors and representatives of local organizations. While attendance at fall fairs is consistent, it is an Ontario tradition that too few people enjoy.

After a long hot summer, people are telling me they are looking forward to cooler temperatures and all that Halton has to offer in the fall. Local conservation areas will soon be ablaze with colour.

Take the time to wander through Halton, you will be amply rewarded whether you travel by wheel or foot. Fall is the time to engage in a little local tourism. Stop by a country store, look at historical sites you

QUEEN'S PARK REPORT



Ted Chudleigh

have always wanted to see but could never find the time, or take a leaf tour.

The golds, yellows, oranges will be prevalent as the leaves begin to turn. If last year's weather is any guide, the reds will be particularly bright this year. The Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce offers ideas on their Web site at www.haltonhillschamber.on.ca/tourism/index.html

In addition to fall fairs and waiting for the seasons to change, I have attended a number of local meetings and functions in the last few weeks.

Of particular note was the Betty Fox luncheon in Acton on September 8. Mrs. Fox, the mother of Terry Fox, was on hand to lend support to the local Terry Fox Run. It seems that on a per capita basis, Acton residents are among the strongest supporters of the Terry Fox cause in Ontario.

It would appear that Terry's Marathon of Hope was prophetic. Thus far, the cure for cancer is not being found in a flash of insight but rather in the day to day marathon of research and the individual battles each and every cancer victim fights. The hope that we may someday find a cure is indeed a marathon of effort that Terry's run embodied.

