



FOUR MILTON GUIDES received the All Round Cord in a ceremony at Milton Mall Wednesday evening. It is Guiding's second highest honor. From left are Susan Blair, Joanne Auger, Carol Ann Campbell and Veronica Williams, all of 2nd Milton Girl Guide Co.

## Reaffirm stand on water rates

The contentious issue of equalized water and sewer rates across Halton is due for more discussion at today's (Wednesday) meeting of Halton Regional Council, but Milton Councillors are heading into the meeting with hopes of reaffirming the earlier decision to scrap the proposal.

Enticed by generous provincial grants in the range of close to \$4,000,000, some regional councillors want to move towards uniform water rates across Halton and put water and sewers on a full regional basis — as opposed to the charge-back system now in effect.

Milton councillors fear that local projects will never be approved, if the costs are shared across the region; while southern municipalities control the voting strength at the regional level and could easily push for projects in their areas, for which Milton would have to help pay.

On the charge-back system, each town is charged with projects inside its boundaries, but keeps the revenue from water to cover the costs. Debating the subject again Monday, councillors agreed with a suggestion from Councillor Russell Powadiuk, that if an equal per-gallon rate charged for water across Halton will bring forth the promised grants from Queen's Park, they will vote for it. But they stipulated each town must retain its own water revenue.

If this scheme won't work, they agreed the regional representatives should reaffirm the town's earlier decision and try to retain the charge-back system.

## Replace hospital trustee in June

Milton District Hospital's board of trustees will continue one short of the complement until the annual meeting in June, it was decided at a meeting Wednesday when the resignation of chairman Emmerson McCready was accepted, with regret.

Chairman McCready decided to resign last week, citing business commitments connected with his new work with the Hudson's Bay Company. He said the work prevented him from attending at least the next two board meetings.

Vice-chairman A. L. "Gus" Goutowski was elected chairman of the board, for the balance of Mr. McCready's term in the chair. The board agreed to operate without a vice-chairman, until the June meeting when both offices are open.

Mr. McCready's term on the board does not expire until June of 1979. Administrator Brian Brady, the board's secretary, said someone will have to be named to the board in June to serve out the unexpired year of the term.

## Townhouse plan cut to 14 units

A 16-unit townhouse project at the south-east corner of Ontario St. and Woodward Ave. in Milton was reduced to 14 units and narrowly escaped being cut back to 12 units, during a Milton Council planning and development committee meeting Monday.

Norclair Investments, owner of the property, had originally proposed a freehold type development with a non-profit corporation but had trouble obtaining mortgage money for such a project, and came back with a townhouse condominium plan instead.

The units would be grouped in three blocks of buildings, facing into a central courtyard, with one entrance road onto Woodward Ave. just east of Ontario St. Each home would have its own garage and a total of 26 parking spaces would be supplied.

Councillors were wary about more townhouses, as a recent report from Planning Director Bob Zsadanyi shows the town has enough units to meet local demands until the year 2,000. But company officials said it was the only way the corner could be developed to recover their costs.

"We have over-zoned for townhouses, we will get criticism for this," warned Councillor Jim Watson. He said a small apartment building would probably be better for the site, but Planner Zsadanyi said 30 apartment units per acre are allowed, which would cause more of a drain on the sewage treatment plant capacity than the 16 units proposed. Zsadanyi said he preferred to cut out two units and re-shape the site plan to move the driveway further away from Ontario St., a suggestion the council adopted.

Norclair spokesmen had offered to cut one unit, if necessary. Norclair president Norman Stoneburgh told council the property had cost a lot of money and pleaded for permission to recover his costs. "Economically, it is impossible for us to build 12 units," he said.

Councillor Rick Day said he did not favor using up sewage plant capacity, at the expense of the town's industrial park. Councillor Russ Powadiuk said he would rather see a park at the main entrance to Dorset Park, adding "I don't think we need more townhouses."

The builder said the homes would be built with AHOP assistance and sell for around \$45,000. Councillor Art Melanson said the firm should sell the project to Ontario Housing for a low-rental site.

Councillor Brad Clements said he was "disappointed" the freehold plan didn't work, and suggested the town staff investigate alternate methods of financing. Council overruled him, though, and approved a motion calling for 14 units and a new site plan.

## Buck-a-trip taxi rides for seniors

Senior citizens in Milton can benefit from a new buck-a-trip fare system introduced today (Wednesday) by Milton Blue Cab Co. Owner Dan Beck said seniors will be offered trips anywhere within the urban town boundaries, for a flat rate of \$1.

