

Milton becomes 'Tonelliville', arena named for hockey star

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 Knight when the votes were counted in the May 1985 provincial election. The Liberal candidate's closest contender was Progressive Conservative candidate Peter Pomey who collected 14,777 votes to Mr. Knight's 14,991.

Milton Showcase '85 was the town's first made-in-Milton consumer show and its success ensured it would become an annual event. Attendance was pegged at 12,000 over the three-days the show ran in May.

Magna International, a firm which specializes in supplying parts to the auto industry, began clearing land at an 84-acre site on Market Drive in June, 1985. Details on the company's plans for the property had not been released.

The Champion introduced Pud to its readers in June. Cartoonist Steve Nease continues to

contribute the strip which now depicts a Pud with hair.

Milton was dubbed Tonelliville for two days in July during John Tonelli Days. Hundreds turned out to honour the Milton native for his outstanding play in the 1984 Canada Cup hockey series. Milton Sports Centre was renamed John Tonelli Sports Centre officially by Mayor Gord Krantz during a dinner and roast at the arena.

The new town hall, housed at the former Halton courthouse and jail complex, officially opened in July. It took six years and \$3 million to turn the old stone building into a "show piece".

Former Milton resident Kim Middleton con-

tributed the strip which now depicts a Pud quered Lake Ontario in August to become the fifth woman to complete. She completed the 32 mile trek in 18 hours, 34 minutes.



John Tonelli

and Brad Clements were returned without having to face the voters as well. Re-elected

were councillors Rose Harrison, Colin Best, Brian Penman, Rick Day and Don McMillan. Newcomer Wray Lamont beat incumbent Jim Watson and Art Melanson and Les Laughren were voted into two vacated council seats.

The new 911 emergency telephone system arrived in Halton in November. The three-digit system provides a lifeline to Halton Regional Police, Ontario Provincial Police, fire department and ambulance service.

The day after a fatal accident on Highway 401 claimed the life of Milton District High School teacher David Short, students and staff were still reeling from the news that the respected teacher had been killed. Mr. Short and an Acton woman, Sandra Abbott were struck by a transport truck as they stood at the side of the highway after their vehicles had been involved in a minor accident.

Maplehurst disturbance

Spectacular fire destroys Parkway-401 overpass

Young offenders at Maplehurst Correctional Centre got restless at the dawn of 1986 when 17 of the youths barricaded themselves in their living quarters. Additional staff members were called in to quell the "disturbance". The inmates used mattresses to seal off their section of the jail before tearing shelves off the walls and breaking windows, desks and doors. The damage tally was \$5,000.

Jason Denis, son of Richard and Linda Denis, was the first baby born in Milton in 1986. Citizen of the Year honours went to Edgar Foster (Mr. Education) in January. Other recipients of community awards included Vera Delacourt, businessperson of the year; Feherguard Products Ltd., business of the year; Red Cross, organization of the year; Town of Milton, civic improvement award for improvements to Victoria Park Square.

Chief resigned

Fire Chief Jim Coulson resigned from Milton Fire Department in January after 26 years of service. His replacement, Blake Patrick was hired in July 1986 and left at the end of 1988. The position was filled in the fall of 1989 by Richard Playfair.

A February tradition, the annual Winter Carnival was called the best yet in 1986. Clear cold weather paved the way for a weekend of outdoor activities.

A proposal for a baseball complex struck out at Milton council in February. Failed town council candidate in the 1985 election Barry Stanley wanted councillors to approve a plan that would have the town contribute \$400,000 or about 25 per cent of the costs of the complex.

Milton native Dave Brush died in February leaving behind a legacy of involvement in local sports as a player, coach, manager, referee and umpire.

The most spectacular news event of the year was recorded in March when fire destroyed the James Snow Parkway overpass. More than 55 firefighters battled the 100-foot flames, that were fueled by a ruptured tanker trailer carrying 51,000 litres of unleaded gasoline.

Arthur J. Jeffery of Birks Falls was charged with several offences including impaired driving and dangerous operation of a vehicle causing death after the flat-bed trailer and tractor he had been driving came to a stop at the centre concrete barrier after crossing three lanes of traffic on Highway 401.

