

# Drivers paid heed to new drinking regulations

By LISA TALLYN  
 Champion Reporter

The new one-year mandatory licence suspension for impaired drivers has proven to be a boom for the Milton Blue Cab company. New Year's Eve was their busiest night in the past eight years.

"The calls started at 6 p.m. and kept coming in right up until 6 a.m.," said Dan Beck, company owner. He credits the increase in business to the fear drivers have of losing their licences for a year. The provincial legislation was in place just before Christmas, right on the heels of stiff new federal laws clamping down on drinking drivers.

"I had four cars working the shift, but I could've very easily done with six." Most of his fares were in Milton but he delivered some passengers to Oakville, Mississauga and Burlington.

Both Halton Regional Police and the OPP have noticed a marked change in attitude of the people they pulled over during their annual spot-check programs. Numbers are not down significantly from last year but this is likely caused by the newness of the stricter laws.

During the month of December 1984, through blitzes and normal patrols, Milton OPP stopped 1,029

cars. They made 15 arrests for impaired driving and handed-out 16 12-hour suspensions.

In December 1985, they stopped 1,217 cars, laid 16 impaired charges and 12 suspensions. In all of 1984, 142 people were charged with impaired driving. In 1985 156 drivers were charged with impaired.

Halton Regional Police stopped 2,565 cars in Milton, and Halton Hills throughout December, in spot-checks and regular patrols. Only 10 people were charged with over 80 mgs or impaired. For December in all of Halton region, they stopped 7,838 drivers, and laid 29 impaired charges, but only in spot checks.

In December 1984, 63 drivers were charged with impaired driving through patrols and blitzes. Comparable figures for 1985 are not available but Sgt. Garry Bogue, of the Halton Regional Traffic Division, estimates this year's figure to be slightly lower than last year's.

"The new laws have definitely had an effect," said Sgt. Bogue. "We are getting a lot of feedback."

"Our enforcement is up," said OPP Constable Bruce McArthur. "That's why our numbers have stayed relatively the same. I think that next year our numbers are going to be way down though."



Halton Regional Police completed their spot-check program and report the number of charges for impaired driving down considerably from the year prior. Police stopped 7,838 cars in December and charged 29 with drinking-driving offences.

## Skiers welcome at Hilton Falls

Several special events for cross-country skiers will be hosted by Halton Region Conservation Authority.

A cross-country ski outing is planned for Sunday Feb. 2 at Hilton Falls Conservation Area. On Sunday Feb. 9, at 2 p.m., an historical ski tour and slide show will be held at Crawford Lake Conservation Area. The annual Valentine Moonlight Ski will be held Friday Feb. 14 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. For more information, call 878-4131.

## Winter programs

The Centre is offering a variety of programs during these cold winter months.

Programs include parenting, women's studies, stress management, informal drop-in and programs for pre-school children.

The Centre is also accepting registrations for its Adolescent Parenting Group which runs Mondays from Jan. 27 to March 17.

For more information, contact Debbie at 878-1852 or 878-1244. The Centre is behind Jackson's Barn.

## Fitness programs at Y

If the fitness movement has passed you by, it isn't too late to shape up. Milton Y fitness classes begin this week with evening and morning sessions.

Babysitting is available to morning class participants at St. Paul's United Church. Those who take part in Monday and Thursday evening sessions at E. W. Foster School may cross over into morning classes, an option which is ideal for shift workers. Weight-loss charting and fat caliper measurements are available. Classes conducted by instructor Sue Tompkins cover flexibility, cardiovascular endurance and muscle strength. To register call Milton Y at 878-5711.

## Maritime heritage

Halton Region Museum has announced its calendar of events for the coming year.

The first event is Heritage Day on Monday Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the main building. On hand will be Mary Harvey, a former curatorial assistant of Nova Scotia Museums, who will discuss the history of Nova Scotia through its historic houses.

Next on the list will be the spring wildflower identification workshop on Sunday May 4. That includes a walk along the Bruce Trail.

## Otto coming to speak

Economic issues will be the main focus of an address by Halton/Burlington MP Otto Jelinek to members of Milton Chamber of Commerce.

The minister of fitness and amateur sport and multiculturalism will be guest speaker at a luncheon meeting, Monday, Jan. 20 at the Muddy Duck Banquet Hall. A question period will follow Mr. Jelinek's speech.

Tickets are \$10 and can be reserved by calling 878-0581.

## Calling all cadets

All former members of 715 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron, Burlington, are encouraged to attend its 25th anniversary in May.

There are about 1,500 former members of the cadet squadron. A special weekend of activity begins Saturday May 25 at the Royal Canadian Legion, 828 Legion Rd., Burlington.

Anyone interested is asked to contact W.M. Smith, 715 RC (Air) Squadron, Box 188, Stn. A, Burlington, Ont. L7R 3Y2 or call 335-2946.

