

Fatal car/train crash casts shadow on this year

—The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, January 3, 1985

The Milton District Hospital expansion fund was well on its way to the \$1 million goal set for a public campaign when the new year 1984 arrived. Donations had already topped \$600,000.

Milton's most outstanding citizen was named in January. John Ostler took to Citizen of the Year honour. Other winners in the Milton Chamber of Commerce Community awards program were: Audrey Jesch, business person of the year; Fifth Wheel Truck Stop, business of the year; Milton District Hospital expansion fund committee was organization of the year; civic improvement award went to GEN-Three Ltd. for upgrading downtown properties on the corner of Main and Martin streets.

In February it was announced that within two months Miltonians would begin to separate their trash for recycling. The three year program was expected to reduce the amount of waste produced in town by between 10-12 per cent.

A freak accident in March claimed the lives of two friends who were spending a "weekend for the boys". Brian McDuffe 40, and Howard Speck 40 died when their snowmobiles crashed head on.

Tragedy struck this community again the following week when six local teenagers were killed in a car/train crash on Derry Road. The only survivor was Kelly Simon 13, a passenger in the car driven by Chris Redden 16. The accident claimed the lives of Mr. Redden, Kimberley Burns 15, Traci Ann Snow 15, Sean Zardo 15 and Bruno Gazzola 16. Joanne Varr died the following day in hospital. Calls for barrier gates at the rail crossing were answered a year later.

The year 1984 was not a good one for Louis Nadalin or Terance Alty. In May, both men were found guilty of defrauding the public with a \$7 million vending-machine operation based in Milton. After 11 weeks of testimony and 60 witnesses, the jury deliberated for 15 hours before coming out with the verdict. Both men had pleaded not guilty. The pair were sentenced in July to four-year prison terms. Mr. Nadalin's lawyer launched an appeal of the decision.

The issue of Sunday Shopping has been brewing for quite some time. In May, the Downtown Business Improvement Area (DBIA) sought a one-day exemption from the Retail Business Holidays Act which would allow stores to stay open on Sunday, June 17 during Jasper Martin Days. The request was denied by council after hearing an appeal from Milton Mall management stating that mer-

Parkway draws controversy...

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Otto Jelinek, who supported his candidacy, remarked that it was the first step on the road to national recovery.

After 45 years of service, Milton deputy fire chief Harold Coulson retired in June. Ironically, he handed in his resignation to son Jim who was the fire chief.

The James Snow Parkway opened in June amid a storm of controversy. The major criticism of the project, according to frequently quoted Liberal transportation critic Eric Cunningham, was the fact it was named for transportation and communications minister Jim Snow, a Hornby resident and Oakville MPP. Choosing the name, retorted town clerk Roy Main, was entirely a decision of Milton council, supported later by Halton Region. "It's hard to sit back and see a minister criticized when it was always our position to name the road for Mr. Snow," the clerk added. The name was chosen because much of the land being used for the road was farmed by the Snow family at various times over the previous century. As for another contention of Mr. Cunningham that the road starts and ends nowhere, Mr. Main said the artery is to be a major part of Milton's future industrial development.

A local cowboy showed his western counterparts how to handle a horse by taking first place in his class at the Calgary Stampede in July. The professional open cutting class was won by trainer Gary Hughes riding Sweet O-Lena from Ernie Wilson's Shinook Farms on Fifth Line.

World Class cyclist Jocelyn Lovell was involved in a serious accident in Milton on August 4. The 33-year-old athlete, who won three gold medals at the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton and was named Canadian Athlete of the Year in 1975, was bicycling westbound along Britannia Rd., near Trafalgar Rd., when he collided with a dump truck.

A desire to finalize the severance of four lots in Moffat resulted in its owner — a German Princess — reluctantly agreeing to contribute \$7,200 for a new ballpark in the village. Princess Friederike Juliane zu Sayn-Wittgenstein made strong objections concerning the contribution, citing the fact she had allowed Moffat residents to use the ball diamond and park

A DECADE REMEMBERED 1984

chants didn't have time to organize a similar Sunday opening and it would be unfair for downtown shops to open and not those at the mall.

Ontario's 200th anniversary was celebrated in Milton with Jasper Martin Days over two days in June. Mr. Martin was one of Milton's founding fathers and the operator of the town's first business, a grist mill.

The country's big blue sweep caught Halton Progressive Conservative candidate Otto Jelinek in its stride. The incumbent MP received 33,588 votes, far ahead of his nearest contender, Liberal Oriana Currie with 12,560. The PCs enjoyed a landslide victory in September 1984 when voters gave them an over-

In regional report

Burlington was first choice for dump

As 1985 unfolded concerns over the location of Halton's future dump and tributes to community members made headlines.

Anne Ptolemy was named Citizen of the Year in the Milton Chamber of Commerce Community Awards program. Sharing honours were business person of the year Donna Coulter, co-owner of North End Nissan; business of the year BMB Compuscience; organization of the year the United Way of Milton; and civic improvement award recipient Mayrose Companies.

Redevelopment plans for the property surrounding the old town hall on Main Street, put forward in January, called for saving the old post office. That building now houses offices and the Moviola Restaurant.

