

ZAK'S PHARMACY

Milton's Independent Pharmacy

- Free Delivery
- 10% Seniors Discount
- All Drug Plans Accepted
- Written Drug Information Available

"At Zak's We Care About Your Health"

86 Main St. E. 875-2424

Weekend Champion

MILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



A Metroland Community Newspaper

Vol. 138 No. 83

Friday, December 12, 1997

36 Pages

75¢ (GST included)



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Santa's story

One-year-old Amielya Gilmore is glued to her seat as she and Santa Claus enjoy "The Night Before Christmas." Amielya took time out of her busy schedule to meet with Santa at his temporary home in Milton Mall.

Chudleigh grilled by opposition on controversial bill

By STEVE LeBLANC

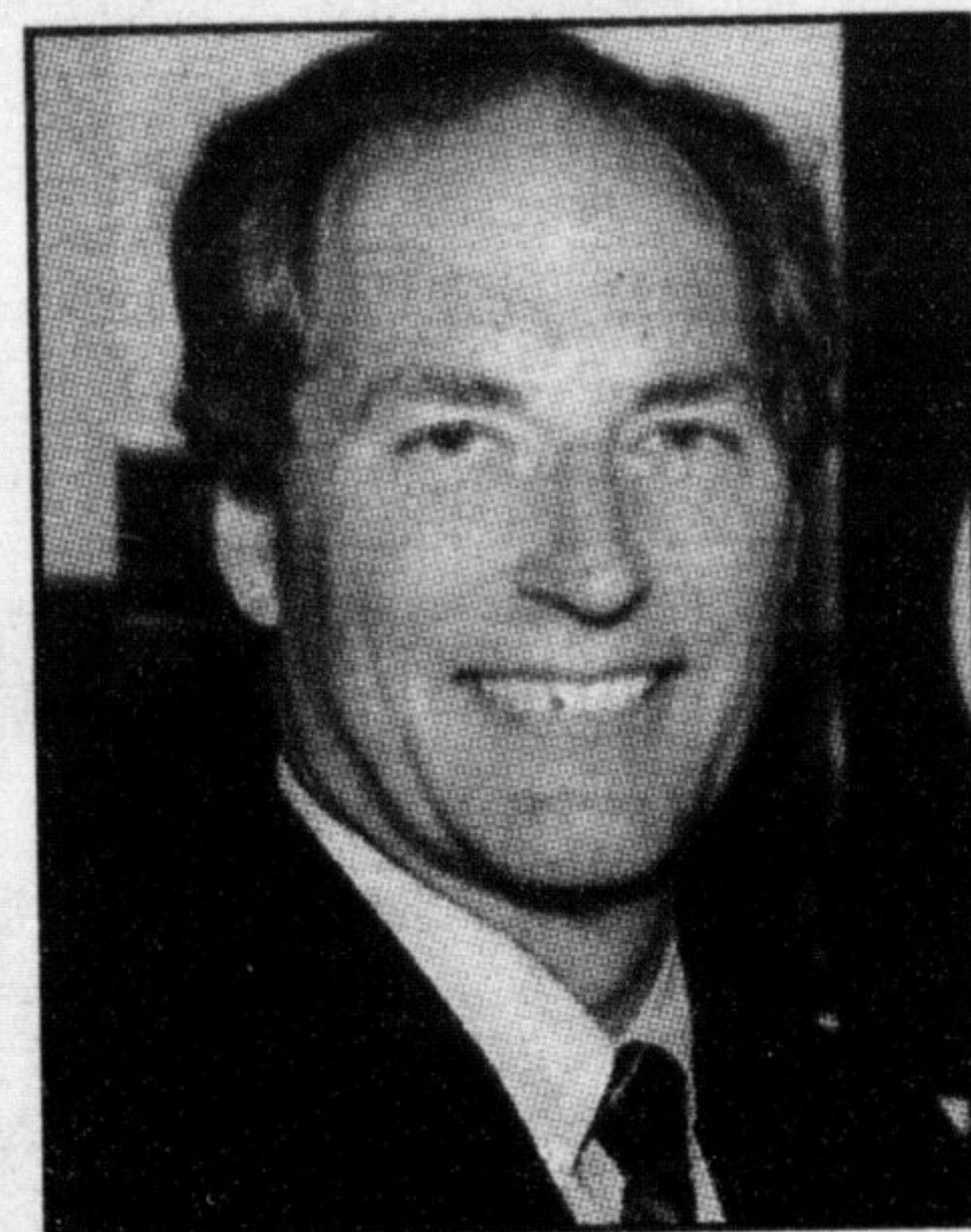
Special to The Champion

Making amendments to Bill 160 isn't the answer, says Lyn McLeod.