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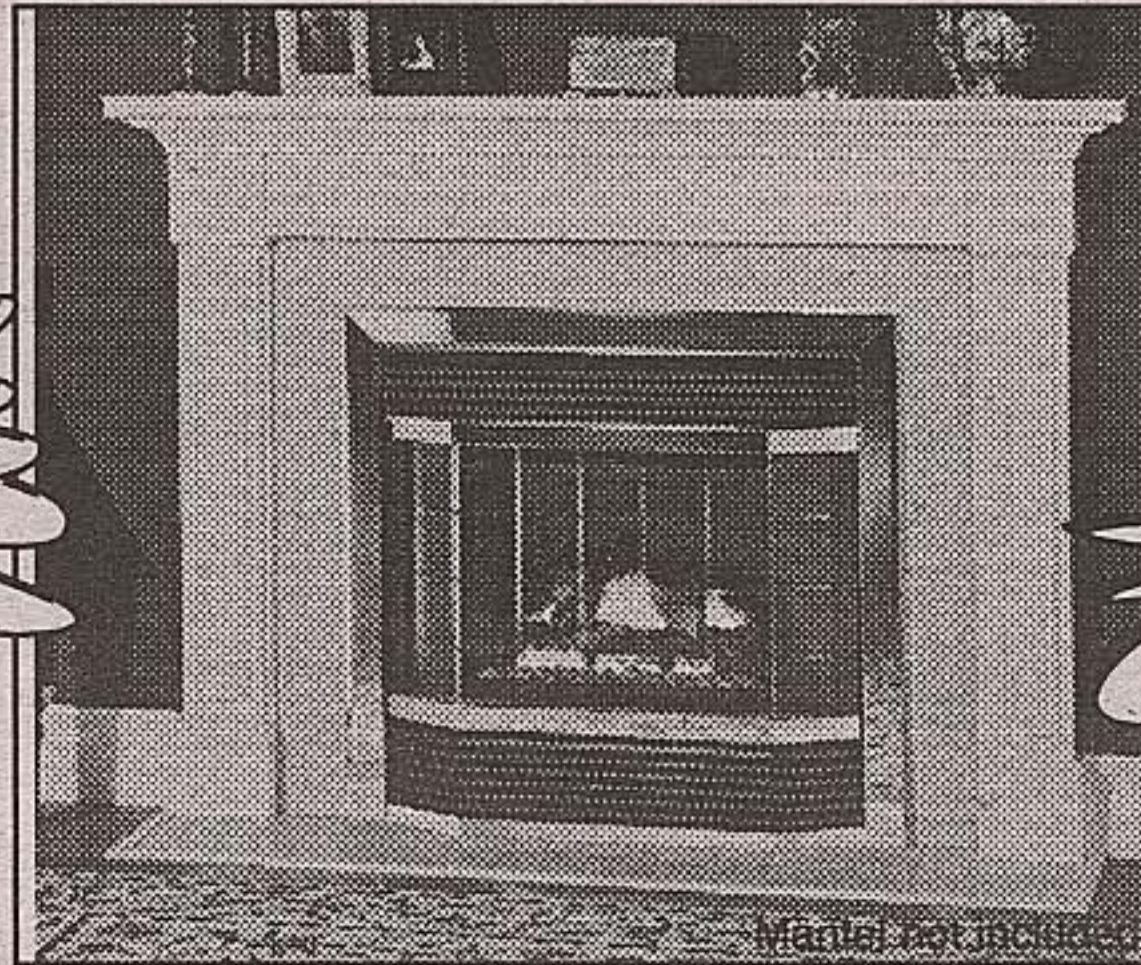
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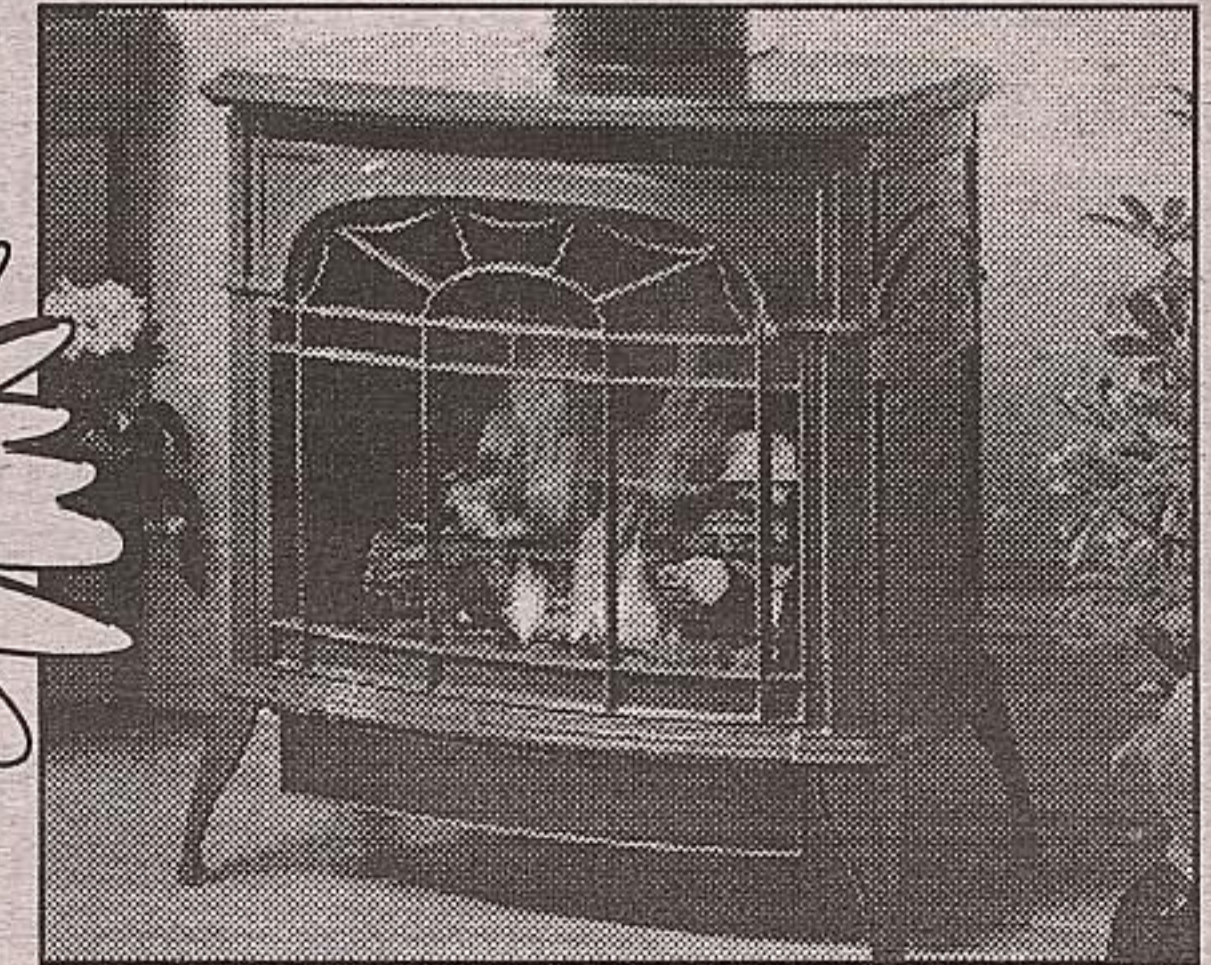
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