

Regional councillors' salaries, benefits total \$1 million

A little over \$1 million was spent on regional council members' salaries, benefits and expenses in 2006.

A staff report presented to the Region's administration and finance committee Wednesday detailed what each councillor and the chairman made last year.

Topping the salary list was former regional chairman Joyce Savoline with \$164,000.

Most councillors earned between \$35,000 and \$41,000, with the exception of those who were newly elected, who each made about \$2,700. Regional Chairman Gary Carr took in \$12,500. These numbers

also include benefits.

About \$26,000 was spent on regional council members attending conferences and nearly \$12,000 on mileage and other expenses.

The document also detailed committee and board remuneration and expenses for

2006, which were: ecological and environmental advisory committee, \$591, Halton Regional Police Services Board, \$43,669, and conservation authorities, \$35,951.

Also, Oakville Councillor Allan Elgar was paid \$4,260 for sitting on the Niagara Escarpment Commission.

Board launches chat site

The region's public school board has launched a chat site for students and staff to talk anonymously about issues like sexual orientation and gender.

On Wednesday, the Spectrum committee of the Halton District School Board unveiled a new support for students and staff who wish to learn more about diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.

Spectrum is comprised of a group of Halton District School Board staff and students. Its first initiatives are Spectrum Talk and Student Spectrum Talk. The anonymous on-line conferences are meant to provide staff and students with a safe environment to discuss issues of sexual orientation and gender identity in schools.

The launch at Oakville's Iroquois Ridge High School included store-front displays and provided an opportunity for staff and students to learn more about the supports and services available.

The Halton District School Board website has a Spectrum page. It notes there is one Internet chat room for students and another for staff. It says you can use them to talk anonymously to other people within the school board.

Spectrum also provides workshops, booklists and materials, as well as community resources.

For more information, or for more details about how to access the chat rooms, go to <http://diversity.hdsb.ca>.

Day grateful to firefighters

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mining and timber industries, and in the Second World War worked in army intelligence disposing bombs.

He and his wife moved to Milton in the mid-'60s and built Campbellville's Mohawk Inn in 1967. Marguerite Day passed away February 18 of pneumonia and other complications from Alzheimer's disease.

Day remembers his father as a man with an acute sense of humour and traditional values.

"He was always there for us," Day said. "He always encouraged us to be held to a higher set of standards."

The brave actions of firefighters won't be forgotten, he added.

"I understand they risked their lives to try to save my father, and for that I'll be forever grateful."

Day leaves behind three children and nine grandchildren.

Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

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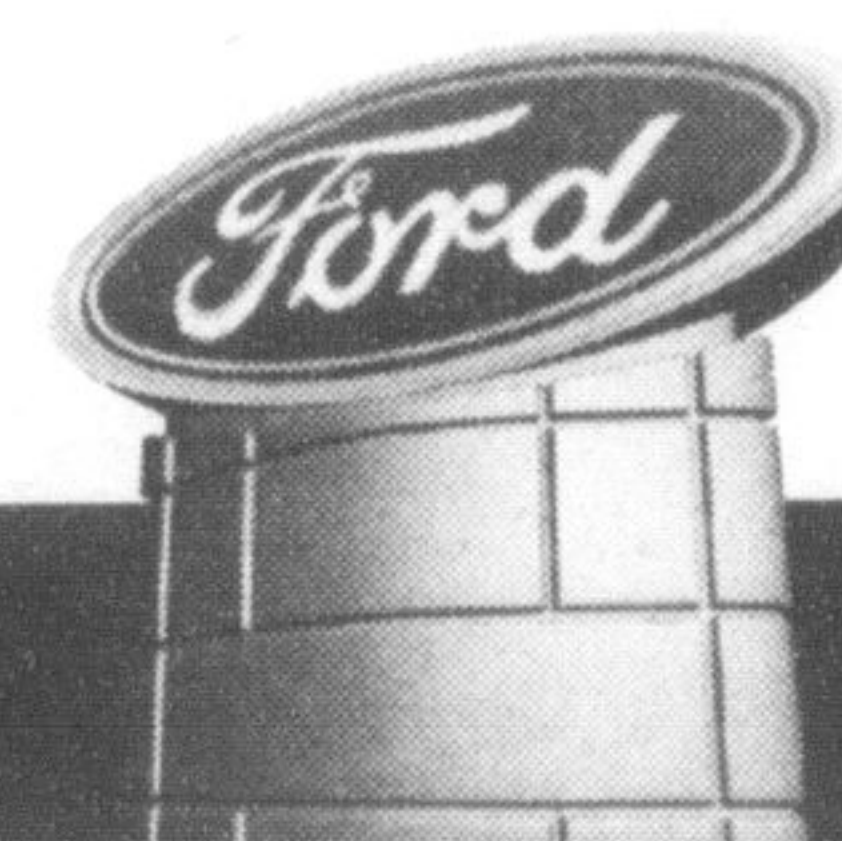


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