

Established 1881
The Canadian Champion

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Make room for youth Looking Back

Group homes are never welcomed with open arms. They are one of the classics in the not-in-my-backyard syndrome. At total of 81 residents of a proposed youth home on Commercial Street want their backyards free of the residue of teenage behaviour. They have signed a petition protesting the residence which would house nine teenagers.

A representative of the protestors said they will hire a lawyer who they hope will build a legal fence around their yards.

One can empathize with these residents. Many of them have lived in the neighbourhood for years. They tolerate a school playground, a high school, a day care centre, and a recreation centre in the immediate vicinity of their homes.

People in the same neighbourhood protested the establishment of the Christian Heritage School at the former Emmanuel Baptist Church property. That battle they won.

Now they face what amounts to an extremely large family by today's standards, moving in next to the church building. A new building will be constructed to house the youths.

They foresee increased traffic, noise and are concerned about the lifestyles of those who will live there. Despite assurances from representatives of Halton Adolescent Support Services (HASS), the sponsoring organization, that the teens will not be unruly, the protest stands.

HASS is in a difficult position. The need for such a facility in Milton is proven. Not everyone can live in his home environment. This does not mean every young person is a drug addict. It could well mean the parents have problems the youth can't cope with.

Whatever the case, they are people in need. They're not asking for handouts. Many will attend school and like other high school kids, will have part-time jobs. That's why they must live near schools and businesses. And that happens to be where a lot of other people like to live.

It appears the youth home will be built. If not now, it will come after some sort of legal battle. In the meantime there are teenagers with nowhere to live.

The proposed site of the home is properly zoned and, pending the approval of site plans, town council is likely to approve this desperately needed facility.

It is unfortunate Milton has so few building lots available for such a project. The potential youth home neighbours have plenty in their backyards already and they just may have to learn to cope with yet another institution.

If the youths do move into that neighbourhood, let their neighbours judge them on their own merits. They may end up being welcome additions.

Keep it clean

Next week, many downtown merchants and the Downtown Business Improvement Area are getting together to clean up the downtown.

Sandy Martin, the DBIA manager, said she's trying to induce the local merchants — and others as well — to do some spring cleaning and keep customers coming downtown to shop.

Among the suggestions she has is to sweep sidewalks, wash windows, clean the front and back entrances, and do a little painting.

Warm weather — albeit as delayed as it was — brings out the strollers, people out for a stroll as well as baby strollers. Now's the time to impress customers and tourists and show our town is the place to be, not only a place to live.

The Town of Milton is conducting a special clean-up week May 13-20. Let's make this town clean and litter free. While they're at it, could we suggest the trash cans be returned to Main Street so we have a place to put our litter?



Several Milton Lions Club members received 10 year perfect attendance badges at the group's meeting in December, 1973. Among the recipients were from left (front row) Dave Brush; Gus Mowbray; Lew Sales, who received a special 27-year service pin; zone chairman Dan

Richmond of Streetsville; Murray Hood; and Charles Gervais; (back row) Dennis Rowley; George Clements; Sam Nadalin; Bob Brown; and Blake Charlton. The Lions are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the club this Saturday evening.

Pages of the Past

One Year Ago

From the May 13, 1987 issue

• Almost half the trees in Victoria Park are slated for removal as a result of passage of the \$180,000 MasterPlan for the park Monday night at council's general committee meeting. Although 19 of the 63 trees are scheduled for immediate removal, no work will proceed until a report regarding provincial funding is received. In addition to those trees already mentioned, seven more are slated to be brought down over the next few years leaving 37 healthy trees. A concentrated plan to plant large-caliper (5-6 inches wide at the trunk) trees is included in the MasterPlan although no numbers are mentioned.

• At least a dozen calls have been received from people interested in a 154-suite condominium being constructed at the corner of Martin Street and Millside streets. The heightened interest in the luxury building, to be built by the end of 1988, has come after a sign was erected at the site, more than a week ago. The property is owned by Charles Martin, a local poultry farmer, entrepreneur and sixth generation of the Jasper Martin family, Milton's founders. The sign at the corner of Martin Street and Millside Dr., indicates a local telephone and a Mississauga number for Shipp Corporation, the company providing property management.

20 Years Ago

From the May 15, 1968 issue

• Rud Whitting, 37, was chosen Liberal candidate for Halton riding in a precedent-shattering nominating convention last night (Tuesday). The lively, lengthy meeting featured a tie vote on the third ballot, broken only by a further ballot, resulting in a narrow two vote margin over Oakville Mayor MacLean Anderson. Four candidates sought the spot vacated by Dr. Harry

Harley when he announced two weeks ago he would not seek re-election. John Haight, Oakville, was eliminated on the first ballot and Mike Ledwith of Milton fell out in the second ballot on a 10-vote edge. In the third ballot Whiting and Anderson tied and a recount failed to break the tie. Delegates were issued new ballots and by 1:35 a.m., Whitting was declared the victor.

• Faced with growing competition, Milton Chamber of Commerce discussed various ways to halt the dollar drain from the Main Street business at an open meeting Monday night. The Chamber, with only nine businesses having representation, voted to have all past by-laws regulating store hours rescinded. Several members expressed a feeling the day was soon approaching when stores would have to be open six days a week as well as Thursday and Friday nights.

50 Years Ago

From May 12, 1938 issue

• Mrs. Florence Hall, night superintendent of Drumheller Municipal Hospital, was drowned while swimming in the Red Deer River a few hundred yards from the hospital on Friday night last. Deceased was a former resident of Milton, being a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Bradley.

• On Thursday evening of last week during the rain storm, a bolt of lightning struck the barn of Mr. H. White, lot 24, concession 3, Nassagaweya, setting the barn on fire and burning it to the ground. Mr. White was in the stable doing chores and was partially stunned by the shock. Fortunately he came to and was able to save his horses and stock. There was a high wind blowing embers over the house, setting the roof on fire. But, with the help of neighbours, the house was saved. Mr. White purchased the farm a few years ago from Mrs. G. Kingsbury. The loss was partially covered by insurance.

Pud

