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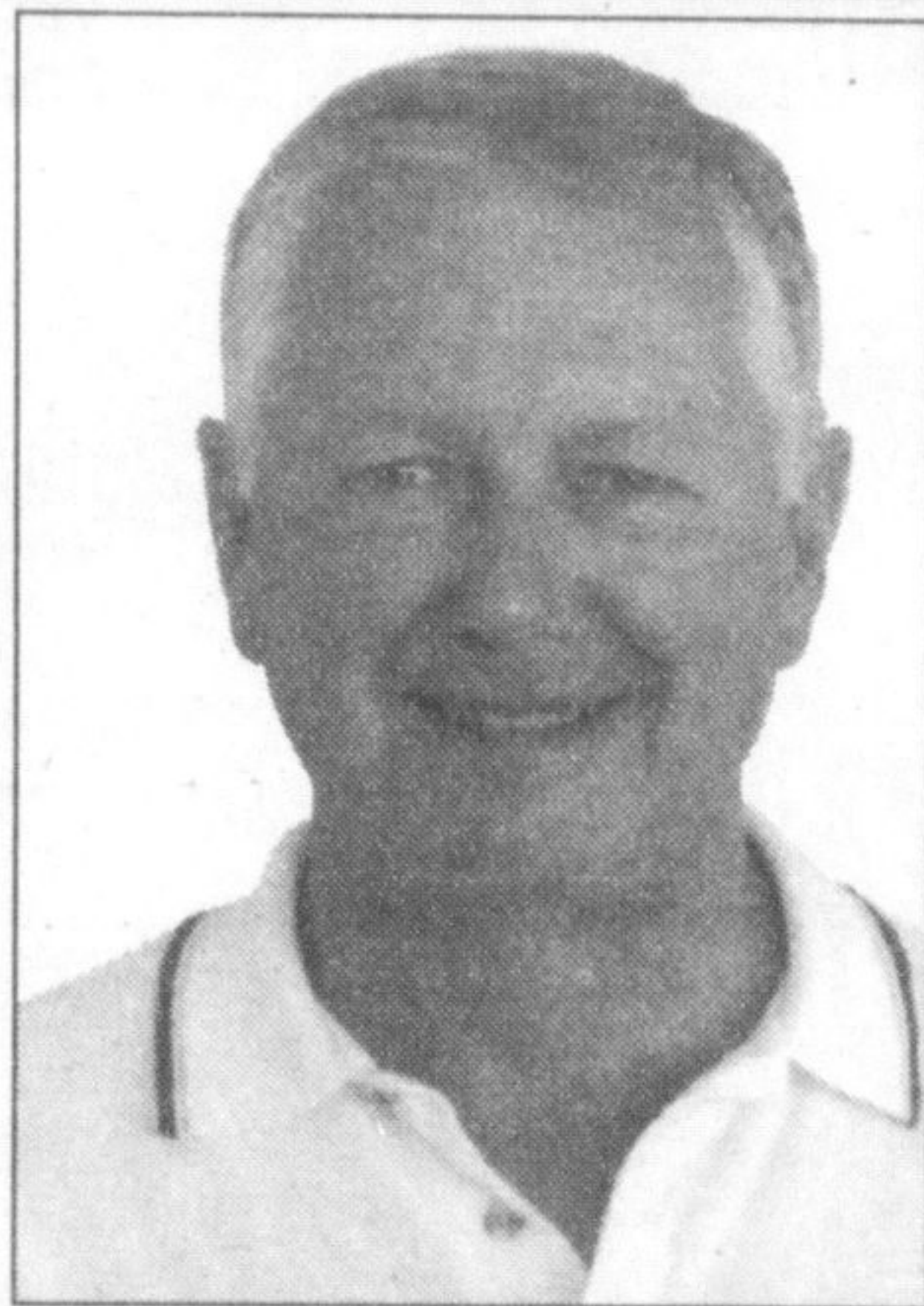
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MILTON CHAMBER OF

www.chamber.milton.on.ca

President's Message

Leslie McLaren



Halton Chambers

The senior volunteers and staff from the Burlington, Halton Hills and Oakville Chambers of Commerce met with us in Milton to discuss mutual issues affecting business within Halton Region. This informal luncheon allowed everyone to become acquainted and begin the process of relationship building. We look forward to the next meeting to be held in June.