## Speech helpers hired

The Halton Board of Education approved the hiring of two additional speech pathologists for January, at last Thursday's regular meeting.

This came as a result of an amendment tacked onto the original motion for the hiring of one speech pathologist, and the inclusion of a second one in the 1986 budgetary process. Burlington trustee Linda Glover introduced the amendment.

There are 89 students on a waiting list to see Halton board's speech pathologist End Varga. The backlog of students is so severe that the board has been hiring out assessments.

## Quote of the Day

If you want to be the picture of health, make sure you have a happy frame of mind.

# The Champion

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VOLUME 125—NUMBER 27 MILTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1986 24 PAGES—43¢ CENTS

## Bell Canada says . . .

# 'Free' calls would cost more

The possibility of direct dialing to Toronto from Milton may be just around the corner. However, users should expect their basic residential rate to jump to about \$19 per month for that privilege.

Long a complaint among local users, "free" service currently extends only to Oakville, Burlington and Acton with many areas in the Town of Milton outside local dialing.

Bell Canada spokesman Denise Grey explained to members of Milton council Monday that it's cheaper for most Miltonians to keep the present service than pay the higher rate and include Toronto.

She said about 66 per cent of Milton and Campbellville exchange users place long-distance calls to Toronto monthly. Of that total, only 17 per cent would save money by having direct dialing.

However, she said the criteria for extending the service to Toronto, should it be passed by the Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), would enable Miltonians to get it should a majority apply for it. However, all users would pay the additional cost.

She said rates for Milton businesses would jump from \$29.10 to \$64.55 per month. In Campbellville, rates would rise to \$23.20 (from \$9.15) for residential phones and \$74 (\$32.10) for businesses. They would be among the highest rates in the province.

She said a complete survey would be undertaken, should it be requested, of telephone users with a majority required for the changeover.

High costs, she said, was the reason for keeping the service as it is. She said including the area in Milton served by the Rockwood and Guelph exchanges would cost \$850,000 to include into the Acton exchange.

She also said the cost for aligning Bell's traditional boundaries with those of Halton Region would cost \$5.8 million. In addition, combining the Campbellville and Milton exchanges would cost several hundred thousand dollars, although she didn't give an exact figure.

Her report to councillors drew harsh criticism from new councillor

## Champion Ontario's best paper

The Canadian Champion has again been selected as the best newspaper in the province in its circulation category by the Ontario Community Newspaper Association (OCNA).

In the 8,001-20,000 circulation group, The Champion was judged Best Overall and took firsts for Best Front Page, Best Composition and Layout, Best Editorial Page, Best News and Features, and Best Advertising. The Georgetown Independent, a sister newspaper to The Champion was second overall in our category.

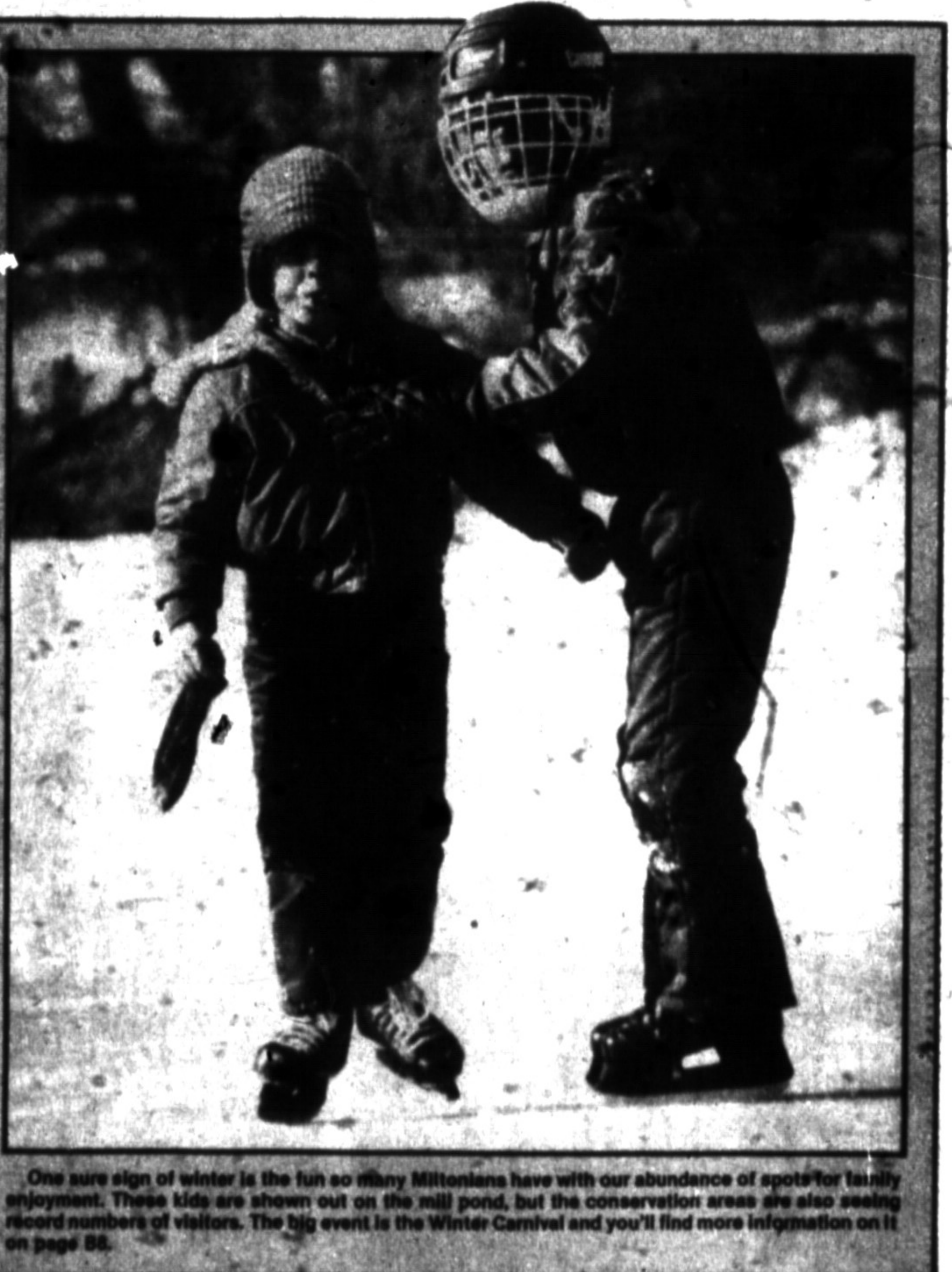
Rob Kelly, sports editor, was given a first for Best Sports Column in the Premier Division, an open category. Jane Muller, community editor, placed second for Best Agricultural story in the Premiers. Steve Nease took a second for Best Cartoon on The Champion's behalf.

