

Simple bathing trip to pond ends in tragedy as local boy drowns along shallow bank

'Time Capsules' are gems of information extracted from past issues of The Champion and other publications to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.

August 1900

Shortly before noon on Friday, Edward Young, Norman White and Norman Burgess went to the Milton pond to bathe. The water was rather cold and White and Burgess soon got out, dressed and sat on the bank. Young remained in the water alone. He told the other boys that he would see how long he could stay under water, and dived in. The water was not more than three feet deep and Young's companions did not dream of any danger.

They saw him working along the bottom and apparently keeping himself down by taking hold of a stone, but when they saw bubbles rising they jumped in and pulled him out. Burgess ran for a doctor and White and a young man named Evans, who happened to be nearby, did what they could to resuscitate the drowned boy, trying to produce artificial respiration. In about half an hour or less doctors McColl and Carter arrived.

They continued the work for about another half hour, but without success. Young was a good swimmer and there were no symptoms of cramps, but Dr. McColl is of the opinion that he may have fainted while under water, possibly on account of a weak heart.

This seems to be the only way to account for his drowning in such shallow water. Young — 14 years and five months — was the younger son of Sidney Young, who has been a resident of Milton for a number of years, but having gone into the employ of H.P. Lawson, of Stewarttown, had made arrangements to move his family to Georgetown within a couple of weeks. Young was one of the brightest boys in Milton and wrote at the recent examinations in the classical department of the Milton public school, the results of which have not been announced. He had been messenger of the County Council for about two years.

He was never disrespectful to his elders and had a cheery greeting for everybody, and was a favorite with the old and young alike. The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon at Grace Church, where the drowned boy was confirmed a few months ago by the Bishop of Niagara.

The attendance was so large that a great

Milton Time Capsules



many people were unable to get into the church and waited outside until the conclusion of the services.

At their meeting County Council passed a motion "that this council learn with extreme regret of the death since our last meeting of Master Edward Young, our young messenger, and this council sympathize deeply with the bereaved parents in their irreparable loss."

...

For a number of years lawyers and others who have required abstracts of titles to lands in Brant's Block, adjoining the village of Burlington, have had to pay fancy fees for them at the registry office. The land was originally granted from the Crown to the celebrated chief of the Six Nation Indians, Joseph Brant.

It was never properly surveyed, but portions of it were sold from time to time and as they were sub-divided and re-sold, the descriptions became so complicated that the preparation of an abstract was a big contract which could be carried out only by an expert.

Some abstracts cost as much as \$10, and many complaints were made. The result of this was an order some time ago by the Inspector of Registry Offices for a proper survey, the preparation of new plans and a new index book from which a fresh start could be made on the title of every lot. Hugh Campbell, ex-Deputy Registrar, prepared the index book.

His remuneration was fixed at \$600 and \$50 more was given to the Registrar for other expenses. The Inspector of Registry Offices has ordered the payment of the above amounts by the county and required the municipalities of Nelson and Burlington to pay the expenses of the survey.

Those who order Brant's Block abstracts in future will have no reason to complain about high fees.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached by e-mail at jdills@idirect.com.



OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Reader says common sense is the best weapon in battle against impaired driving

Dear Editor:

Are the intense efforts of federal and provincial legislators, police and the community gaining ground on impaired drivers? Or are the drinking drivers turning the whole campaign into a show of booze logic with slippery driving techniques?

While we certainly feel and hope the immense efforts aren't being wasted, I think common sense alone tells us that as long as there are booze and drugs, wheels and engines, impaired drivers will exist.

It's the frequency that's still in question. Can we ever get the numbers down to manageable or better?

In Sweden and in some U.S. states, not even one alcoholic beverage is allowed before exercising the privilege of getting behind the wheel and driving.

In Tuesday's Champion, we saw the image of an overturned SUV following a single-vehicle crash on Highway 401, with a 45-year-old Kitchener man being charged with impaired driving.

Fortunately he survived and no other vehicles were involved.

This single incident may or may not be his last impaired charge to stand before the judicial system.

This image took me back to 1985 when Dr. Jim Cairns — then the chief coroner for the City of Brampton, and now our deputy chief coroner of Ontario — took me to an accident scene in a corn field just outside Brampton.

This also involved an overturned vehicle, but in this case an impaired driver was killed and found hanging out the window. Police records showed this individual was a sixth-time repeat offender.