Chamber Events

The current year is off to a wonderful start as the Chamber continues to promote Milton businesses and the quality of life here. Already we have held a number of successful events. The Annual Sports Celebrity Dinner and Auction, held January 17th raised \$13,000 to support the Chamber's Scholarship Fund. The Chamber was delighted to have three of our five 2005 Scholarship recipients on hand for the event. In addition to the amazing meal, outstanding auction items, and the very entertaining tales of the celebrities, Mayor Krantz made a special presentation to two of Milton's own - Bruce Hood, an NHL referee and Matt Hart an up and coming welterweight boxer.

The Chamber participated in co-hosting with the Milton Jaycees, an all candidates debate January 12, 2006 at Bishop Reding High School. Over 200 citizens were on hand to hear the candidates responses to questions asked by Chamber Director Al McDonald and representatives from the local newspapers.

Our first 2006 Business After Hours at TrueStar, a complete Wellness Centre for Women of all ages was a huge success with 50 members in attendance. Planning is well under way for future events including: our first one-day Business to Business show February 23; a breakfast with MPP Ted Chudleigh and of course the much anticipated Community Awards Gala held April 8th. The Chamber is particularly honoured to host this black tie event where we recognize individuals and businesses in our community that go the extra mile, and make Milton a special place to work and live.

The unseasonably warm weather has us thinking GOLF! The committee, chaired by Carol McDonald, is hard at work putting their magic to the details. The buzz around town will continue to grow as the dates for these events get closer. Stay posted!

Chamber Retreat

The Chamber held its Annual Board of Directors Retreat for Chamber Board Members and chairpersons of its committees. Each year this serves as an opportunity to review how well the Chamber is perceived to be meeting its mandate and to review the quality of its services and programs.

The Chamber, of course, belongs to its members for the sole purpose of serving them and the community. Please forward any suggestions or comments you may have on how it can better serve you or the community directly to me or to the staff.

The red carpet comes to Milton only once a year!

Help us to celebrate excellence in our community at the
Milton Chamber of Commerce

33rd Annual Community Awards Gala

The **Annual Community Awards Gala** is the Chamber's most prestigious and elegant affair. The Gala celebrates the special citizens of the Milton community by honouring them at a "Black Tie" dinner with an Official Awards Ceremony. With support from local businesses, the Chamber has acknowledged Milton's finest since 1973 with this festive evening of celebration and recognition.

The **2005 Community Awards Gala**, "A Night of Honour and Celebration" will take place on **Saturday, April 8th, 2006** at the Granite Ridge Golf Club. An appetizer seafood bar and cocktails begin at 6:00pm. A gourmet dinner is served at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$75.00 (GST incl.) per person.

Recognize Business Excellence!

Call for Nominations for the 2005 Community Awards

As our community grows, it is increasingly more important to remember where we started, and who helped us to get to where we are today.

Please submit your nominations in the categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Businessperson of the Year
- Business of the Year (25 employees or less)
- Business of the Year (26 employees or more)
- Lifetime Achievement Award

Help to recognize the outstanding citizens and business people who demonstrate outstanding impact in our community by sending in your nomination forms by **Tuesday, February 14th, 2006**. Forms are available at the Chamber office at 251 Main Street East or online by clicking on Events at www.chamber.milton.on.ca. For more information please contact the Chamber at 905-878-0581 or info@chamber.milton.on.ca

MILTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 251 MAIN STREET EAST, MIL



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