

Let's ensure it's a safe New Year's

DEAR EDITOR:

Let's all contribute to making this a safe and happy New Year's.

Recently the OPP stopped and charged a male driver driving the wrong way on Hwy. 400. His car had bottles of alcohol on the seat and floor. If you're traveling at 110 km/h and a vehicle coming at you is traveling 110 km, that's an impact speed of 220 km/h. What's wrong with this picture?

Are the intense efforts of 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, guile and slippery driving techniques? While we certainly feel and hope the efforts aren't wasted, I think common sense tells us that as long as there's booze (drugs), wheels and engines combined, impaired driving will exist.

It's the frequency that's still in question. With 20 years of involvement with anti-drinking and driving groups, I don't see

an ending to the problem until there's no tolerance of alcohol when driving a vehicle.

This is working in Europe. If you're stopped in a spot check or an officer even smells alcohol on our breath, the vehicle is compounded and the driver loses his driving privileges for a six-month period for the first offence not involving another vehicle.

What ever happened to names being published in our local paper for persons caught driving while impaired? It was done two years ago with some adverse reactions, like "Shame on you for printing the names and addresses of the impaired."

Well, if shame is what it takes to save lives, then shame it should be. I for one don't want a knock on my door at 3 in the morning to go identify my son or daughter who was involved in a fatal accident. I do know that if my name was going to be printed in the local paper for drinking while impaired, I would take a taxi or use the

transit.

Canadians for Safe and Sober driving — as well as other similar organizations — are only as good as the common sense values they and their memberships mandate. They must tackle the primary ill, as it's the common sense deficiencies of our world, or in this case dangerous free thinking individuals continuing to drink and drive, that continue to risk all our lives.

There's nothing wrong with enjoying your personal taste of a liquid substance as long as it's legal and in moderation. The problem still exists that moderation can be flooded into oblivion by even the most well-meaning socialite.

So let's stay safe and make this New Year a joyous one, and not a matter for criminal prosecution or a trip to the hospital morgue. Call police if you spot someone swerving or hitting the curb. The police will be waiting to respond.

**PAUL FOREMAN
BRONTE STREET**

Halton may form union with Peel for joint House of Refuge

'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.

March 1909

(Brampton Conservator) Under the law Houses of Refuge are required in the different counties of the Province. An arrangement between two counties can be made. The County of Halton has made a proposition for a union with the County of Peel. Such an arrangement is agreeable. The County of Halton will pay \$2 per week per inmate for all persons sent by them. The cost of maintenance of the House of Refuge here last year was only \$1.21 per head, which, by the way, is the lowest in the Province. Such an arrangement would necessitate the enlargement of the building. This would give an opportunity for the improvements that are very much needed.

W.G. Reid, of Hamilton, sued P.L. Robertson Co. of Milton for damages for wrongful dismissal and for salary as Secretary of the Company for some time in its early days. The case was tried at Hamilton winter assizes last week. The judge reserved his decision but said he would allow nothing for damages though he might allow something for salary.

T.C. Livingston is now occupying the large stone residence near Livingston Park, which he bought last year and which was formerly occupied by the late T.G. Matheson, County Crown Attorney. Its interior has been remodeled and greatly improved and it is lighted throughout by a siche gas plant. On Saturday evening it was invaded by a party of the young people of the town, who presented Miss Livingston with a "shower" of housekeeping utensils and spent hours very pleasantly.

"The Heart of the Stranger," a vivid story of New York street urchins, is one of the latest publications of the Fleming H. Revell Co.

Milton Time Capsules



The writer is Miss Ruddy, daughter of John Ruddy of Milton. She has spent a number of years as a worker among the immigrant children of New York, principally with the Italians and no one understands them better than she. Her pen name is "Christain McLeod." The Christian City says of the book: "The children of the streets, who crowd its doors, are faithfully and vividly portrayed and the reader is drawn close to these little people in sympathy, with the comedies and the tragedies of their impoverished but eager young lives. Even the indifferent must be touched by such a story."

The big six-day-go-as-you-please-team race in Madison Square Gardens, New York, ended at 10 o'clock on Saturday night. The French pair, Cibot and Orphee, won, making 732.6 miles and dividing \$1,500. The Indian pair, Davis and Metkus, made 719.5 miles and got second money, \$1,000. Davis, or "Bill" Davis, as he is called in sporting circles, lives at Lowville, on the old Cleaver farm which he leased from its owner, Whitfield Armstrong, a few months ago. He is the man who first trained and brought out Tom Longboat and he is about to take charge of the Onondaga again. He arrived in Milton yesterday morning and, after a short stay at the Hotel McGibbon left for home. He says Longboat is one of the most contrary of men and has become more unmanageable of late than ever. It would be much better for him if he would go to Lowville for his training, but he insists on staying at Toronto. Davis, however, hopes that he and Tom Flanagan will get him into good shape and says he can beat Shrub or anyone else when fit.

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

Comments about MP tough to swallow

• from MALBOEUF'S on page A6

through. Do you, Mr. Malboeuf?

If you have any hopes of winning the nod to run as the Conservative candidate in the next federal election — now there's an understatement — let's make this a little test of your eligibility, shall we?

Specifically, how artfully could you explain how you didn't really mean that people should be punished when their elected representative merely stands up for convictions not fully in accord with his party's leader?

And while you're at it, since you're obviously making 'infrastructure' your personal big deal,

how about explaining how your favourite form of it might be a gallow in every prison, if not in the public square?

