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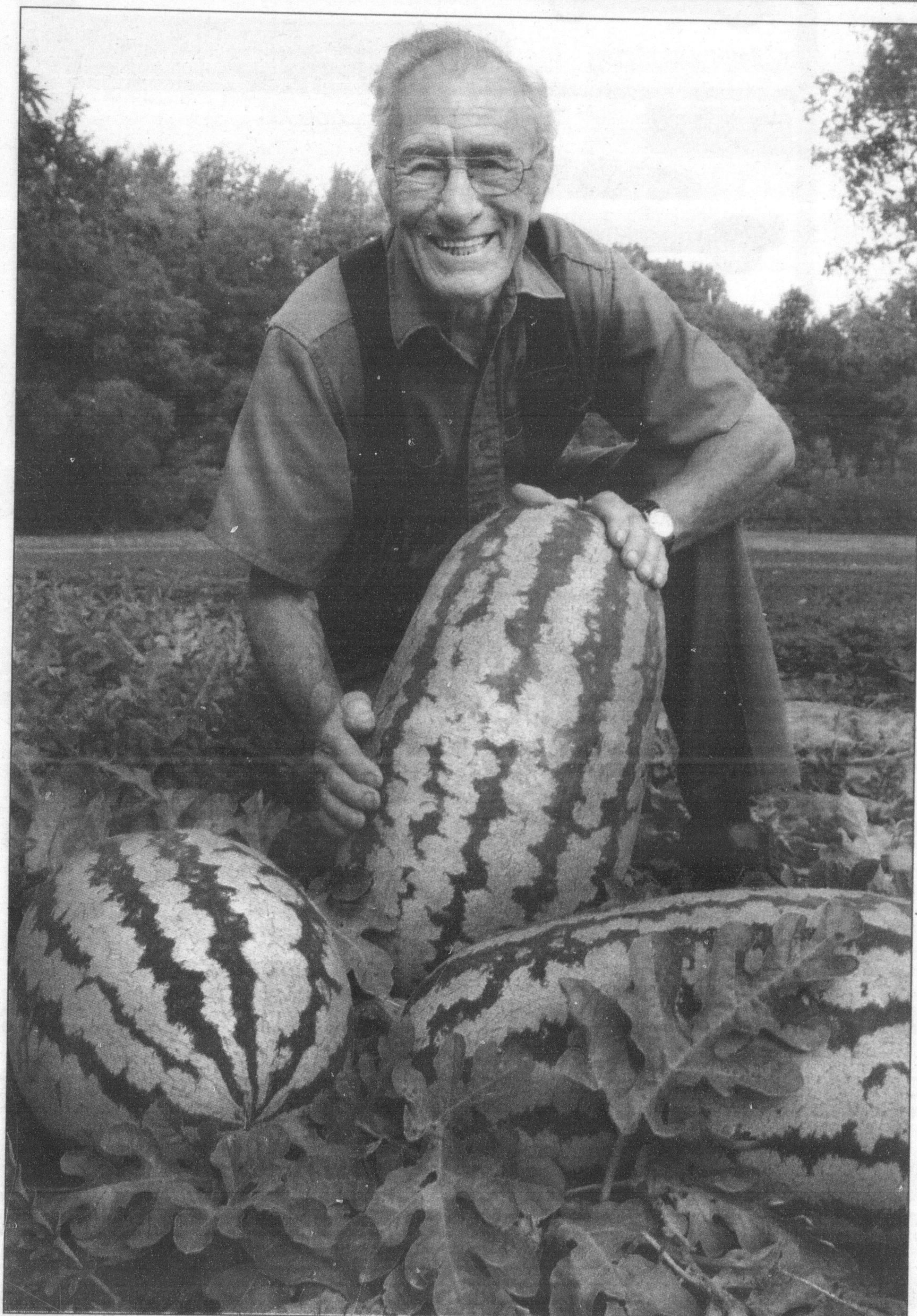
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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

NOW THAT'S A WATERMELON: Local farmer Bill Bailey shows his 41-pound watermelon that measures 29 inches long. It was the largest of eight huge watermelons produced from four plants in his Omagh field — the biggest he's ever grown. The best of local agriculture will be showcased this weekend as the Milton Fall Fair begins today and continues until Sunday at the Milton Fair Grounds. For fair information, visit www.miltonfair.com.

Town pushes for Derry underpass, 401 interchange

As more homes to be approved, councillors call for action on infrastructure

By Melanie Hennessey
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A Town committee wants the Region to promise it will complete two major infrastructure projects sooner than later to alleviate the gridlock that's only expected to get worse as the west side of Milton develops.

After much debate, the administration and planning committee passed a motion Monday night that calls on the Region to commit to constructing an underpass at the CN rail line on Derry Road and building a Hwy. 401 interchange proposed for a realigned section of Tremaine Road.

The resolution was made by Wards 2 and 4 Councillor Colin Best after a routine staff report came forward to approve another section of the subdivision Mattamy Homes is building at the southeast corner of Derry and Tremaine roads.

"With approving more houses on the west side without adequate means of getting to the hospital we're setting up a choke point," he said. "We have to start laying the law down and say we need some commitments before we put any more pressure on the people in this area."

During the meeting, Ward 4

Councillor Paul Scherer raised concerns about the west side of town starting to develop when home construction isn't finished on the east side yet.

"From a service standpoint, this is silly for us to continue building these 'outposts' around the centre core," he said. "I don't get the rationale for going there (the west side) before we finish on the other side."

Director of Planning and Development Mel Iovio explained that the development phasing 'trigger' — having 60 per cent of the east side finished — has been met, so work can start on the west side.

"It's very rare that any phasing policy would say you have to have a 100

• see DEVELOPMENT on page A22

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