



HAPPY SMILES on a cold day. Cheerful expressions glow from the faces of Joni McLean (left) and Michelle Bradley while clown Michael Shepherd lends a smile. Temperatures dropped and cold winds chilled Santa Claus paraders Saturday afternoon. This trio appeared on the Milton Parks and Recreation Float. (Photo by Dave Pink)

Seniors waiting for apartments

Ontario Housing Corporation hopes to have the new senior citizens' apartment building on Ontario St. ready for occupancy within the next month or two. As of yet OHC hasn't advised any of the 81 applicants they have been selected and will be able to have one of the 60 suites.

Clerk Jack McGeachie told council Monday there were no hot water heaters or carpets installed yet. He said OHC officials weren't saying who was selected until they knew for sure when the suites would be available.

Apparently OHC has in the past suggested a target date, fallen behind that date and run into problems with folks

who had banked on moving in at that time. As a result they don't say who is going in until the suites are ready.

Tell them now
That policy was subjected to the criticism of Councillor Jim Watson and others. Watson said the individuals chosen should know they've been chosen. "Some have to face new leases and decide whether to stay where they are for another year. Most could make interim plans if they knew they could go in within the next month or so. OHC could make it clear that it couldn't guarantee a date," he said.

Council agreed to ask OHC to advise those chosen so they

could make necessary plans. McGeachie told council that OHC made the decision about who went in and who did not. He said candidates were judged on a point system. Present income, current accommodation and the minimum requirement of one year's residence in Milton were considerations.

Mayor Anne MacArthur told The Champion she had received complaints about people from outside the municipality being accepted before some of those within the community. She said she would check this rumor out and noted it wasn't likely, because the town had to pick up a percentage of any operating loss.

Appealing to cabinet to change hydro route

W. R. Barnes will seek a meeting with Minister of Energy Darcy McKeough in an 11th hour effort to have the 500 kV line diverted so it will miss the greatest portions of his 175 acres. His land is situated on Five Sideroad between the Fifth and Sixth Lines (formerly in Nassagaweya).

Barnes sought and won the support of Milton Council Monday night. Council agreed to support Barnes and passed a resolution reaffirming a stand taken by the previous Nassagaweya Council. The resolution would see the line swing north of Hillon Falls rather than the more southerly route through the Barnes property.

Barnes argued that by taking the northern route it would be cheaper by hundreds of thousands of dollars and would alleviate the bulge or dip in the route.

Go to cabinet
Council encouraged Barnes to go to the cabinet as that is the only body that can make

any substantial change in the route at this point in time.

Barnes told council he had about 80 acres being farmed and operated a processing plant on the site as well. He said he imports stone from all over Canada and the United

States and processes it at his plant. An abandoned quarry is also on the site.

Barnes told council that it would cost thousands of dollars to move the plant and machinery. Hydro officials

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Free calls to Acton expected in summer

Milton customers of Bell Canada should be able to call telephones in the Acton (853) exchange by the summer of 1975, without a toll charge.

Bell officials reported this week that a \$315,000 program to introduce new equipment at the Milton, Acton and Guelph switching centres is underway and mid-July is the target date for completion.

At present Milton (878) customers can call Oakville, Burlington, Campbellville and Georgetown toll-free. Acton is to be added without any additional monthly charge for Milton subscribers.

Acton votes yes
Last year Acton residents took a referendum on adding Milton and Guelph to their

toll-free calling area and the vote was 69 per cent in favor. Increased rates will be necessary for Acton customers however, as this will add 46,000 telephones to their free calling area. At present Acton can call about 16,000 phones in Georgetown and Rockwood exchanges without charge.

The change will not affect those on the Campbellville (854) exchange, however. Campbellville subscribers can only call Milton phones without a toll. Bell Canada is currently doing studies on increasing the Campbellville free calling area but local manager W. C. "Bill" Barnes has already told people in that area that increasing the calling area will be a costly venture.

Must carry bag

Dog owners say law too strict

Dog lovers will get their day in court—or at least a hearing before Milton Council's Administration Committee. The committee had reacted to complaints about dogs messing on private and public property and recommended a by-law be passed making it illegal for dogs to soil other people's lawns.

One of those complaining, Mrs. S. L. Marx suggested owners be required to carry

doggie bags when out for walks and clean up after their dogs.

This week town staffers received letters objecting to the proposed by-law from dog lovers. The dog lovers feel the by-law is too restrictive.

Mayor MacArthur said those who had authored letters would be invited to air their views Monday night. In the meantime the by-law was held up until both sides of the story are heard.



He's here!

UP CLOSE for a greeting from Santa is Kristy Smith, 10, who had a chance for a soft spot on Santa's knee at Saturday's parade. Keeping a safe distance from the bushy beard, Kristy's eyes were bright enough to signal happiness with the approach of Christmas. More pictures inside. (Photo by Steven Dills)

Santa arrives in fine style

Santa Claus romped into Milton Saturday accompanied by four bands, 20 floats, a dozen clowns and a dozen other marching groups and vehicles to the delight of 5,000 to 8,000 people of all ages who lined the two mile route.

