

Established 1861

The Canadian Champion

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Brian Mulrooney's Top 5 Unbreakable New Year's Resolutions



1. TO PURSUE A FAVOURABLE FREE-TRADE CONTRACT WITH THE U.S.
2. TO HOLD ON TO EVERY-ONE OF MY CABINET MEMBERS FOR ONE YEAR.
3. TO EAT TUNA ONCE A WEEK.
4. TO PAY MY NANNY OUT OF MY OWN MEAGER SALARY.
5. TO TREAT OUR BELOVED PRESS TO LUNCH MONTHLY.

Pages of the Past

One Year Ago

From the Jan. 9, 1985 issue
• Despite intense spot-check activity, police report they laid no drinking-and-driving charges on New Year's Eve. Halton Regional Police, through the five-man traffic squad, stopped 254 vehicles on New Year's Eve but only cited drivers for Highway Traffic Act offences such as operating an unsafe vehicle. To members of the squad, the results of New Year's Eve prove the drinking-and-driving message is finally getting through to Halton motorists.

• Police are advising anyone who may have purchased cocaine in Milton around New Year's to beware of the drug. This comes after the sudden death early on Jan. 1 of Robert Dale McMurray, 24, of Unit 36, 30 Heslop Rd. McMurray was rushed to Milton District Hospital on New Year's morning and he died shortly after being admitted. An autopsy was held on the same day and the death was attributed to an overdose.

20 Years Ago

From the Jan. 5, 1966 issue
• Councillors Gordon Krantz and Tony Cousens were sworn in to the first council meeting of the year Monday. They are first-time members. They replaced Reeve C.A. Martin and councillor Gerry Addison. Mr. Martin retired from politics while Mr. Addison was defeated. Mayor Syd Childs presided over the nine-member council.

• The meeting also marked the last to be held in the main-floor quarters in the town hall. Renovations are slated to refurbish much of the building and move the council chambers upstairs into what is now the auditorium. In the meantime, the town's business will be conducted in a building on Martin St. Special council meetings and gatherings will be held in the fire hall auditorium next door.

• The two Milton dairies announced price increases for milk. As a result, the price per quart will go to 27 cents next Monday. The price for two-quart jugs will move to 52 cents.

• Two Milton senior scouts have been selected to take part in the Scout Jamboree and Exchange in England this summer. Jim Mercer and Randy Googe, both Queen's Scouts and members of the 3rd Milton Venturers will spend from Aug. 5-29 in England. Milton council donated \$50 to each scout to help defray expenses.

• The town registered its third highest total in building permits value during 1985. In all, construction worth \$1.632 million was built in town last year. Leading the list was the new home for the aged on Ontario Street and the new Holy Rosary Church on Martin Street. In addition, renovations to the former Martin Street High School helped boost the permits to the highest total since 1969.

• Milton junior Merchants edged Orangeville Hornets 8-5 and moved into a share of first place with a 13-3-2 record. Leon Stickle scored twice for Milton with singles going to Craig Brush, Joe Hore, Bruce McDuffie, Roger Wildfong, Steve Gervais and Dick Marshall.

50 Years Ago

From the Jan. 9, 1936 issue
• Provincial Constable A.J. Oliver, of Milton, found an abandoned new Chevrolet car on a side road near Boyne on Tuesday last. The car was not damaged in any way and the ignition key was turned off. The gas tank was empty. The car had been stolen from a Toronto motor car company.

• Miltonians should be well supplied with calendars for 1936. For six months, unemployed men peddled them from door to door with good results. Town merchants also supplied their customers with the same useful article in a most generous manner.

• Thieves stole 250 pairs of socks from the Huttonville Woolen Mills one night recently.

• Many Milton young ladies are glad to know that another leap year is here. Now they can ask him.

• No fire insurance was paid in Milton during 1935, according to C. Earl, fire chief. There were six chimney fires and a motor car caught fire, all of which were extinguished before they caused any damage. This a record for any town to be proud of!

120 Years Ago

From the Jan. 4, 1866 issue
• At an adjournment meeting of Magistrates, it was resolved that the watch, money, revolver and other effects of Tebow the burglar should be restored to the Rev. Lachlan Cameron of Acton in order to compensate him for the loss sustained by the robbery.

• The annual meeting of the County Agricultural Society will be held at the Milton town hall on Friday, the 19th at 11 a.m. They have handed us a list of 67 names of a committee for getting a dinner for the directors of the society to be held in the Thompson House on the evening of the annual meeting. The names on the committee comprise most of the leading agriculturalists of the county and we have no doubt it will be a brilliant affair.

• James Thompson, tailor, was brought before W. D. Lyon, Mayor, and fined for being drunk. In default of payment, he was committed to jail for six days.