The former leader of the provincial Liberals has more ambitious plans for the Education Quality Improvement Act — should her party form the next Ontario government, that is.

"We would repeal Bill 160. This is not legislation you can amend," said Ms McLeod, who remains the MPP for Fort William.

Speaking to roughly 150 parents and teachers at E.C. Drury High School Tuesday evening, she argued that the province's school system "is not broken" and that the Tories "are willing to sacrifice education in order to meet their party agenda."



Ted Chudleigh

Ms McLeod was one of three opponents for Halton North MPP Ted Chudleigh, who through much of the evening stood alone in his support of Bill 160.

Over the course of the three-hour debate, entitled "Bill 160: Where do we go from here?", he maintained the Education Quality Improvement Act will offer equality for all students across Ontario.

His government's education

reform did receive praise from at least one local parent. Milton's Tony Schafer stressed that Bill 160 will eliminate marginal performers in the school system.

He added, "People think that they can fix the system by throwing money on it and that's ridiculous. Changes need to be made and that's what Bill 160 does."

Most in attendance however, found fault with the government's plan — which is expected to cut another \$700 million from provincial education.

Mr. Chudleigh was repeatedly asked how funding cuts will improve the system. Among those questioning his government's plan was NDP provincial leader Howard Hampton.

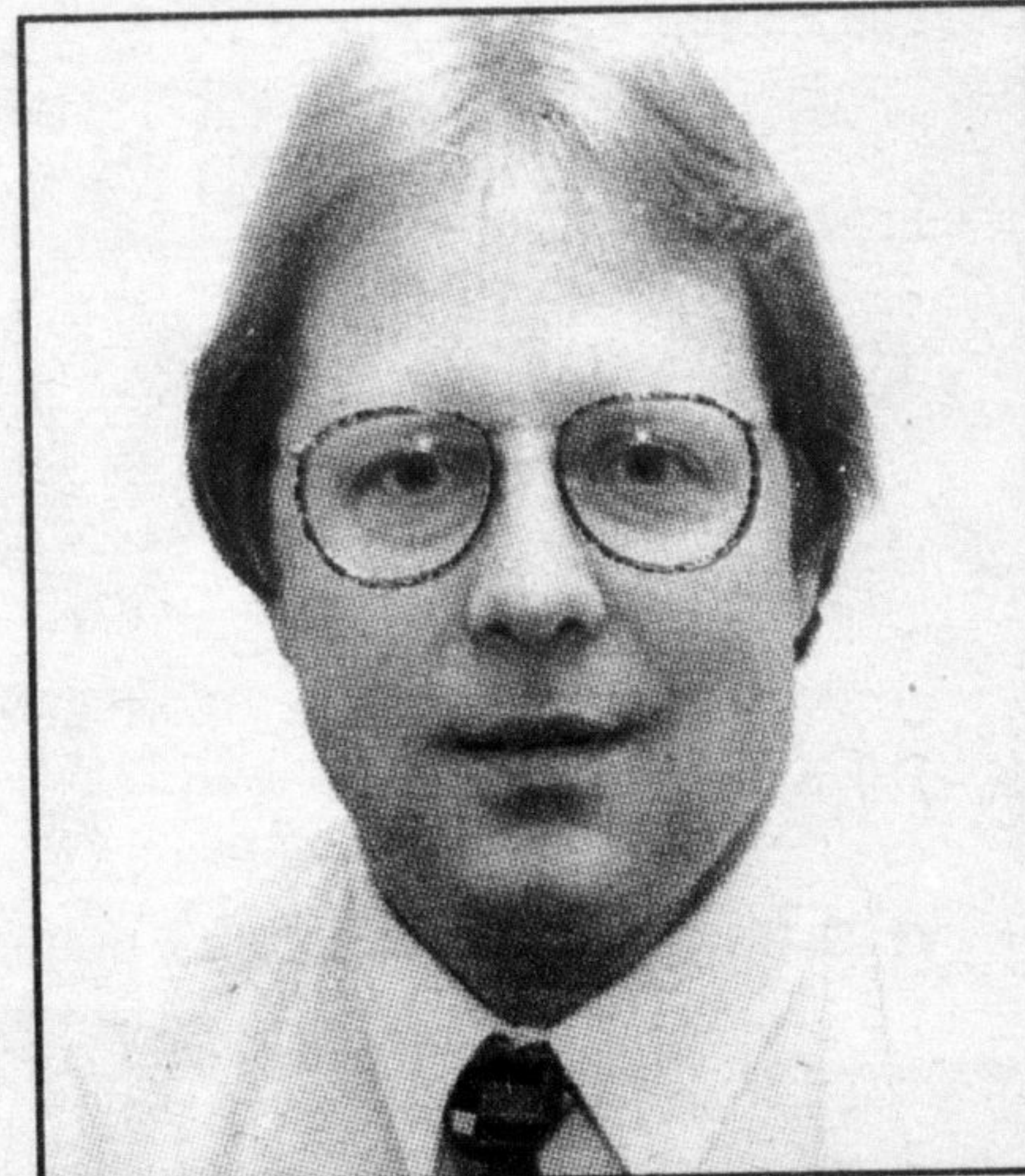
"Education is becoming more and more important these days, so how can our system be improved with less and less money being put into it?"