Pictures were taken of that and other alcohol-related crashes for forensic reasons and to present them to recovery homes for repeat offenders and to high schools across Ontario.

How do we teach common sense at a later age or a younger age? In the case of driving, it has been proven that a licence simply legalizes the activity — it doesn't mean you're a good driver.

Even a social drinker can lose perspective. I think the student level is a good place to start, as common sense is learned through knowledge and growth.

Once we can express the dangers lurking inside the mind of a drinking driver of how poor management of life decisions can be messed up in an instant, then and only then can we start working with the combined effect of common-sense disabilities.

A few years ago I watched a well-meaning social drinker turn over their car keys after the second drink.

I saw this same kindly soul threaten to attack the key holder when on the fifth drink the return of the keys was denied.

There's nothing to be ashamed of about drinking, as long as it's legal

in the subject environment and in moderation.

The problem still exists that moderation, as a common sense process, can be flooded into oblivion by even the most well-meaning socialite.

I congratulate people who call in from the community after seeing somewhat erratic or unusual driving techniques. These are without question unsung heroes, as drinking and driving is still a social problem, not just a matter for criminal prosecution or the hospital morgue.

The guile of a drinking driver is powerful, and while some get caught I believe an overwhelming number do not.

Canadians for Safe and Sober Driving — plus similar organizations — are only as good as the common sense values they and their membership mandate.

They must tackle the primary ill of peer pressure. It's the common-sense deficiencies of our world or dangerously free-thinking individuals who will continue to risk all our lives.

Alcohol can be a fuel to party and motorized vehicles only prove just how fragile mortality really is.

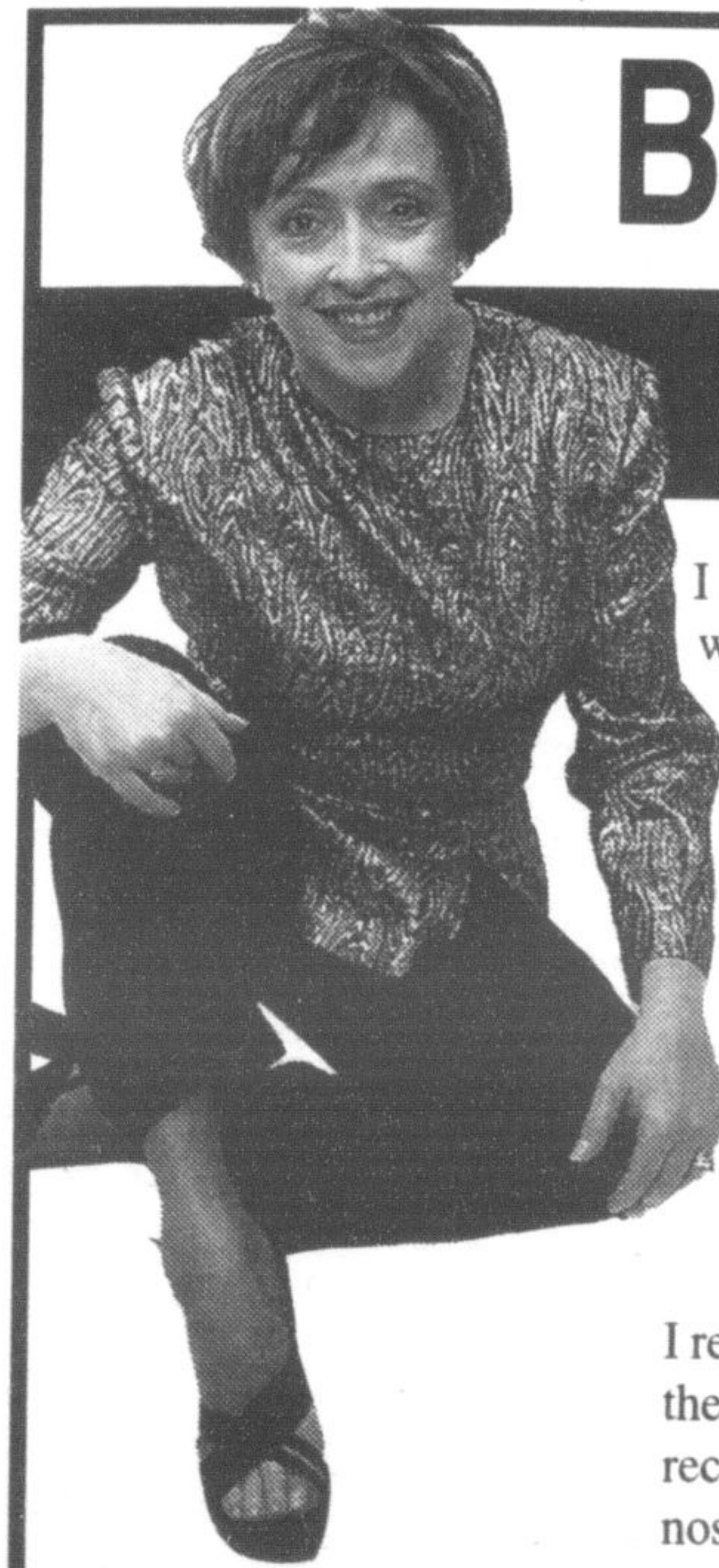
The summer is finally here. Let's enjoy it with common-sense decisions.