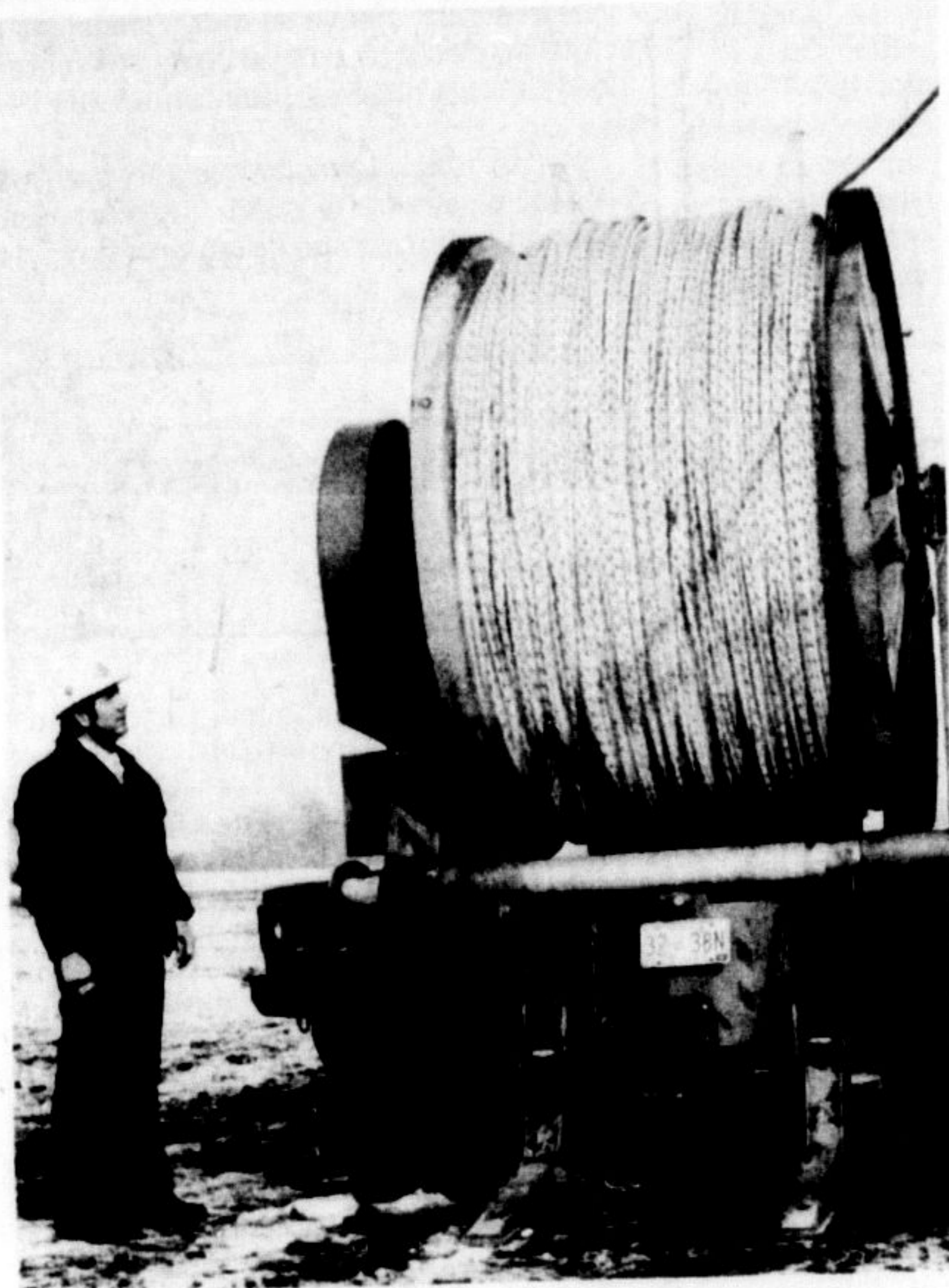
The \$1 rate is the normal starting or "drop" rate for Milton taxis and Mr. Beck said a local trip usually runs around \$1.50 to \$2. A Manor resident wanting a ride to the downtown area, for instance, might spend \$1.90.

"We'd like to help out the senior citizens," he said. Many of them won't go anywhere because they can't afford a taxi and he hoped the buck-a-trip offer would help. Drivers may ask for proof of age, he said, but most seniors can cash in on the reduced fare by their appearance.

Boundary for the reduced fare is between Bronte St. and Thompson Rd., Steeles Ave. to Derry Rd.

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GENERAL FOREMAN on the 500kV stringing project, Don Nelson of Barrie watches the inch-thick nylon rope feed off the huge reel as the helicopter carefully strings it onto the 110 foot towers in a demonstration near Brampton last week.

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