

Established 1861

The Canadian Champion

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Second class mail Registration Number 0913

Published every Wednesday and Friday at 191 Main Street East, Box 248, Milton, Ontario, L9T 4N8. Telephone 878-2341. Price: Store copies 30¢ each; Wednesday, edition home delivery 30¢ weekly, \$15.80 annually. Friday edition \$65 annually by mail in Canada; \$75 to other countries.

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New riding too big

Two potential candidates for an anticipated federal election have already come forward in the new riding of Halton-Peel.

Whoever makes it through the nomination process and goes on to win a seat in parliament will have his or her work cut out. Seeking public office is commendable but in the case of Halton-Peel riding it is even more so.

If either Liberal hopeful Oriana Currie or Progressive Conservative Carlo Testa make it past the electoral hurdles, they will be representing one of the most widely dispersed ridings ever created. The new federal electoral boundaries were confirmed last July.

It was surprising to see that piece of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act go ahead. The new riding takes in north Burlington and rural west Milton as well as bits of Peel Region in the Caledon area. These three districts will be tough to represent if for no other reason than geographic.

We fail to see the logic of combining communities in Peel and Halton into one package. We feel for the person who will end up attempting to represent concerns of constituents who live so many miles apart.

Change by doing

If you're looking for the busiest place in Milton on Saturday, don't check out the local shopping centres or any community halls.

On Saturday, more than 1,000 people of all ages will at some time or another invade Memorial Arena as Milton Minor Hockey holds its annual Championship Day.

Although the championships for all house league divisions will be decided, the day is a celebration of kids and hockey, two things which often go hand in hand with growing up.

Throughout the day, hockey players as young as five and as old as 19 will be treated to hockey, hot dogs and lots of fun.

Milton remains one of a handful of municipalities which treats kids' hockey with a special day. Many towns hold their championships throughout the regular playing times when only a few parents attend. On Saturday, there will be up to 700 people in the stands watching. It could be the largest crowd these youngsters ever get to play in front of.

The credit for the day goes to Milton Minor Hockey, which continues to hold it. The many volunteers who have spent several weeks preparing for it and will turn in long hours Friday evening and all day Saturday fetching trophies, making food and coaching games, to ensure all kids enjoy themselves on their special day.

Like many years, Milton Minor Hockey has endured its amount of controversy once again. Perhaps decisions were made which don't please everyone and they may be wrong. But, they may be right.

Until more volunteers come out of the woodwork to do the work of these volunteers, one's right to criticize is somewhat tempered. It's these volunteers who have surrendered their time, lots of time, to provide a minor hockey organization.

On Saturday, these volunteers are putting on quite a show. Take it in. If you want to help, chances are you will be given something to do. Then run for the executive at the annual general meeting in May. You will probably be elected, few volunteers are ever turned down.

The only way to affect the running of an organization is to get properly involved. You'd be surprised how much there is to do.

Looking Back



Miss Nassagaweya "Centennial-Queen" Susan Commons was crowned by Warden of Halton County William Coulter in June 1967 as part of the rural community's Centennial celebrations. Her princesses are Faye Mathies (left) and Mary Dennis (right). The event included a parade of floats, a "hootenanny" and an antique show.

This Saturday there will be another big event in Nassagaweya when the new community hall is officially opened. An open house will be held from 2-4 p.m. at the Guelph Line facility located across from the former location of Brookville Hall.

Pages of the Past

One Year Ago

From the March 25, 1987 issue

A smoke detector has been credited with saving the life of an apartment dweller on Main Street Saturday morning. Harold Penson, deputy with the Milton Fire Department, said the detector awoke Tom Briton from a deep sleep at 12:30 a.m. Saturday and allowed him to escape the blaze which gutted the top floor of the building at 140 Main St. Volunteer/part-time firefighter Fraser Lockhurst suffered first-degree burns to his face in the fire when a fire-ball removed his face mask. He was taken to Milton District Hospital, treated and released.

Milton Fire Department responded to eight grass fires over the weekend. Harold Penson, deputy with the department, said most of the fires started because of burning dead grass. The department recommends people refrain from burning until mid-May as the ground cover is dangerously dry.

20 Years Ago

From the March 27, 1968 issue

Milton's long-standing annexation case is settled almost. The Ontario Municipal Board, which held up approval on most of Milton's 2,804-acre annexation application in 1965 until some progress had been made with the Plunkett Study of Halton and Peel Counties,

has adopted the attitude that what Mr. Plunkett proposed is a "long-range thing." Subsequently, the board has told Milton it's time to clean up the 30-month-old request for room to grow. From all indications at a special "hearing for direction" held in the OMB's offices in Toronto Thursday morning, Milton is going to get what it wants. The OMB agrees with the town planners earlier ideas that Milton should grow to a size of 20,000 to 25,000, then stop. Evidence produced at the 1965 hearing indicated the town could easily serve that size of population with sewers and water.

50 Years Ago

From the March 24, 1938 issue

Woman who are so busy playing bridge that they can't darn their husband's socks aren't contributing much to recovery.

A section of the the new Middle Road between Brown's Line and the clover leaf, will be lighted this year as an experiment in highway lighting.

Caledon farmers are puzzled over a circular which they received through the mail the other day. It read: "Wanted to buy, good, healthy, dead horses."

Reg. Aikens has been awarded the contract for delivering his majesty's mail over rural route No. 2, succeeding George Proctor. Reg. will begin his duties on April 1st.

Pud

