

Established 1861
The Canadian Champion

Ian Oliver
Jane Muller
Neil Oliver
Dennis Willis
Teri M. Casas

— Publisher
— Editor
— Director of Marketing
— Distribution Manager
— Office Manager

EDITORIAL: News: Mike Boyle, Lisa Tallyn, Rob Kelly. Sports: Jeff Pasquale. Photographer: John Warren.
ADVERTISING: Sales: Debbie Pells, Ann Cioruch, Peter Allen, Andrea Downes. Business: Ian Balementine.
Classified: Sheena Cameron, Teresa Downes. National Rep.: Dal Browne (416) 493-1300.
BUSINESS: Shirley Dyc, Belinda Beasley.
DISTRIBUTION: Rob Crowther.



Phone 878-2341
Toronto Line 821-3837

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Break in tradition

It's an interesting decision and something which appears to have a great deal of support.

The holding of Milton's consumer show, Showcase Milton, on alternate years is a major change from the "tradition" established over the last four years. It's a change back to the original concept, though, until the success of the first show blew everyone away and caused it to be an annual affair.

But it is a lot to ask of people. It's a lot to ask volunteers on the core committee to run it every year. It's a lot to ask of smaller businesses who must find people to work in their places during the show.

It's a chamber initiative in the first place, receiving some help from Milton Council at the outset and none since. In fact, this year it made a \$19,000 profit.

We wonder if perhaps it's getting too big. The common theme running among many exhibitors was that they didn't want to wear it out. The addition of the Hocker structure onto the arena has made for up to 160 exhibitors. However, that is for the committee and the chamber to decide.

People still like it. Although attendance was down this year, there were still 13,000 admissions. When one considers there were several thousand people associated with the show, it's still attracting a large percentage of the town's residents.

Certainly a move to a cooler part of the spring should help them as well. As moving the dates from a Thursday-to-Saturday show to a Friday-to-Sunday event encouraged higher attendance, so might shifting the time frame a few weeks or even a month earlier in the season.

We applaud the committee and the chamber for putting on such a first-class show. It is, after all, an information show intended to attract sales from local residents who might otherwise spend their money in other municipalities.

Milton's winning

We are hearing a familiar refrain from the dump site deliberators. It goes like this — Burlington's Aldershot site is the best choice for Halton's next landfill.

The tune is being played Halton's chief hydrogeological expert, Stan Feenstra. He'll be telling the two-member environmental hearing board this week that from an engineering and environmental standpoint, Milton is second best.

Consultants' reports commissioned by the region have also supported that argument but here we are in Month 16 of a hearing expected to drag on until November.

Mr. Feenstra's conclusions are based on hydrogeological evidence which points to problems with groundwater beneath the proposed Milton site at Tremaine and Britannia roads. There is a danger that leachate could escape from a hydraulic trap beneath the dump and pollute neighbouring wells.

Safeguards could be implemented but at a great cost. It would be much cheaper to make the Burlington site environmentally safe. And let us remember that \$7 million from taxpayer's pockets has already been dumped into this issue of site location.

That total would come close to covering the cost of building an energy-from-waste (EFW) facility. It is such a facility that has Milton council looking suspiciously over its collective shoulder.

Councillors have supported in principle the concept of burning waste and using the byproduct as an energy source. They don't want to wave the EFW flag too enthusiastically however in case their municipality is viewed as welcoming such a facility with open arms.

That might not be the case when it comes to locating an EFW facility in Halton for use by the other municipalities in the region as well as Milton.

The good news for now appears that Milton may not have to play host to the region's landfill. That happy tune may not be playing when Halton decides, as it will inevitably have to, where to locate its EFW plant.

Looking Back



Milton celebrated its Centennial in the summer of 1957. Activities included a parade and a Miss Milton Centennial contest. The beauty queen entrants were from left (front) Cathy Thompson (winner), Dawn Corp, Edith Wilson,

Milree Wilson, Gailie Anderson, Faye Thomas; (back) Carol Cuthbertson, Jane McGinnis, Zella Harris, Grace Watson, Donna Tufford and Carol Tufford.

Pages of the Past

One Year Ago

From the September 2, 1987 issue

• The Halton Separate School Board received Town Council's blessing to move ahead with a \$16-million high school in Milton Monday night, but board officials are wondering if it's not a mixed blessing. The council chamber was jammed with supporters for Bishop Reding Catholic High School, the first provincially funded separate high school construction project in Ontario.

• Milton appears to be taking a giant step forward in terms of development as a consortium pushes water services north of Highway 401 into the industrial park for the first time. A group known as High Point Investments has filed a letter of commitment with Halton regional council which will see High Point finance water, sewage and drainage services to the 401 Industrial Park. The region will do the construction.

20 Years Ago

From the Wednesday Sept. 4, 1968 issue

• It had to play a cat-and-mouse game with the weatherman all day Monday, but the 1968 edition of Steam-Era, the eighth annual reunion, was one of the club's most successful shows on record. Officials estimated total attendance at around 22,000. The 1966 edition of Steam-Era still holds the record with an attendance of about 30,000.

• The phoney "bank inspector" racket has hit Milton again and a local woman lost \$300 in a new version of the old con game last week. The lady received a telephone call from a man representing himself as an employee of a local bank. He said he wanted to check the \$10 and \$20 bills she received when she cashed her old age pension cheque because the bank was afraid there may have been some counterfeit money in the bills she received. A police spokesman said several local residents were called with the same or similar come-ons, however, only one woman bit the bait.

50 years ago

From the September 1, 1938 issue

• Rural communities are not free from rackets, either, as many have found out to their sorrow. It seems to be a wise policy to beware of strangers.

• The Champion extends congratulations to Mrs. Agnes Young of Ballinacra, one of Canada's oldest living citizens, who is today celebrating her 106th birthday. During the past year Halton's "Grand Old Lady" has been ill and inactive for the first time in her life.

• The highway curbs on Mill Street that had every appearance of improving the street, have so far been nothing but a menace and a nuisance. Wonder if the south end of the county has anything as badly neglected.

• Streetsville Business Men's Association has adopted a new slogan for the village: "A home on the Credit where a stop invites a stay."

Pud

