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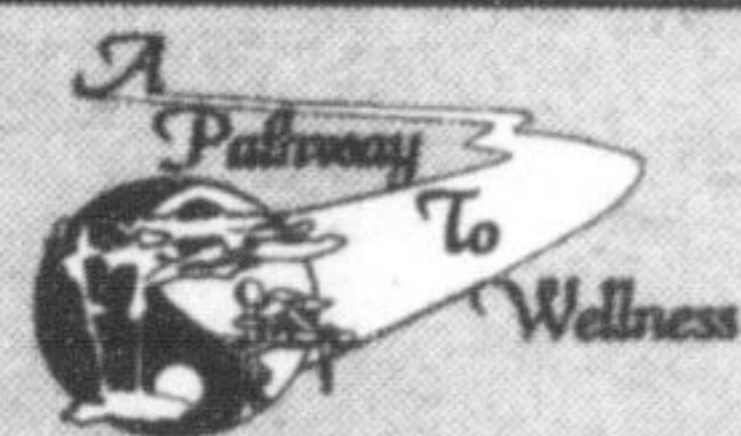
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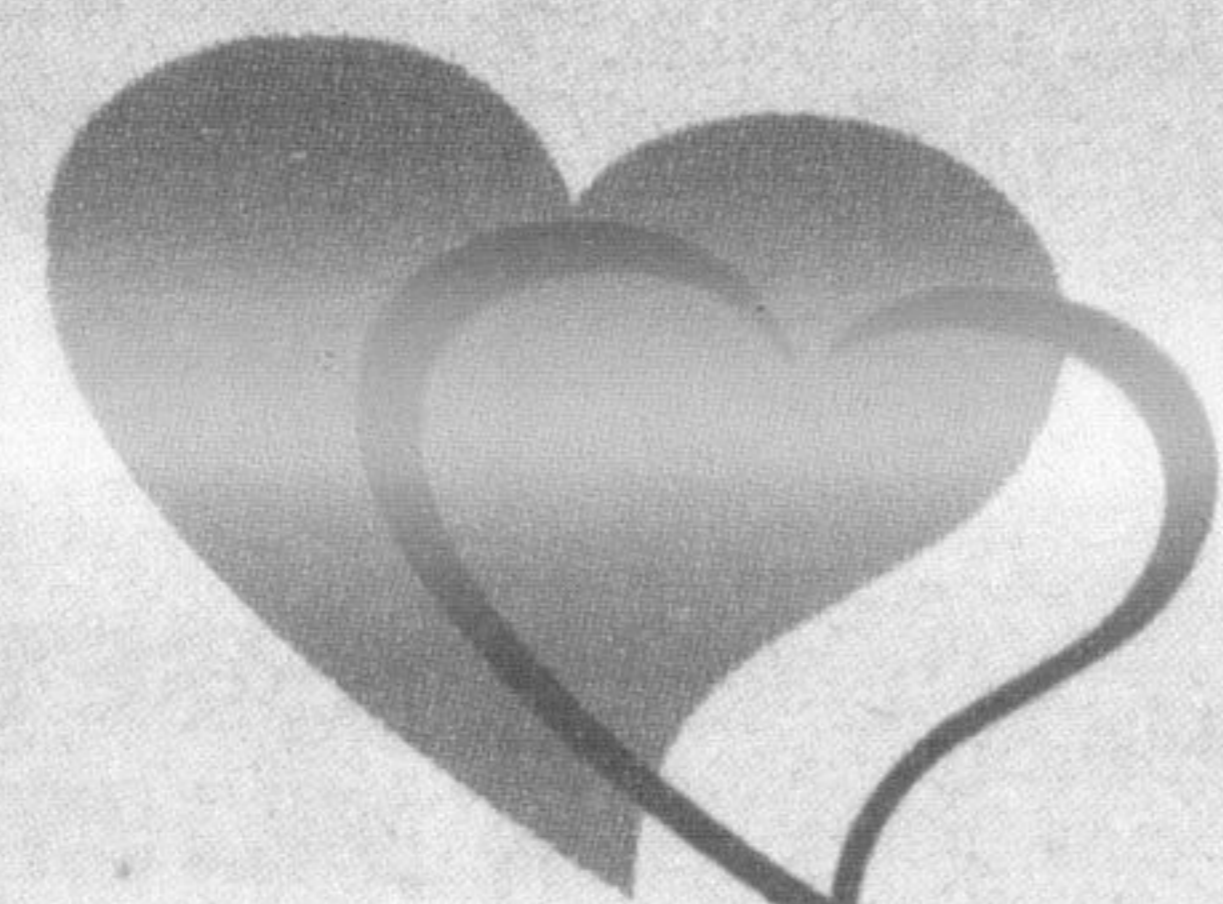


