

# Crime on the decline in Halton Hills

Continued from pg. 1

On the decline in town last year were robberies by 50 per cent (from 8 in 1999 to 4 last year), break and enters 15.2 per cent (from 211 to 179), auto thefts down 24.4 per cent (from 78 to 59) and frauds down 38.6 per cent (from 88 to 54).

Detective Sgt. Jackie Gordon said she believes the decline in the number of break and enters is due to the fact last summer and fall a police task force targeted residential break and enters and made several arrests.

"That put a dent in that type of criminal activity," said Gordon.

In total violent crimes increased in Halton Hills about 29 per cent in 2000 to 260 from 202 the year before and property crimes were down 14.5 per cent from 963 to 823.

Gordon said police cleared nearly 50 per cent of crime in Halton Hills last year.

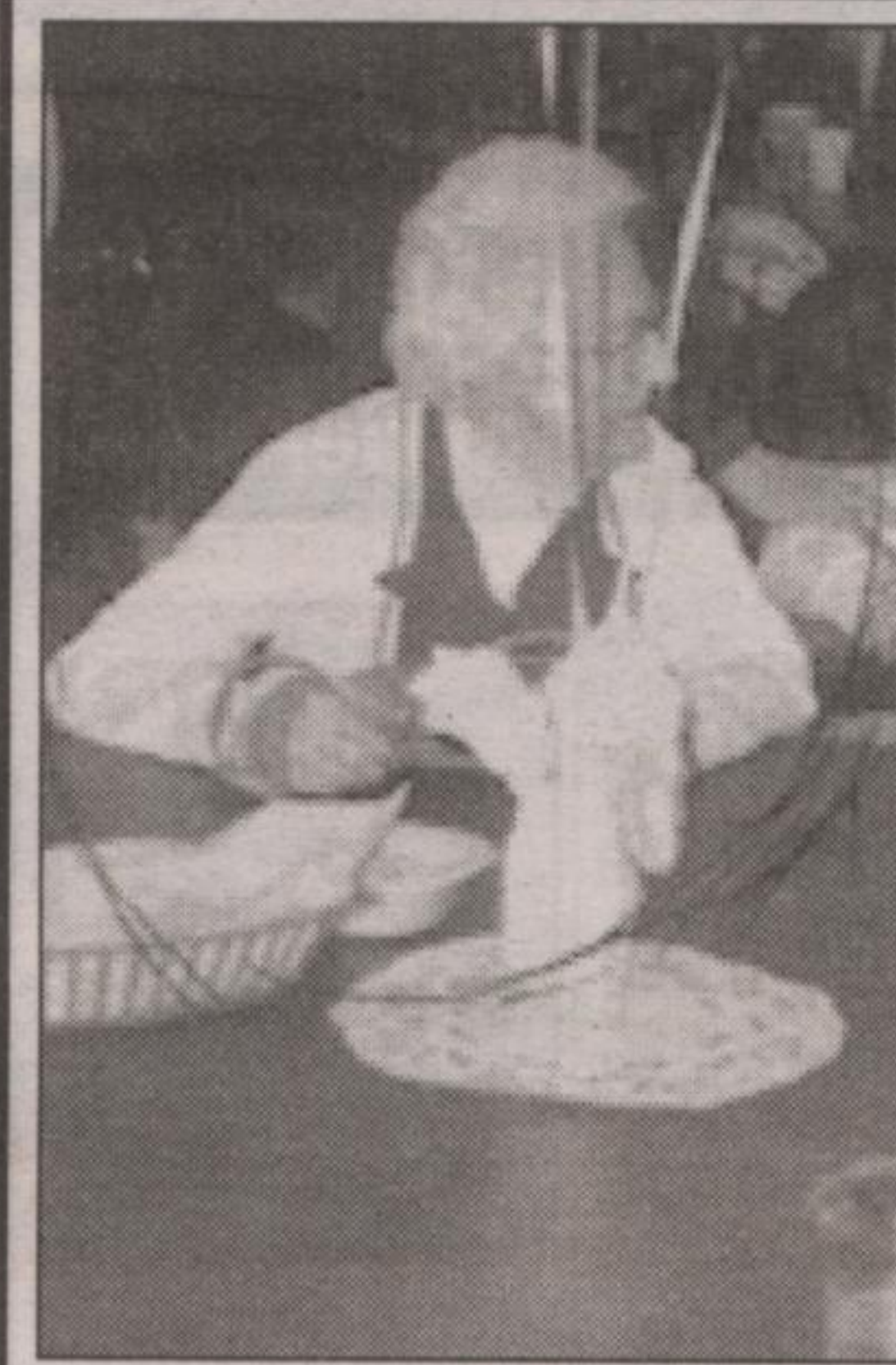
"That reflects well on the hard work and dedication of the members of Halton Regional Police Service," said Gordon.

Gordon said the number of auto accidents in town last year

increased 15.4 per cent from 694 in 1999 to 801 in 2000, accidents involving injuries jumped 38.6 per cent. In an effort to deter accidents over the next several weeks Halton Police will be on the lookout for speeders and those who don't obey the laws of the road at some of the most dangerous intersections in town.