The parade, revived after some dormant years, reflected the enthusiasm of service clubs and others who sponsored floats to say nothing of the nearly 800 people who were actually in the parade.

There were choirs, antique vehicles, decorated floats, a many-legged caterpillar, cartwheeling girls from the gym group, Air Cadets, the mounted members of the Halton 4-H club, a steamed-up Sawyer Massey tractor and a host of entries that made the parade one of the longest in recent years in Milton.

Winners
Judged best float in the parade, by Mayor Anne MacArthur, Arthur Britton and Edgar Foster was the entry of the Kinsmen Club with the Cubs taking the runner-up trophy and the Milton Day Care Nursery School as the

third prize group. Crowds lined the route of the parade from Milton Plaza through the downtown area with the parade winding up at the fair grounds and Santa gingerly dishing out what remained of a host of candy canes.

Santa himself rode the route in a rubber tired sleigh pulled by horses and driven by Bob Dennis of Campbellville, who loaned the vehicle.

Off on time
Parade chairman Rod Lewis organized the floats on the grounds of the Ernest Drury School and had them ready for the march off at 2 p.m. headed by an antique 1922 International fire engine. Mayor MacArthur rode in the vintage 1931 Cadillac convertible coupe owned, restored and operated by Wally Gray while fellow parade judges A. Britton and Edgar Foster followed in Watt Martin's Model A Ford Roadster.

George Swan and Andy Frank introduced the parade entries as they passed Knox Church along their downtown route.

Milton Girls' Pipe Band was followed by the Milton Girl Guides and Brownies, 60 strong. A float by Coronado Stone was followed by another vintage 1945 International panel truck entered by Golden Triangle Pasteters. The Parks and Recreation float featured a huge snowman, a reminder of the annual Snow Fest sponsored each year by that department.

Safety stressed
Milton Snowbirds, a snowmobile group, stressed the importance of safety in their float while the Knox Junior Church School reminded watchers about the 100th anniversary of the Presbyterian Church in Canada with their float, banner, and birthday cake. The Christmas story was also portrayed.

Bell Canada expressed Christmas greetings and the Lions Club of Milton float featured the old mill and the vehicles from the Halton Centennial Manor reminded the crowd about the vehicle donated by the club.

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Nearly 40 years in education

Principal Hunter retires

By Bob Burt
Bits of nostalgia crept into the discussion as Charlie Hunter sat in his modern principal's office and recalled highlights and features of his career in education which spans a period of close to 40 years. Mr. Hunter announced recently that he would retire at the end of the school year.

During an interview Hunter recalled the hectic times 14 years ago when he came to Milton to assume the principalship of Milton District High School. For some five years the high school operation was divided between the new Williams Ave. site and the old Martin St. School.

He recalled the difficulties in running a high school operation for a student population of 383 between the two sites. Some students

attended classes at both sites. Some who attended most classes at Martin St. would move to Williams Ave. for gym instruction, while others would migrate to Martin St. to take advantage of shop instruction. Even these transfers were difficult with the distance between the two schools.

Sees school grow
During Hunter's career he guided the direction of Milton District High School and planned improvements and additions to the school. As principal he was deeply involved in the 1965 addition which enabled Martin St. to become a senior public school and enabled students to get their high school education at one building.

The initial building on Williams Ave., included 12 classrooms and a gym. In

1965 the school was expanded to include a cafeteria, a double gym and additional classroom space.

In 1968 growing enrolment brought about another addition, this time a new shop wing, commercial department, library resource room and a stage.

During his term as principal the school blossomed from a split plant operation with 383 students to a modern school with an enrolment of 1,128.

County board
But the school building itself wasn't all that changed. Hunter recalled the formation of the county (now regional) school board in 1969 and the resulting trend towards greater autonomy for school principals.

"Autonomy was one of the basic tenets of the county

board. They realized that if schools were to be operated efficiently the principals would have to have autonomy. It didn't change my position as much as it would others. I had had one school and one board so that I was already deeply involved in planning and operation."

Hunter reviewed what he considered to be some of the great changes in education. One of those changes was the innovation of what was known as the Robarts Plan that came into being in 1961. "It was an attempt to organize schools to meet the needs of students. School courses were divided into Arts and Science, Science Technology and Trades and special courses for occupational students," he recalls.

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CROWDS LINED THE ROUTE of Saturday's Santa Claus Parade that attracted an estimated 5,000 to 8,000 spectators. Nearly 800 people were in the parade on the 20 floats, as clowns or in the dozen marching groups that followed the two mile parade route past Milton Plaza and through

the downtown area. Floats were judged at the Agricultural Grounds with the Kinsmen entry declared the winner. Clowns distributed candy and balloons along the route and floats depicted everything from Santa's workshop to the latest in snowmobiles, vintage cars, to a steamed-up

Sawyer Massey steam engine. Parade organizers, representatives of the town's service clubs, are already talking of plans for next year.