## Robbery arrest

Halton Regional Police have made an arrest in connection with the Saturday Dec. 28 armed robbery at the Livery Variety Store in Campbellville.

Sean Lee Francis, 18, of Campbellville, has been charged with one count of armed robbery and is being remanded in custody.

Money was taken, but no shots were fired during the robbery. The culprit escaped on foot.



One sure sign of winter is the fun so many Miltonians have with our abundance of spots for family enjoyment. These kids are shown out on the mill pond, but the conservation areas are also seeing record numbers of visitors. The big event is the Winter Carnival and you'll find more information on it on page 28.

# Edgar Foster named Citizen of the Year

He has been called Mr. Education but now he will be known as Citizen of the Year. Edgar Foster's volunteer involvement in the community has earned him the recognition from Milton Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber's Community Awards winners were announced Friday and among them was Mr. Foster, a man who has an elementary school named after him. Nominations for each of the five awards are given to a committee of the Chamber which selects the recipients.

Among them is Vera Delacourt, Businessperson of the Year. Chamber administrator/secretary, John Lawrence, said Mrs. Delacourt, owner of Delacourts, is what a business person should be. "She's not in business just to make money but to benefit the community," he said.

Feherguard Products Ltd. was named Business of the Year. The growth in this business has made it distinct. Mr. Lawrence said it has grown from a small, almost cottage industry to one which now occupies its own building on Main St.

An organization which has continued year after year, four times in each, received the Organization of the Year award. The Red Cross blood donor clinic gets the honour this year.

Anyone who has been to the new town hall would likely agree with the Chamber's choice for the Civic Improvement Award. The Town of Milton receives that recognition this year for its Victoria Square complex. The former courthouse and jail was constructed in 1854 or 1855 and reconstructed by the town beginning

in May, 1982 when the exterior got a facelift. The project was completed in June, 1985.

The Community Awards winners will be honoured at a banquet, Fri-

day, Jan. 31. The annual event will be held at the Muddy Duck Banquet Hall, beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets are available from the Chamber by calling 878-0581.

## Believe It Or Not . . .

PHOTO BY JOHN BORSHEIM

We're not egging you here. There is no trick to this picture. The egg is actually standing upright. On Jan. 10 and 11 of each year, for reasons we're not exactly sure, an egg will stand upright. As a matter of fact, if placed in a secure location not susceptible to vibrations, the upright egg will stand all year. It's just one of life's little mysteries.

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#### Inserts

Murray Wilson, Milton I.D.A., Dominion, Beaver Home Centres, The Brick.

**She's A Doll**

Shannon Kelly, 21, of Milton is a runner-up in a unique competition where she dressed exactly like a Hummel figurine.

## New minister at Knox

Knox Presbyterian Church welcomed a new minister Sunday. Noble Dean, formerly an assistant minister at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Kitchener, replaces Trevor Lewis.

Mr. Lewis moved to the Clarkson Rd. Pres. Church in Oakville.

Mr. Dean formerly served at churches in Erin and Ospringe.