Paul Foreman
Boston Church Road

Letters welcome

The Canadian Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise, and reject letters. Letters must be signed and the address and the telephone number of the writer included. Letters can be faxed to (905) 878-4943, e-mailed to miltomed@halton-search.com, or dropped off at 191 Main St. E.

Brampton Woman Tells You How She Shed 35 Lbs.



"Hi, I'm Tila MacDonald. I shed 35 lbs. in 4 easy months with hypnosis"

I had been overweight for ten years. I was unhappy and disgusted with myself. No matter what I did, I couldn't lose my weight. Food seemed to have some strange control over me. I couldn't get past a bakery without loading up on breads and pastries. I tried a variety of diets on my own. I even tried those chalky shakes. Nothing ever worked. I had become a yo-yo dieter.

Discovery

I read about Positive Changes Hypnosis in the Brampton Guardian. I saw a person I recognized in the ad. I thought that if hypnosis could work for her, maybe it could

help me, too.

Results

I noticed an immediate change in my behavior. I took off 8 pounds my first week! Best of all, I never feel deprived. I enjoy my life more and have energy to spare.

My Recommendation

My recommendation to you is this, give Positive Changes Hypnosis a call. Schedule your complimentary hypnosis screening and evaluation. I know you'll be as impressed as I am.



- Weight Loss
- Stress Management
- Stop Smoking
- Learning Acceleration
- Sales Mastery
- Pain Management

Call Now for your FREE Consultation

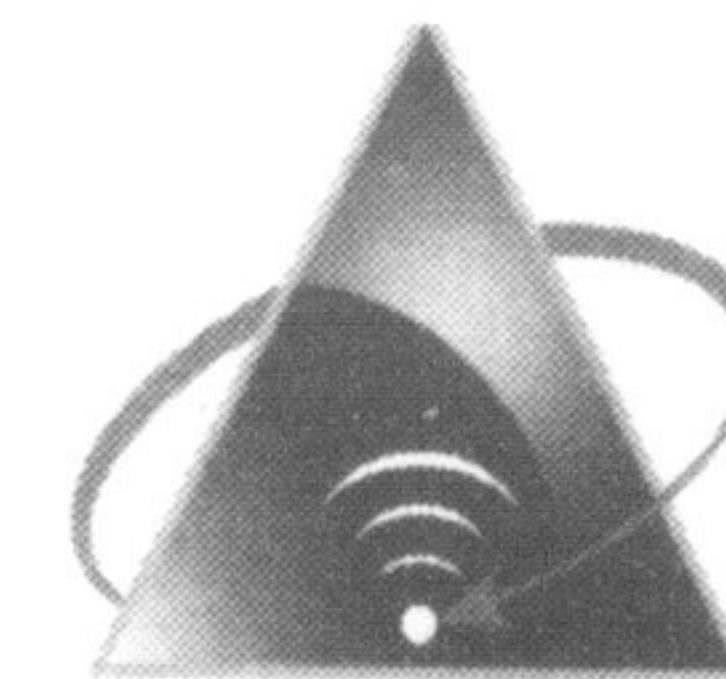
Positive Changes Hypnosis Centres

Stress Management
Stop Smoking Alcohol Free

35 Main St., South, Olde Downtown Georgetown

(Two doors south of the TD Bank)

(905) 877-2077



PositiveChanges
HYPNOSIS CENTRES
"Where Results Happen"