

# Hornby man believes he holds the record for attendance at area fairs

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

## October 1906

Thos. J. Chisholm of Hornby believes that he holds the record as an attendant and exhibitor at the fairs of the Halton Agricultural Society. He says in 1853, when a very small boy, he attended the first fair in Johnson Harrison's field, which had not been cleared of stumps at that time. He has not missed a fair since, and in 1857 he began to show horses. He hopes to do so again next year. He says that David Featherstone, of Trafalgar, also showed horses in 1857 and has been at every fair since except one.

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The annual organization meeting of the Milton Curling Club was called on Monday evening when the following officers were elected for the coming year: Patron, Wm. Panton; patroness Mrs. Wm. Panton; president J.F. Little; vice-president D.S. Robertson; sec.-treas. W.I. Dick; auditors J.F. Little and R.L. Hemstreet; skips D.S. Robertson, J.F. Little, J.T. Hannant, R.L. Hemstreet, J.B. Lawrence, Rev. W.M. Mackay, George Storey and W.I. Dick. The membership fee was fixed at \$1 with \$4 additional for ice, no resident of the town or neighborhood to be allowed to play without first becoming a member.

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T. K. Gemmel & Co. steam dryers and cleaners of Guelph have opened an agency in Milton at the Red Cross Drug Store.

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J.J. Tilley, M.A., Toronto Inspector of Model Schools visited the model school here on Tuesday and in the afternoon delivered an address on the new School Act. Besides the model school students, there was a good attendance of school trustees and other prominent citizens. A number of ladies were present. Mayor Higginbotham was chairman. Mr. Tilley said that under the present system about 75 per cent of the teachers were only third class, too high a proportion for effective work. The average length of service for teachers in rural schools was only five years and the results were bad. Under the new act county model

## Milton Time Capsules



schools would be abolished. There would be no more third and certificates. Heretofore the training of teachers had not been practical enough. There had been too much book-work. There will be more nature study and also manual training. There will be four new normal schools and every teacher must attend such a school for training for at least one year. As a compensation for their longer training, rural teachers would receive life certificates and would be better paid. Under the minimum salary system they would get not less than from \$325 to \$500 a year according to the assessment of their respective sections. Under the new system of uniform taxation the strong sections would have to help the weak. Under the old system it was too often the case that the demand was for, not the best, but the cheapest teacher available.

...

General Manager Travers and Mr. Lindsay of the Farmers' Bank of Canada have presented the Halton Mouldboard Association with a large and beautiful silver cup as a prize for the champion plowman at the Association's annual match to be held here next Tuesday.

## November 1906

On Saturday Dr. R.K. Anderson bought the office occupied by him (216 Main St.) and Andrew Tock became the owner of a frame house (26) on Charles Street. Booth buildings belonged to the estate of the late Mrs. Booth.

...

Robert Sargeant, who died at Palermo on October 22 in his 74th year, was born in Ireland and was made an Orangeman there 56 years ago. On coming to Canada he joined Oakville lodge and he never missed a parade. He joined what is now No. 7 Co. 20th Regt. in 1866 signing the original service roll. He was a county constable and was generally on duty at the assizes here.

This information was assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached at [jdills@idirect.com](mailto:jdills@idirect.com).

# OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

## CHP provides important educational service

### Dear Editor:

As a landowner in the Niagara Escarpment area for more than 50 years and a volunteer at Country Heritage Park (CHP), I'm deeply concerned with the Niagara Escarpment Commission's decision to dismiss the application that would continue to allow surplus cars to be parked on the Country Heritage Park's vacant parking lots during the winter months.

When the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture opened this park in the mid-'70s, there were 47 fulltime employees. When the Ontario government decided to lower its funding for the 87-acre park, a group of professional men and women formed a board of directors.

These people, who have never received remuneration for these positions, continue to support the operations of CHP.

At the present time, there are only four fulltime employees plus

200 volunteers who continue to operate this historic agricultural park in Halton. The dedication and commitment of this group of people are instrumental in supporting the everyday operations of this facility.

One of my concerns stems from the fact that the NEC doesn't appear to be consistent in its decision making. The following questions arise:

- Why did the NEC allow the neighbouring property of Glen Eden Ski and Snowboard Centre to clear cut part of the escarpment facing Hwy. 401? Was this decision made based on the fact that increasing the number of hills at Glen Eden would increase its revenue?

- Why did the NEC turn down the application to park cars on a property that was already designated as parking space? There are no added costs involved and construc-

tion definitely isn't required. In fact, having these cars stored on the park's land provides the historic acreage with a 24-hour security which in turn protects the artifacts stored on this property.

The NEC's decision seriously jeopardizes a source of income that helps defray the operational costs of the park. Without this historic site, our school children will no longer have the park as a source of educational instruction.

Thousands of school children from various boards of education visit this park on an annual basis, as CHP provides programs that have concrete links with the Ontario social science and science curriculum.

The NEC's decision will ultimately affect many of our citizens at many different levels.

Harold F. Middlebrook  
Milton

## Motorists need to take more care in parking lots

### Dear Editor:

On November 17 at approximately 9:30 a.m., I decided to take my wife and granddaughter to the new Zellers restaurant in the Milton Mall for breakfast.

I parked behind Zellers in the new entrance. I thought I had lucked out on parking, as the end parking lot was empty. The road was on my right side and a van was sitting on my left. You would think it was an ideal spot. I drive a gold-coloured 2005 Chevrolet Cavalier. This vehicle was brand new, with not a scratch on it. We take a lot of pride in it.

We had a nice breakfast at Zellers. When we came out of the mall, to my anger and dismay there was a big dent on my left front fender. Further back on the car was another dent, where someone had opened their

door without care and let it swing to hit our car.

I obtained several quotes from repair shops and it looks like it will cost me between \$500 and \$600. So I guess I parked right next to the 'Grinch who stole my Christmas'.

I've lived here for many years and I have found the people to be friendly and courteous. I guess I expected too much from this person who parked beside me.

So to the 'Grinch who stole my Christmas', when you drive in and out of a parking spot, don't crank the steering wheel until you hit the car beside you. Please take care and just back out straight until you're clear.

That's just the height of bad driving and bad manners not to acknowledge what you had done.

Ron Hill  
Centennial Forest Park Drive

## NEC should have afforded a grace period to CHP

### Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to the December 2 letter to the editor from Niagara Escarpment Commission chair Don Scott.

If the NEC strongly supports Country Heritage Park, then why could it not have given a grace period to the park to allow continuing income from the car storage while the NEC followed up their pledge to approach the Province

for increased financial assistance?

Things don't always have to be either/or situations. In my opinion, there had been no demonstrated damage to the escarpment or to the area surrounding it due to the cars being parked at CHP.

In this case, the NEC responded to the complaint of one person. If complaints are needed, could we complain about the planned widening of Tremaine Road or the traffic

noise and pollution from cars and trucks in or near the escarpment?

Certainly these should be issues to consider with just as much attention as that which was given to the winter parking of stationary cars.

It's time for flexibility, common sense and a generous spirit. It's time for the NEC to reconsider its decision.

Einar Voldner  
Milton



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