

**Tom Schenk**

**A war veteran's best friend**

For most, Remembrance Day is celebrated November 11, and that's it. But for Tom Schenk, it's a year-round thing.

Schenk, a member of the Georgetown Remembrance Park Millennium Project Committee, has been the unofficial guardian of the park at James and Charles Streets for nearly a decade, since he retired in the early 1990s.

"It started with my association with the Dutch Canadian Committee, when Martin (Boomsma) and I decided to plant bulbs for the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Holland," explains Schenk. "I was 15 years-old when Holland was liberated by the Canadians during the Second World War, and it made quite an impact on me. I've never forgotten how grateful I was."

Schenk's father had been held for more than two years in a concentration camp, and with the liberation his homeland, his father was released and came home.

"As a result, my parents were able to immigrate to Canada in 1947, and we've enjoyed a wonderful life here as a result," says Schenk. "So for that reason, Remembrance Day is very special to me."

Schenk has shown how special it is by his efforts with the Millennium Committee. He was in charge of fund-raising and helped raise nearly \$300,000 for the renovations. But on top of that, as a 20-year member of the Georgetown Choral Society, he has also worked to organize and publicize the annual Celebration of Peace concert at Holy Cross Church on Remembrance Day weekend.



**Tom Schenk, a native of Holland, was one of the driving forces behind the refurbishing of Remembrance Park. He is also a member of the Georgetown Choral Society.**

Photo by Ted Brown

After organizing trips to Holland for both the Choral Society and Georgetown Children's Chorus, Schenk still finds satisfaction when kids who took the trip in 1998 come up to him to reminisce.

"I really enjoyed taking them," he beams, "And the fact they still remember it today— well, that's pretty special for me."

—By Ted Brown, staff writer

**Welcome to a Place To Be**

It's been said that "people make a town" and that axiom is no less true here in Halton Hills.

Georgetown, Acton and the surrounding rural areas make up what is known as the Town of Halton Hills. But, it is the people who live, work and play here who make this community of roughly 49,000 people tick.

The 24-page section you're currently holding is dedicated to the many people— most of them volunteers— who make this a great place to be.

The people we have profiled are not necessarily the most well-known, but they are people who have spent much of their time helping and interacting with many of this town's residents.

We've highlighted some familiar faces and some not so familiar. Some have had an impact on local residents through their jobs; others through their work.

Regardless, these are some of the people who over the years have made Halton Hills...the place to be.

**HALTON HILLS IS THE ... PLACE TO BE**

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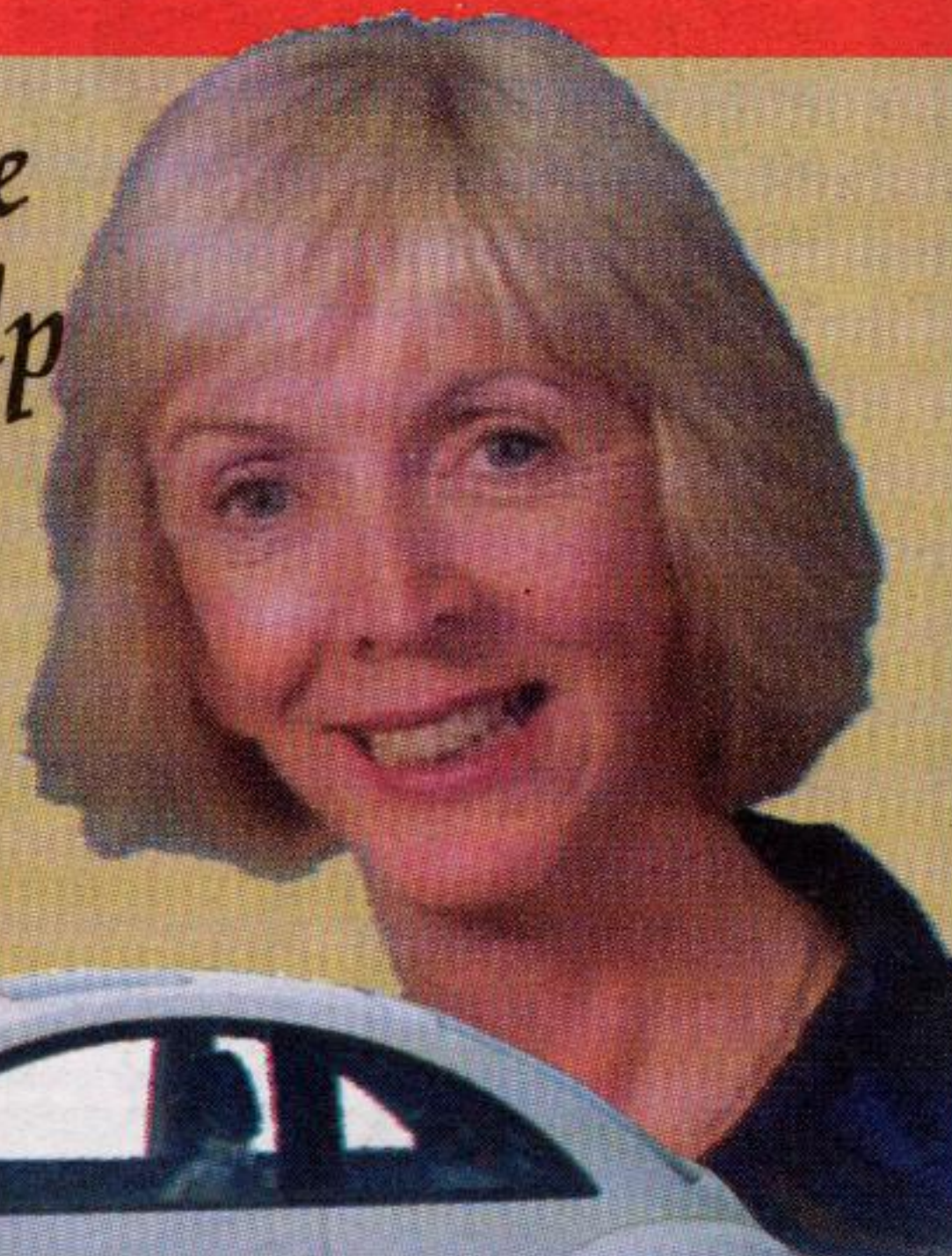
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