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# Goodall named Milton's Senior of the Year

*Active Miltonian surprised by award*

By **STEPHANIE THIESSEN**  
*The Champion*

When several workers and volunteers from the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre invited fellow volunteer Ed Goodall to dinner last week, he knew something was up.

"I thought, 'It's too early for Christmas'" Mr. Goodall said.

But when he questioned "the girls" from the seniors' centre, they all remained tight-lipped. They did, however, tell him that they'd all be going to Town Hall after dinner.

At Town Hall, Mr. Goodall was caught off guard during the council meeting.

"I went over and the mayor called me up," Mr. Goodall said.

It was then that Mr. Goodall found out what all the secrecy was about. He had been named Milton's Senior of the Year.

The awards, established in 1994 by the Ministry of Citizenship, are designed to recognize a senior in each municipality who "after the age of 65 has enriched the social, cultural or civic life of the community — without thought of personal or financial gain," reads the ministry's Web site.

Standing before Mayor Krantz, Mr. Goodall said he gave an impromptu speech. "I said I wasn't in favour of individual achievement," said the 79-year-old, adding that what he's accomplished in Milton is thanks to the many volunteers he's worked with.

Mr. Goodall has lived in Milton with his wife, Carolyn, for more than 40 years. One of his greatest accomplishments is the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, which he helped bring about.

Since the 1990s, Mr. Goodall has been involved with various seniors organizations. After becoming a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and serving on the executive of branch 136, Mr. Goodall was appointed the title of seniors liaison. He mediated between the Legion and what was then called the Seniors Recreation Centre, which met at the Legion.

"In 1993 the centre asked me to serve on their advisory board and a year later I was elected president, serving two terms," he

said.

It was while he was president that some seniors came up with the idea of having their own building.

"They discovered that a long-term care facility was going to be demolished," he said.

So Mr. Goodall and a group of mostly seniors lobbied three levels of government to save the building and then raised money to refurbish it. It eventually became what it is today. Located at 500 Childs Dr., the centre provides recreation and a social atmosphere for seniors in town.

"There's a plaque in the hall with my name on it," said Mr. Goodall. "I'm proud of what I accomplished, but I didn't do it alone."

As a member of the newsletter committee, Mr. Goodall said he continues to volunteer with the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre.

That's not all he does, though. Mr. Goodall is also part of the Milton Historical Society and was publication chair.

Working on the newsletter for the Milton Historical Society and the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, as well as doing some writing for the Legion, Mr. Goodall said he's been able to actively pursue writing, something he's always enjoyed.

As if he wasn't already busy enough, in 1999, Mr. Goodall became a member of the Elderly Services Advisory Committee (ESAC). "ESAC is an advisory board of seniors and Halton Region staff who advise regional council on issues and concerns affecting seniors such as healthcare, housing, transportation and elder abuse," he explained.

It's been a rewarding experience working to raise the quality of life of seniors in the Milton area, he added.

Although Mr. Goodall said he's honoured to receive the award, he's not letting it go to his head. "I know that a lot of seniors have done just as much as me."

Janet Davidson, co-ordinator of the Town's community programs, said the award is an honour for Mr. Goodall, but also the seniors' centre.


"It recognizes the contributions seniors are making to the centre and the community as a whole."

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Ed Goodall proudly displays the Senior of the Year award he received from the Province of Ontario last week.

Keeping North Halton turned 

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 **COGECO 14**

Programming Schedule — Tuesday, Sept. 30 - Monday, October 6th, 2003

Tuesday, Sept. 30		Wednesday, October 1		Thursday, October 2		Friday, October 3		Sunday, October 4		Monday, October 6	
5, & 6pm	Plugged In! Early Week Edition	5, & 6pm	Plugged In! Early Week Edition	5, & 6pm	Plugged In! Early Week Edition	5 & 6pm	Plugged In! Late Week Edition	10:30am	Cogeco Sports: High School Football - MM Robinson vs Notre Dame	5 & 6pm	Plugged In! Late Week Edition
5:30pm	Seniors' Showcase	5:30pm	The War Amps Present...	5:30pm	With Good Taste					5:30pm	Money Week
6:30pm	Optimist TV Bingo (live)	6:30pm	Swap Talk (Live)	6:30pm	Road Watch			5pm, 6pm & 7:30pm	Plugged In! Late Week Edition	6:30pm	Osler Health Connection
8:00pm	The Issue Is... Meet The Candidates	8:00pm	Auto Experts (Live)	7:00pm	Osler Health Connection			5:30pm	With Good Taste	7:00pm	With Good Taste
9:00pm	Halton Hills Council: September 22nd	9:00pm	Milton Council: September 22nd	8:00pm	Halton Riding Debate (Live)			6:30pm	Seniors Showcase	8:00pm	SportsZONE Live
				9:30pm	Halton Region Council: September 17th			7:00pm	Osler Health Connection		
								8:00pm	The Issue is... (Replay) Meet The Candidates		

Keep North Halton Turned ON!