

At Halton Museum

History of quarrying to be explored

Halton's limestone quarrying industry will be explored at Halton Region Museum Monday.

On Thanksgiving Day from 1 to 3 p.m., several events will examine the history, technology and environmental issues surrounding the industry, which is characterized by the open pit mines surrounding Milton.

For more than a century and a half,

the Niagara Escarpment has served as a source of limestone, a raw material critical for the construction industry.

The line up of guest speakers includes John McDonald, local historian and author of *Halton Sketches*, Rob Cook, executive director of the Aggregate Producers of Ontario and Murray Stephen,

general manager of the Halton Region Conservation Authority.

Following the presentations, visitors will take a guided one-hour hike to explore the century-old Christie Lime Kilns and quarry and the remnants of the Robertson Kilns on the Niagara Escarpment immediately adjacent to the museum. Suitable hiking footwear is advised.

The museum is located five km. west of Milton on Regional Road 28 in Kelso Conservation Area. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, call 875-2200.



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Congratulations and continued success Andrea!

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Air cleared over gas

By NORMAN NELSON

For Milton regional councillor Bill Johnson, the air has apparently been cleared up over the issue of what to do with methane gas in the new 4-million tonne dump being constructed in Milton.

Mr. Johnson has continually advocated using the gas, which is produced by the decomposition process in landfills, as fuel — a procedure he said has proved successful in Europe.

He was irate over a staff report at Wednesday's Halton regional planning and public works committee advising that a study is underway "to determine the need for and feasibility of controlling and utilizing landfill gas."

"I don't believe this," he remarked. "We don't need a study to know we're going to get gas."

He appeared satisfied, however, with staff clarification that the methane will definitely be collected and the study will simply determine the best use for it.

Bruce Kitchen, the Region's director of design and construction, said uses could range from a best case scenario of piping it

right into a utility gas line to a worst case scenario of simply burning it off on-site.

Several area dumps, such as one in Peel, simply flare off the methane gas, he noted.

Neither end of the spectrum, however, is likely to occur when the \$36 million landfill, near Britannia Road and Highway 25, opens in early 1992.

"Flaring it off is not the answer," stressed Oakville regional councillor Janet Mitchell. "Methane gas contributes significantly to global warming."

On the other hand, the report stressed that "the collection and use of landfill gases as a fuel resource is still in its infancy in terms of technology."

"Although it has been accomplished in the past at some landfills, the operational problems and cost of implementing these systems have limited their use."

A more likely scenario, said Mr. Kitchen, is the gas "could be used to heat some of the buildings on-site." That's already happening at some of the Region's sewage treatment facilities, he noted.

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