• The grammar school will resume work on Monday next. It is now held in the Temperance Hall. Fee for all branches is one dollar per month.

• We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents. Our columns are open to all.

Dubious method

Residents have probably answered their telephones lately to hear someone purporting to represent the Optimist Club selling tickets to a concert. On further examination, residents will soon discover the caller is actually from a profit-making company working in conjunction with the Milton service club.

It's pretty hard to reject them. Tickets, if not used by the purchaser, will be given to those less fortunate to use. It's a strong campaign but one we can't agree with.

On one hand, we applaud the intentions of the service club — i.e., to gain funds at the same time as helping those disadvantaged. But to engage the employ of a profit-making organization to gain that end, does not sit well with us.

Among the reasons people financially support service clubs is that they know every dollar raised will go to the club. They purchase tickets or whatever from club members because they're their neighbours. Residents show their appreciation for the otherwise thankless hours put in by volunteers by giving financial and emotional support.

We certainly have no qualms with the intentions of the service club in this matter. Their intentions are honourable. Their methods are dubious, though.

Vindicated

Through all the flak and accusations made last year concerning the Town of Milton's consolidated zoning bylaw, it appears the Town has had the last laugh.

At an Ontario Municipal Board hearing last Monday to settle any outstanding objections, only four were received. And the one which questioned the Town's handling of the entire process, was dismissed in a few brief minutes.

Certainly, some members of town staff must feel vindicated by the result. The OMB officer, Vern Singer, a former MPP for 18 years, said virtually the Town had done the right thing all along.

Judging by the few number of objections (and none relating to the then contentious Open Space Conservation designation), the furor of last spring and summer may be best summed up as Much Ado About Nothing.

The winner from the entire ordeal might just be Gus Goutouski, the man who raised the furor last January in the first place and brought the objection to the OMB hearing last week. Principally through his efforts, he forced the Town to delay passing the bylaw in February, as planned. In the period of the delay, Mr. Goutouski installed adventure games on his land, in contravention of the new bylaw, but in accord with the former Nassagaweya bylaw.

Although town staff received much heat through the entire ordeal, the time has come to applaud their efforts as in agreement with established guidelines.

Viewpoint

with Lisa Tallyn

A pain in the neck



Remember Linda Blair in The Exorcist. She was the girl with the green skin, who could spin her head all the way around her body, while she spewed out beezlebub babble and other assorted things.

Despite her nasty habits, the Young Drivers of Canada would have loved her. Being aware of the situation 360 degrees around your car is the mark of a good driver.

I am not a good driver, or so I was told after taking a YDC instructor for a spin around town in my car. We toured our way through a quarter tank of gas, and a good half hour. He evaluated my driving abilities, making notations and keeping score all the way. I got 58, and that number apparently reflects the fact that I am one of the lowest forms of life in the driving world. Upon our return to the office he gave me a don't-take-this-personally look and said, "You have likely had or are about to have an accident." I took it personally.

He sat me down in my office and just yammered away pointing out fault after fault, one driving error after another, until I was feeling emotionally crippled and at the point of surrendering my licence.

In all fairness I have to admit that some of the points the instructor raised were valid, and could make life on the roads safer for everyone. Avoiding blind spots, maintaining a safe following distance, keeping a space cushion around your car, scanning left, centre, right at an intersection, and using the lane of least resistance all made sense.

But, some of the tips he threw at me, and I was marked down on, were just plain nit-picking. As far as I can see, if everyone drove according to the YDC rules, there would be a lot of very tense, crazed robotic-type drivers on the roads. Their heads would be endlessly bobbing up and down, from side to side, while their eyes dart nervously from the road, to the side walk, to the tires and steering wheels of other vehicles, to the mirrors, to finally

meet the eyes of oncoming drivers. This would be a continuous sequence while the driver's hands are positioned on the wheel to cover the horn at all times.

When you drive:
Do you move your eyes every two seconds? I don't.
Do you check your mirrors every five to eight seconds? I don't.

Do your eyes lead your wheels? During the test mine did, but usually I aimlessly pick a direction, spin the steering wheel, then look and hope that I don't hit anything.

Do you scan the steering wheels of parked cars. I don't. You should be scanning for heads — a head can mean potential trouble. While you're watching the steering wheels you should also be practising good ground viewing habits. Here you should be watching the front tires of parked cars for any signs of movement — again potential trouble.

Do you have eye to eye contact with other drivers. I don't, but I always try hard if he's really good looking.

Do you communicate with other drivers using horns and signals. Usually I don't. The one time I did try to communicate with another driver, I nearly had the life beat out of me.

