

# Roots of names

Here's a brief rundown on a few of the personalities who will bequeath their names to Milton's future neighbourhoods -- an elaboration on the story at right.

The man behind the Bristol survey (formerly the Milton east/southeast plan) is Richard Bristol, a deputy provincial surveyor in 1817-18. In the spring of 1819, Mr. Bristol began surveying land north of the Trafalgar and Esquesing Townships. The Sherwood survey (formerly Milton west/southwest) takes its name from Reuben Sherwood. In the early 1800s, Mr. Sherwood helped subdivide settlements such as Nassagaweya.

The namesakes of the Dempsey neighbourhood, located at the east end of Milton, were a farming family who arrived in the area from Ireland in the early 1800s. The most celebrated of the clan was the family's second son, George. Mr. Dempsey's claim to local fame came through being elected to Milton council in 1860.

The Clarke neighbourhood, to the southeast of Milton, is named after another native of the Emerald Isle, Samuel Clarke, who arrived in Trafalgar Township during 1834.

Mr. Clarke soon indulged in his love of politics, becoming a councillor on the Trafalgar Township.

The Beaty neighbourhood, located in Milton's southeast end, is named for yet another son of Ireland, Trafalgar farmer John Beaty, who arrived in this area in 1820.

His son William became the better known Beaty, tackling the job of secretary of the Trafalgar Agricultural Society and serving on Trafalgar council in 1864.

John Willmott, sire of the Willmott family, hailed from England, settling his brood of 10 family members in Milton in 1818. A great-grandson, Joseph Willmott eventually earned a place on Trafalgar Township council.

# Neighbourhoods to reflect history

By IRENE GENTLE  
The Champion

What's old is new again.

A plan to name upcoming growth areas and future neighbourhoods after local historical figures was recently approved by the Town's administration and planning committee.

Final ratification is expected at the next council meeting on January 25.

Infusing new neighbourhoods with a sense of tradition by linking them to domestic historical figures was the brainchild of the Town's director of planning and development, Mel Iovio.

"I've never been too enamoured of those names," Mr. Iovio said of the limply labeled Milton East/Southeast plan and the West/Southwest Plan.

Subject to council approval, the expansion areas will soon be called the Bristol Survey and the Sherwood Survey respectively.

Research for the project was done through a collaborative process, with Councillor John Challinor and local historians Jim Dills and Alex Cooke at the helm.

Members of the historical society and Heritage Milton were encouraged to help in the brainstorming process.

"Whenever you are getting involved in history, it brings in a lot of people," said Mr. Challinor. "Milton is very proud of its history."

It was Mr. Dills who mastered the challenge of naming Milton's two large expansion areas by unearthing the stories of old

surveyors.

Naming subdivisions proved less of a task, said Mr. Challinor.

"That was much simpler. We just looked at who had settled in those areas," he said.

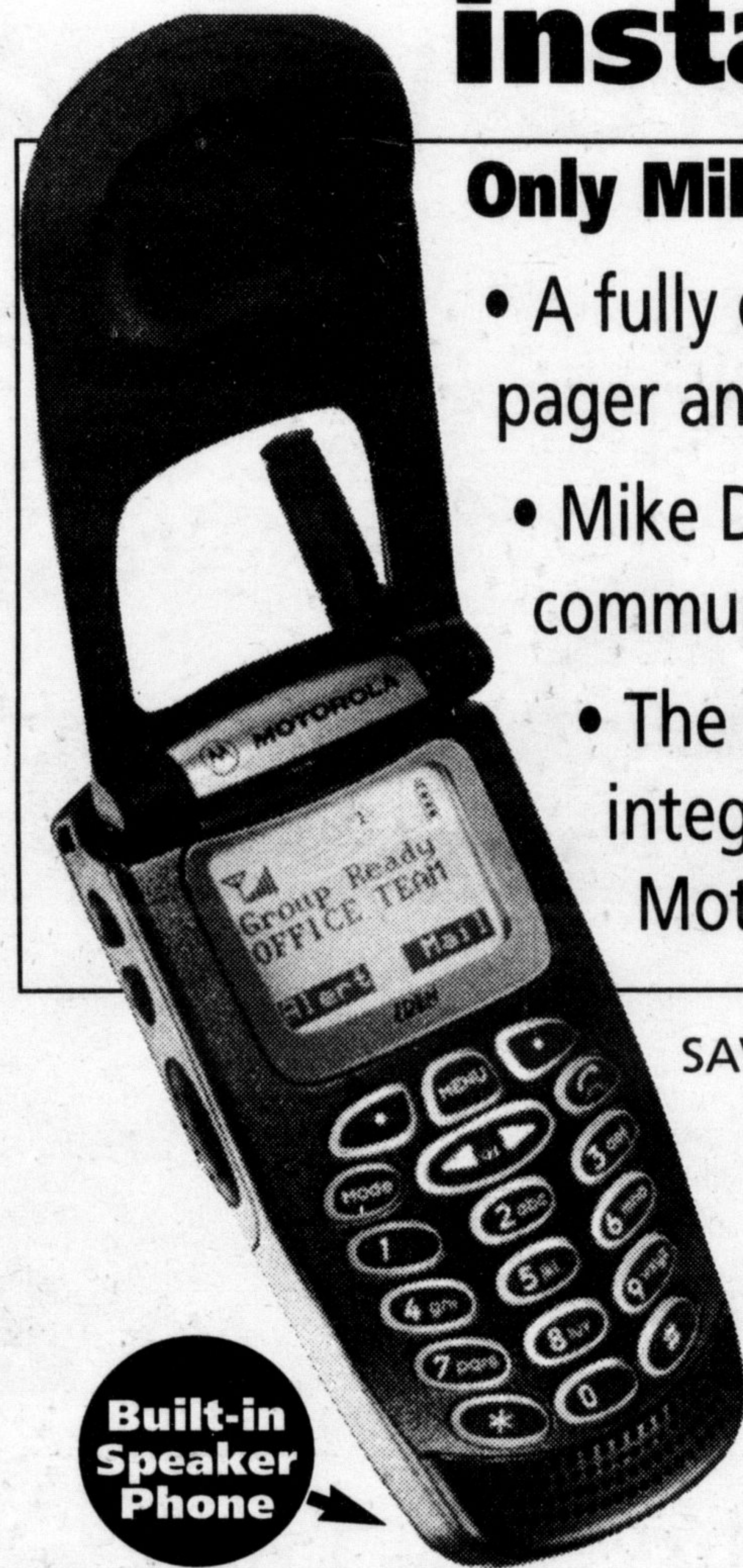
Subject to council approval, upcoming subdivisions will be named after the Dempsey, Clarke, Beaty and Willmott families.

Naming new neighbourhoods for old and respected families is a win-win situation, said Mr. Challinor.

"I think one of the challenges with past subdivisions is, what does it mean to call it Timberlea or Dorset Park?" he asked. "This way there will be a history associated with it, which is good for the community."

Please see story at left.

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