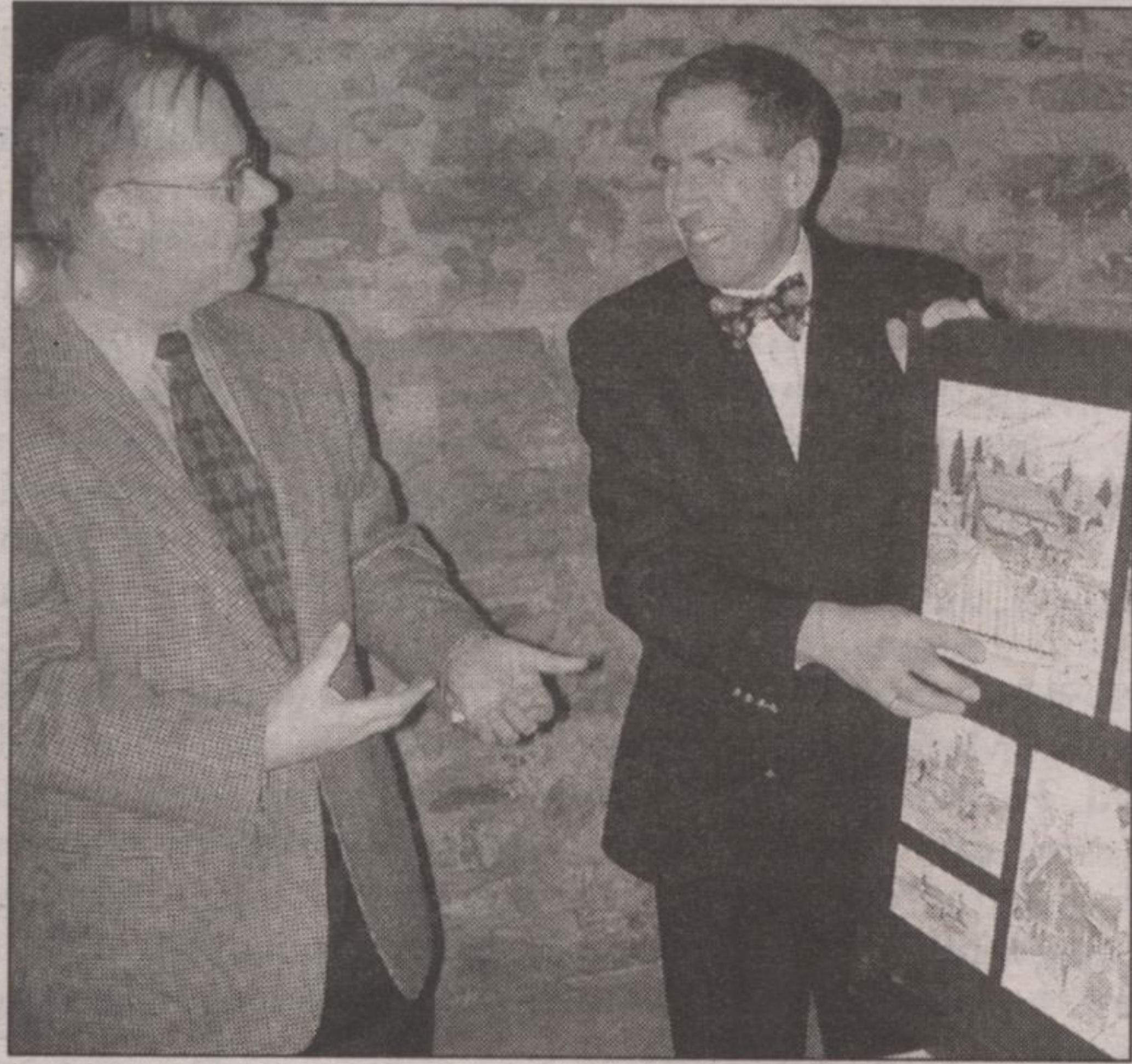
Gordon reported a 12.5 per cent decrease in the number of impaired driving charges laid last year in town (203) compared to 232 in 1999.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer



**Happy 92nd Birthday (Friday April 13th) to a very special mother and grandmother, Mrs. Phyllis Arnott.**

Helping celebrate her happy day is Bonnie, Kim & Kassi Bouclair Arnott



## Museum gets new look

Halton Museum Foundation director Myles Lawlor of Georgetown (left) discusses the approved museum renovations with architect Alexander Temporale of ATA Architects Inc. of Oakville at the Foundation's annual general meeting held recently. The museum, located in Kelso Conservation Area, explores the 12,000-year history of the region of Halton and has more than 35,000 artifacts and genealogical materials. The renovations will cost \$4 million with Halton Region footing \$1.8 million of the bill. Improvements will include additional environmentally-control exhibit space in the barn and updating the visitor centre for use by both the museum and the park. Construction, slated to begin in April, is expected to be completed by September.

Photo by Ted Brown

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