I've been a lifelong Liberal, but I believe Turner has stood up for himself and for Halton in a very big way. The only question that remains is whether Halton will stand up for him in the next election. I will.

He's a man with integrity and courage. That's exactly what we need in Ottawa now and, I believe, a forerunner of a welcome future trend in Canadian politics.

**RICHARD HODGINS
HOLLY AVENUE**

Town Hall parking lot should be available at night

DEAR EDITOR:

I have a point to make about parking in town.

On the west side of Hugh Street, where it meets with Mary Street, there is a parking lot. Now to the best of my knowledge, this lot is for at least some of our political and Town of Milton workers.

I have had the pleasure of being a resident of Milton for

about a year and a half, and during this time I have found it to be a great place to live.

Also during this time, I have parked in this lot. On December 4 at 2 a.m. I was ticketed for \$40 for being in violation of bylaw 12-81 Section 2. Now I don't dispute the fine.

Across the street there is now a parking lot where you can park for 24 hours. However, it's

unpaved and full of potholes. Now our friends across the street in control of the tax dollar-maintained paved parking lot would rather have a lot empty at night than let the tax paying car owners have use of the lot. Why?

Well, it's one way to keep us in our place.

**DAN WILLETTE
MILTON**

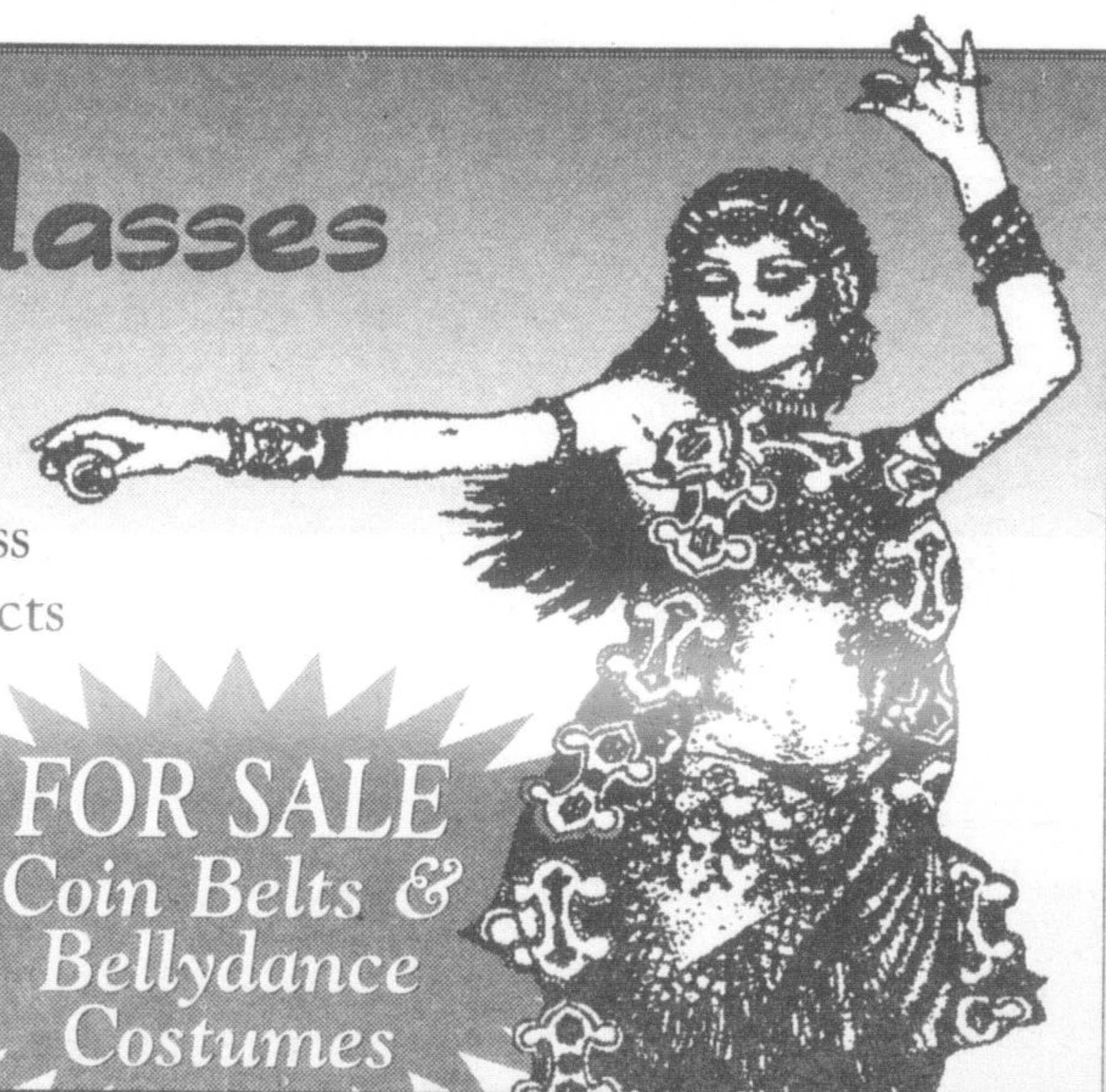
Egyptian Bellydance Classes

Why has Bellydance steadily gained popularity as the new fitness solution for busy women? The most important factor in sustaining an exercise program is the 'fun factor'; Bellydancing comes with great music, exciting moves, noisy coin belts, and it's own special dress code. In your journey through discovering this dance form you will find many interesting aspects as you will see it is much more than just rolling your stomach and shaking your hips.

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