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The Canadian Champion

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Grant saves council

Town councillors should be breathing a collective sigh of relief after learning the province will help foot the bill for the pricy Meeting Hall renovations.

Last week, the ministry of citizenship and communications confirmed a grant of \$320,880 would be forthcoming. There had been some doubt concerning provincial funding for the project which had stream-rolled into a financial nightmare.

Council originally intended to spend \$250,000 to spruce up the former registry office next to town hall. The project ballooned into a \$640,000 glorified meeting room with a capacity of 70 persons. This major outlay of taxpayers' money has left a bad taste in the mouths of most, and it will remain there in spite of the province's contribution.

There will be no ducking this issue come election time. But unfortunately it's far too late to abort the project.

No more towers

The door has likely been closed on radio towers being built on the Niagara Escarpment.

An Ontario Municipal Board decision reversed an earlier decision by the Niagara Escarpment Commission which would have allowed a tower near Rattlesnake Point.

Town council was unanimous in opposing the tower and neighbouring residents came out in force to show their dislike for the proposal.

The escarpment must be preserved as a piece of our natural heritage. Ugly man-made towers have no place on that piece of land.

Nassagaweya united

There's a strong possibility that March 26, 1988 may be considered the day Nassagaweya finally joined with the Town of Milton.

Forced into an unwanted union in 1973 when the provincial government created regional government, many Nassagaweya residents have never felt part of Milton. Even though Nassagaweya really doesn't exist anymore, people still maintained their roots of Nassagaweya and Campbellville above that of Milton.

However, on Saturday a large number of residents attended the official opening of Nassagaweya Community Centre and in many ways it is their centre, just as much as the old Brookville Hall was their centre.

Residents participated in the planning of it. They participated in the raising of money for it. And they worked with the Town of Milton in a strong co-operative venture to be a model of citizen-government cooperation for all groups.

The centre went up in a hurry. Many thoughts and much effort were given to repairing the old hall, which many of the residents wanted.

However, when it didn't prove feasible, they rallied around building a new hall keeping much of the spirit, character and artifacts of the old hall as possible.

And it's worked.

The new facility is a modern building satisfying the needs of the area. An enlarged kitchen with much better access was designed by the most frequent users of it.

The inclusion of several small rooms in addition to a main hall enables a variety of groups to use it at the same time. The Town has also guaranteed that long-time users of the building will be charged the same rent, if any at all.

It's a splendid building built with strong co-operation showing that it's never too late to get involved.

Looking Back



March rains and melting snow filled creeks in the area to near overflow proportions back in 1956. Evidence of high water could be seen at the entrance bridge to Halton Centennial Manor on Ontario Street. Similar conditions

exist in the spring of 1988. Last week police issued a warning to residents concerning the fast-running water which could pose a danger to those who wander too close.

Pages of the Past

One Year Ago

From the April 1, 1987 issue

The estimated cost of the Town's planned Meeting Hall near Town Hall has jumped even further from its original \$300,000 price tag. Town Administrator Roy Main told Milton councillors Monday night the price will likely be \$563,000. Just moments before, councillors were told the cost of the Brookville Hall addition would cost \$378,000 — almost five times its original estimate. The large cost hikes troubled some councillors who wondered if perhaps the Town was tackling more than was feasible.

Milton will get a major auto industry after all. Spurned by GM-Suzuki last winter, the town will become the home of the head office of another GM hybrid, Volvo-GM, which will begin its Canadian operations from a soon-to-be-constructed building north of Steeles Avenue at Thompson Road. Mr. Beyeler said his company considered more than 20 sites, including two others in Milton, before choosing the 8.8-acre parcel of land. He said the search was limited to sites near the 401 west of Toronto.

20 Years Ago

From the April 3, 1968 issue

A five hour budget-cutting session Tuesday saw Milton Council chop \$20,305 or the equivalent of 2.3 mills from the general rate projected for 1968 expenditures. The detailed review of over 200 items in the budgets for the town's various committees and boards wound up with the increase projected for these expenditures equivalent to 1.28 mills on residential rate and two mills on the industrial-commercial rate. Still to be added to the budget is the county rate, tentatively estimated at a

one mill increase and the school budgets. Both boards were asked during the meetings Monday to cut or seek more grants. If the public school board is unable to reduce its rate, unchanged from last year, and the high school board is unable to cut its projected seven mill increase, the final mill rate would be between nine and 10 mill up over last year's rate.

50 Years Ago

From the March 31, 1938 issue

A number of lucky hockey fans from Milton motored to Toronto on Saturday, where they saw the Maple Leafs defeat the Boston Bruins by 2 goals to 1. It was a great game and was witnessed by 15,800 people.

Mud splashed pedestrians have come at last into their own — at least in Georgetown. Town council at their last meeting decided to issue an invitation in the press for all pedestrians to report such plashing to the chief of police there. The council promised charges will be laid.

Theives broke into the post office and general store at Kilbride between midnight and daylight on Saturday last. Stamps, cash, cigarettes and a box of butter were stolen. Postal inspectors, sent by A.M. Gibson, district postal superintendent, believe the robbery was the work of itinerant travellers by automobile. The conclusion is based on the expert way in which the burglars apparently worked. They cut out a pane of glass and sawed through iron bars to enter the store, the inspectors said. So quietly did they work that postmaster J. Lillycrop had no suspicion until he came downstairs to open up the post office in the morning.

Georgetown ended 1937 with a surplus of \$4,220, the town auditor reports.

Another sign of spring this week was a number of grass fires along the highway.

Pud