After my test I made a conscious effort to drive according to the "rules." I was uncomfortable, jumpy, my eyes hurt and I got a kink in my neck from all the bobbing around. You try to have meaningful eye contact with an oncoming trucker travelling at 50 mph — it can be dangerous.

I am a good driver. I drive defensively, I'm alert and I use common sense. If I had \$319 and eight weeks to spare, you would not find me in a Young Drivers of Canada classroom learning their method of synchronized disco-driving. There is just too much pressure involved. I'd rather walk.

Our Readers Write

Hope, Not Anger

Dear Sir:
Re: Article Wed. Dec. 18
"Sixth Line Noise Angers Doctor".
This doctor is "not angry." I am just interested in a better solution for a growing problem in our area.

We live in a beautiful part of Milton countryside which everyone enjoys... (tourists, recreation, nature trails, etc.), but this enjoyment is being wrecked.

Longer, heavier and noisier trucks speed through our residential community with greater frequency interfering with our home lives. They wreck our roads, our peace, our ear drums and are a hazard to our safety.

The truckers must be equally harassed each time they come off super highways and have to travel through our residential community with all the irritations of slower local traffic, school buses and people walking, etc. Then they have to hazardously climb or wind their way up a perilous mountain road like a goat. Neither the truckers nor ourselves need any more harassment.

It is with hope, not anger, that we approach this problem for the good and betterment of all

concerned. As a doctor, I search for a cure. The truckers need a better access (road) to their work so their greater necessity for speed and convenience is assured. We, as residents, need more peace and quiet for our community and home life. This area needs a more complementary plan of action.

With so many and so much involved, it is a complex problem. We must proceed thoughtfully and carefully so we preserve our community and good-neighbour relationships.

So, angry is not the word — frustrated, yes! Thanks for your report on this dilemma. We, the residents of Halton Road 9 and area, appreciate and thank you for your interest and involvement.

DR. JOHN GEAR M.D.
Sixth Line, Milton

The True Spirit

Dear Sir:
What does Christmas really mean?
It means celebrating the birth of a baby named "Jesus" who was born 1,985 years ago. Now, just how do we celebrate his birthday? First of all, every year we are bombarded with sale commercials that magnetically tempt us into buying. It seemed to me even more so this year. And usually this is how we get caught up

in the hustle and bustle of the season. Along with that is the different reactions of people, some complain about being just worn out. Others, about how costly Christmas is. It's the tradition, so it is expected of them. Then, there is the surprisingly large percentage of people who can't wait for December to pass into January. After all it is a season to be jolly and they just don't have a switch that will turn off their lonely, depressed feelings.

One lady said, "All year around my family doesn't bother much with God. But come Christmas, we suddenly get very religious." She was just being honest. If we really believe in the birth of Christ, then we should understand that it began in the heart of God. It is complete only when it reaches the heart of man, only then does it become meaningful.

God gave of himself, his son. The son gave himself to mankind to bring peace on earth, and good will to men, from Heaven's all gracious King knowing what would ultimately happen to him.

He came to a world full of trouble, which is not much different from our troubled world today.

Let's be honest. As a parent, isn't it more touching if your child takes the time and effort to remember your birthday by his personal ap-

pearance. This is better than just sending birthday greetings by way of a friend or family member. That would make us feel rejected and love-less. No matter what kind of gifts we would receive by those means, it would mean little or nothing if they give not of themselves.

Now Christmas is approaching and what do we do. We give each other presents. We get all excited, and say "Guess what I got," and "How was your Christmas?" Yes, we do try hard to practise peace on earth and good will towards men.

But this King's birthday, who we celebrate, meant for us to practise this all year, not just at Christmas time. He did not mean that we should just exchange gifts with each other, but that we should give of ourselves. He did give of himself to us.

He talked, walked and dined with the hurt, lonely and the down and out.

That's the kind of gift he expects us to give on his behalf to a hurting and lonely world, love and oneself. Oh yes, we are doing pretty good in helping those around the globe and at home, supplying the needs of victims of tragic circumstances. But what about those who are starving for love. A starving empty soul can be just as painful as an empty stomach. It is the spirit that gets us down, especially when our personal problems become just that personal. Unfortunately, many Christians, like humanists have taken on a strange sense of freakish independence. This runs like a muscular strain through our society. God gave of himself to meet men's inner needs. Let us not admire people's independence to the point that psychologically we have blocked out of our minds man's need for personal contact. But practise the example that Christ showed by his personal appearance at Christmas.

BETTY VANDERENDE
Hornby

Thanks Customers

Dear Customers:
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your generosity during this Holiday Season.
Wishing you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

SHANE TESSER
Champion and flyer carrier
Bell St., Heslop Rd., and Elmwood Cr.

Pud