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**M A Y 1 7 t h - 2 3 r d**



**Halton Physician  
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**Milton District Hospital**



Joyce Savoline,  
Halton Regional  
Chairman



**Dr. Jeff Kolbasnik  
Surgery**

Dr. Jeff Kolbasnik barely had time to settle into his duties as General Surgeon after joining the Milton District Hospital (MDH) in January 2002 when he was appointed Co-Chief of Surgery at the Milton site. Then in November 2003, as if he wasn't busy enough chairing the Milton Advisory Committee and actively participating on various

other hospital committees, he took on the position of Associate Chief of Staff for Halton Healthcare.

Dr. Kolbasnik grew up in Kitchener-Waterloo. With a medical degree from the University of Western Ontario, and a Surgical Specialty from McMaster University, Dr. Kolbasnik spent his first year-and-a-half as a surgeon working at both McMaster Hospital and the Trauma Center at Hamilton General Hospital. He was invited to Milton by two of his friends and colleagues, Dr. Glen Hunter and Dr. Garnet Maley.

"Patients today want to know more about their medical condition, and I sincerely welcome their questions," explains Dr. Kolbasnik. "People feel more empowered when they understand their condition and are involved in the decision process regarding their treatment. The patient is a vital part of our healthcare team, and it's great when they take responsibility for their recovery.

"Surgery is extremely fascinating. It's visual, intense and definitely hands on," he continues. "It's one of medicine's most powerful interventions to improve the quality of life. However, contrary to what most people think, a surgeon spends only 20 to 30 per cent of his or her time in the operating room. The rest of the time is spent diagnosing and determining the best course of treatment - which incidentally isn't always surgery - and if I do operate, following my patient through to their recovery, even after discharge home.

"For me, being a surgeon is not merely about doing complicated surgical procedures," he explains. "It's about treating my patients with consideration and respect, and facilitating a compassionate circle of care for them through their medical experience.

"Sometimes I'm literally working 24/7, but I believe when you put patients through surgery, you should be available in case they need you," he concludes. "It's very heartening when patients thank you, but really, their smile or seeing them feel better says it all. If I can make a positive impact on someone's life by guiding them through a difficult decision, or helping them come to terms with their disease, then it's all been worth it."



**Dr. Ivan Hunter  
Family Medicine**

Dr. Ivan Hunter, one of Milton's most dedicated and endeared family doctors, has been taking care of Milton families for more than 38 years - while happily raising his own family in the community with his wife, Judy.

A well-respected Milton icon, Dr. Hunter has always taken both the matters of his community and its

hospital very seriously. Over the years, he has served in various leadership positions, including Chief of Staff and President of the Medical Staff at Milton District Hospital (MDH) - offices he has held for not just one, but multiple terms. In addition, Dr. Hunter has been the Medical Director of the Allendale Nursing Home for the past 33 years, and was instrumental in the establishment of the Chronic Care Unit at MDH.

A good listener and always down to earth, Dr. Hunter is known for his honesty and his relaxed, calming bedside manner. His typical day starts early with rounds at MDH, a visit to Allendale to check in on all his 'friends', followed by an afternoon in his clinic. Despite this hectic schedule, Dr. Hunter always makes time to chat, catch-up and maybe even share a joke or gardening tips with his patients.

"Back in the old days, general practice meant delivering babies, admitting and caring for sick patients, assisting with surgery and first call in the emergency department," recalls Dr. Hunter. "You had to do it all, and I loved it - especially delivering babies!

"Today the new technology has certainly made a huge difference in helping with the practice of medicine," he explains. "Ultrasounds, MRIs and CT scans have really enhanced our ability to diagnose conditions."

In 2002, Dr. Hunter watched his son, Dr. Glen Hunter, who was also a Milton family doctor, return to serve the community as an Obstetrician/Gynaecologist, and bring some of his colleagues to Milton.

"I have learned that if you don't make time for yourself today, you might not be around for others tomorrow. So, now I let Glen (and his associates) deliver the babies," jokes Dr. Hunter, light-heartedly. "The best part of my job now is watching all the kids of the community grow up, including my eight grandchildren."



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