"Our system can't be run from a glass tower on Queen's Park," Mr. Hampton said.

If the NDP assumes power in the next provincial election, Mr. Hampton said, they will reinvest funds in education — with particular importance placed on early childhood education.

Refuting comments made by

• see NEW on page 2



Allan Halls

Oakville has ally in Milton

By KAREN SMITH

The Champion

The Health Services Restructuring Commission's plans for obstetrical care in Oakville will be a major bone of contention, said Milton District Hospital's administrator after a meeting with its new amalgamation partner.

The commission, which is re-organizing the way health care is provided in the province, has proposed a plan that would see a limited number of regional obstetrical sites in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

"These regional sites would provide services for moderate risk obstetrical cases," said Milton hospital executive director Allan Halls.

"In the case of the Milton and Oakville area, those moderate risk deliveries would be focused on Credit Valley Hospital (in Mississauga)."

Mr. Halls said the plan is of particular concern to Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, which, in accordance with the commission's November 18 interim report, will amalgamate with Milton.

"This year, Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital will deliver in excess of 2,000 babies and in our opinion should continue to be designated as a site for moderate risk deliveries. We will certainly be supportive of that continued role for them," he said.

Moderate risk deliveries include pregnancies in which there's a greater potential for complications, such as cases of twins, those involving diabetic women or cesarean procedures.

As far as Milton hospital goes, "we feel that we are positioned to continue to pro-

• see MILTON on page 10

INSIDE

MOUNTAINVIEW VETERINARY SERVICES

327 Bronte St. S. Milton L9T 4A4

New Location

Dr. Jo-Ann McKinnon
875-1322

Puppet show to be staged at church

An award-winning Milton based puppet group will perform a Christmas theme show at Milton Alliance Church Sunday.

Reaching Up to Reach Out (RUTRO), a puppeteering group made up of kids aged 6 to 15 years and run by two Milton women, will stage 'Three Wise Men and A

Baby' at 6:30 p.m.

The group has won various awards at puppet competitions in both Canada and the United States.

Admission to the 45-minute event is free.

For more information, contact the church at 878-5664.



Planning a Christmas get away?
Call Discount today!

Rent a mini-van to transport the whole family this Christmas!

"We want your business and we'll come right to your front door to get it!"



Discount

CAR AND TRUCK RENTALS



45 Ontario St. N. (Just north of Main St.) 878-4131