A car hit his rig before the fuel tanker rammed the stopped truck, overturned and ruptured under the overpass, killing the driver. The resulting fire destroyed the bridge.

School stopped

An Ontario Supreme Court decision stopped the operation of Halton Heritage School at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Commercial Street. It was decided the school was a private school and not a church as was argued by Rev. Ken Campbell, its administrator. An appeal and a rezoning application were set in motion following the announcement of the court's decision.

In March, Bruce Hood took over from Barney Henderson the post of

A DECADE REMEMBERED 1986

Downtown Improvement Area (DBIA) chairman.

The Ministry of Transportation and Communication announced in April that the James Snow Parkway would be rebuilt to exactly the same specifications as the roadway that was destroyed by fire. Cost of the construction was estimated at \$1.5 million.

The Milton Junior-B hockey club was purchased by Brad Grant in April. At the time he promised the Steamers would get a new name.

In May, plans were to have Brookville Hall expanded by 1,200 square feet at a cost of \$80,000. As the decade progressed these plans were scrapped, along with the old building and a new facility was constructed on the other side of Guelph Line.

Showcase Milton '86, the town's made-in-Milton consumer show attracted 16,000 visitors — 6,000 more than the previous year. The three-day event at that time, ran annually in May.

Milton Optimist Club members announced in June their plans to build a clubhouse at Brian Best Park and at the same time wipe out a \$15,000 tax debt to the town. Club members would provide the labour that would be valued at that amount.

Rev. Ken Campbell revealed plans to build a multi-million dollar religious complex on 72 acres near Milton District Hospital in June.

The Emmanuel Baptist Church congregation opted instead to purchase the farm of Louis Nadalin in rural Milton for their church and Halton Heritage School.

Road expansion

Council approved the expansion of Ontario Street to four lanes from Derry Road to Steeles Avenue but the work has been divided into four stages. Cost was estimated in June of 1986 at \$5.2 million.

July started off with a bang and it wasn't just from the Canada Day fireworks displays. A horse was shot in an agreement forest in Campbellville. It was the second time in two years the horse, named Buckshot, had been wounded by gunfire. The incident occurred just days before a public meeting dealing with a proposed ban on hunting in agreement forests.

The Halton School Board decided to scrap its bus fleet in July leaving 10 local bus drivers out of a job by the following June.

Despite a consensus of town councillors and a group of 50 residents that they didn't want a dump at Britannia Road and Highway 25 the Boyne site was rezoned for a dump in July.

Blake Patrick, 48, was named Milton's new fire chief that same week.

Each September brings another Steam Era Reunion to town but in 1986 that month represented the end of an era for Milton Bowlay. The

Main Street bowling alley now houses a restaurant and retail establishments.

Halton Heritage School found a home on a Niagara Escarpment farm owned by Louis Nadalin. The school was forced to stop operating out of Emmanuel Baptist Church on Commercial Street as it did not comply with neighbourhood zoning.

By mid-September, Mr. Nadalin and Rev. Ken Campbell were served with letters from the Niagara Escarpment Commission expressing concern over the use of the farm.

September marked the launch of Milton's first multi-cab taxi service with the start of Milton Taxi, a division of Halton Hills Holdings

Ltd. Three cabs were included in the company with the expectation that more would be added.

The first Caribbean Night raised \$7,000 for Milton District Hospital Foundation. The event has returned each September since. The long-standing tradition, Milton Fall Fair, enjoyed another successful three-day run at the end of the month.

Horse patrol

October brought charges to Super Choice food store for violating the Retail Business Holiday Act by opening Sunday.

Halton Regional Police mounted a new horse patrol covering north Milton's agreement forests in Oc-

tober. The movie *I'll Take Manhattan* used Milton residents as extras and the recently redeveloped Victoria Park Square as a location in the fall of 1986.

Inventor and industrialist P. L. Robertson was recognized in November. The late Mr. Robertson, who invented the Robertson screw, was honoured with the placing of two plaques. A reception held at the local Robertson Whitehouse plant which included past and present employees was organized by Milton Historical Society.

Owners of Milton Mall announced a \$4 million renovation and expansion plan for the complex in December.

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