February brought good news on the dump front. Consultants hired by Halton Region indicated in a report that the Burlington dump site was first choice over the proposed Milton location at Britannia Road and Highway 25. But four years later, an environmental assessment hearing decision made Milton its first

free of charge for many years. The four family lots included areas of the park, rendering it useless as a ball park.

A site on Milton's south east border was chosen as Halton Region's preferred location for the domed stadium being considered by the provincial government.

A telegram denouncing the Soviet Union's actions in shooting down a South Korean jet in early September was fired off to Ottawa by members of Milton town council. In an emotional speech, Councillor Rick Day said the Canadian government should know "the people of Milton abhor this atrocity..." and the town "is disgusted by the paranoid attitude shown by the Soviets in so doing, and by their juvenile attempts to cover up their crime against humanity by blaming it on the United States."

In an attempt to crack down on vandalism in Milton's business community, Halton Regional Police officers designated the Main St. area, from Bronte St. to Thompson Rd. as a target area for stepped up patrols during October. Police also intended to enforce seldom used Child Welfare Act legislation and pick up children under 16 found loitering in public places after 10 p.m.

A Milton steel company landed a lucrative contract to provide girders for the Skyway Bridge twinning between Burlington and Hamilton. Frankel Steele, of Hwy. 25, was awarded a contract to provide up to 80 per cent of the steel girders which will be required for the north and south approaches of the bridge. Bill Tyas, plant superintendent, said the contract called for 168 girders, totalling 7,500 tons of steel.

Halton Hills mayor Peter Pomeroy was elected as regional chairman in December, replacing the retiring Jack Raftis. The life-long Halton resident was elected by a two-vote margin by regional councillors.

A Toronto man was found murdered in a Milton field in mid-December. After a tip from a passerby, Halton Regional Police found the bullet-ridden body of 32-year-old Domenic Racco beside a railway spur line, 100 feet north of Derry Rd., approximately two km. east of Trafalgar Rd. Known as a high profile Metro underworld figure, Mr. Racco was under active investigation by a special crime task force.

whelming majority government.

There was cause for celebration in September as Bruce Dolson, chairman of the Milton District Hospital expansion fund campaign announced that donations had exceeded the \$1 million goal by 10 per cent.

The town of Milton and more than 4,000 visiting police officers paid their respects to Constable David Dunmore in September at the largest police funeral ever held in Canada. The 40-year-old father of three and Milton resident died in the early morning hours of September 18 after receiving fatal wounds in a shootout with an 18-year-old Etobicoke man. An 11-year veteran of the Metropolitan Toronto Police force, Constable Dunmore's death left the community in shock.

When Our Lady of Victory separate school officially opened in November, those at the ceremony were looking forward to the construction of Milton's first Roman Catholic secondary school. The elementary school was

the third separate school to open in Milton.

Three Milton supermarkets were charged with opening on Sundays in violation of the provincial Retail Business Holidays Act, and at least two of the three said they would continue the practice. Sider Produce at White Oaks Plaza; Quality Greens on Main street; and Superchoice on Derry Road all received court summonses in connection with conducting business on Sunday.

Nearly four years after placing a number of key Town-owned properties on the market, a purchaser was found for the core properties on the corner of Main and Martin streets. This welcomed announcement came in December. The property included the old post office.

New York wanted our garbage and Halton Region agreed to give it to Occidental Chemical Corp. located near Buffalo, N.Y. The agreement would send 400 tonnes of garbage per day to Occidental during February-April and 100 tonnes per day for the rest of the year.



Otto Jelinek

A DECADE REMEMBERED 1985

choice. The location of Halton's 20-year landfill site is still before the courts.

Milton Sports Centre would no longer exist after a decision by Milton Council in February to bow to pressure and rename the facility John Tonelli Sports Centre. The official name change came in July during John Tonelli Days in Milton which honoured the NHL hockey star who had been named the top player in the Canada Cup international hockey series the previous fall.

Fire caused \$1 million damage to Sargent Farms in March 1985. Despite the destruction of a barn containing equipment and machinery at the Highway 25 business, the owners said the rabbit fur business would continue. The tragedy struck during one of the worst winter storms this century.

The Crazy Horse Tavern faced a ban on exotic dancers, a regular feature at the Steeles Avenue establishment. Town council decided that particular form of entertainment did not comply with zoning in the area and contravened the Town's adult entertainment bylaw.

Former Sheriff and a past Citizen of the Year, Andy Frank died in March. Born in 1902, he was appointed Halton County Sheriff in 1958 and held the post until 1970.

Milton medical doctors publicly opposed the possible location of a toxic waste facility here in April. Doctors warned of possible birth defects and cancer which might be associated with the facility being proposed by the Ontario Waste Management Corporation (OWMC).

Milton's Main Street pool hall closed in April. The 190 Main St. location of Brownie's Billiards had been home to a pool hall for most of this century.

The official sod turning ceremony for the Milton District Hospital expansion was held at the end of April. The addition, which more than doubled the size of the hospital was to cost \$16 million.

Town councillor Don Knight became MPP

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