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sake ...



A good health
tip from
Milton District
Hospital



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- Carry a flashlight and always walk on sidewalks where available
- Inspect treats carefully - candy with torn wrappers should be thrown away

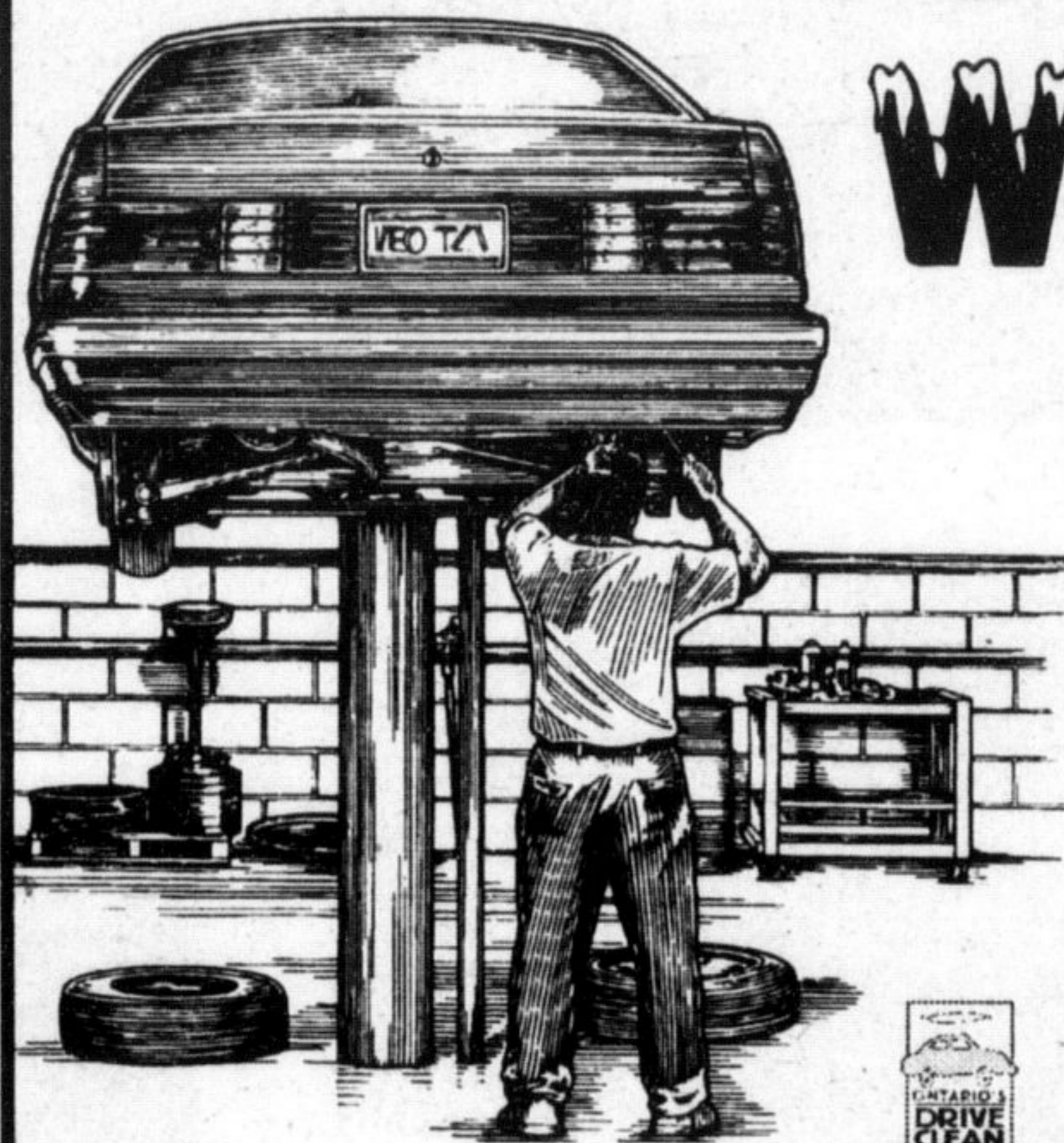
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Furik runs again

By IRENE GENTLE

The Champion

After nine years in office, current Ward 4 councillor Ron Furik hasn't lost his thirst for local politics.

So he's hoping to earn one of the two seats available in his ward in the November 13 election.

He'll square off against fellow incumbent John Challinor as well as contender Bill MacKinnon.

Mr. Furik first entered the political arena almost a decade ago for a simple reason.

"Interest in my community," he said. "I care."

Since then he's been working to ensure the best Town service for the lowest dollar.

"The best bang for the buck is one of the things I've worked for," he said. "And not having a tax increase since 1993."

Support tax cut

He said he fought for a tax decrease using the Town's portion of Mohawk Raceway slot machine revenue, but was defeated at the table.

In the future, Mr. Furik would like to see the construction of an arts and cultural centre in town, which he believes could be up and running in about five years.

And he's pushing for the twinning of the existing Thompson Arena, to provide plenty of ice and recreation access for local user groups.

In the meantime, Mr. Furik has been trying to hammer out ways to ensure existing baseball diamonds and playing fields are well maintained.

"User groups don't have a problem paying the money, but they want to see the levels of service," he said.

He's looking for a fluid policy, where grass-cutting, for example, would depend on weather and other unpredictable circumstances instead of the clock.

Still, the current system is better than what was once in place.

"When I first got elected, we didn't have a policy," said Mr. Furik.

Though much of the plan for the impending population boom in Milton is already in place, Mr. Furik is eager to return to the table to guide it through.

Unfinished business

"I'd like to sit on council to ensure the rest of it falls in place," he said.

As for governance issues, Mr. Furik plans to say no to a Halton mega-city, but is willing to consider an amalgamation with Halton Hills if necessary.

And he believes Milton council missed the boat by not engaging in those discussions earlier.

"I'm disappointed we haven't already had a discussion with Halton Hills," said Mr. Furik. "We didn't seem to take a leadership role."

But he's happy to be part of a race for his seat at the council table, and happy to serve his community.

"I think a challenge is good. It gives the ratepayers a choice," said Mr. Furik. "I'm thrilled with the honour of representing my constituents. I like to live, play and work in my community."



Ron Furik

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