

SERVING MILTON, ONTARIO

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NEWSLINES

Another steamy weekend ahead

Steam engines, along with gas tractors and engines, will whistle into town in traditional fashion this weekend.

The 33rd annual Steam Era will once again take place at the Milton Fair Grounds over the Labour Day weekend.

The four-day event, which opens Friday, will include about 16 steam engines, 200 antique gas tractors and 150 gas engines.

The special feature this year is Lanz and Eagle tractors, said Gord Rayner, secretary of the Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers' Association, the organizing body.

Most of the action will get underway Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Antique tractor pull competitions will run from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday and Monday.

Meanwhile, Saturday, Sunday and Monday afternoons will boast log sawing and bag tying contests. Displays and crafts will also be part of the event.

The highlight will start at noon Saturday downtown — the site of the always popular parade.

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Up in smoke

Milton firefighters douse a Jeep Cherokee, which caught fire Monday evening on Trafalgar Road, just south of Highway 401. The owner was on his way home after picking up the jeep in Cambridge, where he was having the waterpump repaired. The vehicle was destroyed.

NEC, opponents at loggerheads again

By SAL BOMMARITO
The Champion

The Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) unveiled final recommendations for changes to its formal plan Monday, in the face of opposition from a group of landowners living near the environmentally sensitive area.

The commission's brief was submitted to Environment and Energy Minister Bud Wildman, who will recommend to the Ontario cabinet what changes, if any, should be made to it. In the event Mr. Wildman makes any new recommendations, the public would have 21 days to make submissions to cabinet.

The NEC's report follows an eight-month environmental assessment board hearing which dealt with the NEC's plan review document. Testimony from 183 witnesses and 458 exhibits were considered as evidence at the hearing, held in Burlington and Owen

Sound.

The NEC maintains further restrictions are needed in the plan to protect the escarpment from unwanted development.

Meanwhile, the Niagara Escarpment Landowners Coalition (NELC), representing a group of landowners living near the escarpment, is opposed to tighter restrictions. Further, the NELC supports delegating authority over planning proposals, a role currently carried out by the NEC, to area municipalities.

"The goal of the review has been to see where policies in the plan were not effective in maintaining the escarpment's natural environment because they were too permissive," NEC spokesman Cecil Louis said.

"The changes are aimed directly at the long-term protection of the natural environment by the tightening of restrictions in the plan," he said.

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Challinor wants jail security assured

By SAL BOMMARITO
The Champion

The provincial government should be placing the safety of citizens ahead of its Social Contract legislation, Ward 2 councillor John Challinor says.

Speaking at Monday night's council meeting, Mr. Challinor said he's concerned about the effect Social Contract-related cutbacks are having on security at Maplehurst Correctional Centre.

It was reported recently in *The Champion* that correctional officers at the prison, under their Social Contract agreement, will no longer be paid overtime and are instead to be granted time off in lieu.

An unidentified correctional officer was quoted in the story as saying that the prison doesn't have enough staff to give workers time off.

Mr. Challinor said after the story appeared, he received calls from residents who expressed concerns about some of the issues brought up in the story, specifically those relating to prison security.

He said he'll bring forward a motion at next week's council meeting asking the Ministry of Correctional Services to ensure the safety of Milton residents won't be compromised by Social Contract-related cutbacks at the prison.

"I don't want to be alarmist. We just want the province to know we have concerns about the continued integrity of our institution and make them aware of their responsibility in that regard," Mr. Challinor said in an interview.

Mr. Challinor said if council approves the resolution, it will then be circulated to Minister of

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END OF SUMMER BBQ SALE!!

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