



# COMMENT

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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# LOOKING BACK



Can you find Santa? He's in this photo, but he's so mobbed by children it's hard to spot the friendly gent. Santa made a pre-Christmas visit to a party arranged by the Lions Club of Milton for members' children at the Charles Hotel in December, 1972.

## United Way needs our help, now more than ever

It's a sign of the prevailing economic climate that the United Way is falling short of its ambitious fundraising goal. No one is to blame, but perhaps we could all help just a little bit.

Would one, two or five dollars, or in the case of those generous souls who have already given, that amount more, make much of a difference to most of us? Probably not. But the money could begin to make a difference to somebody else, someone who genuinely needs it.

We are not great proponents of the welfare state as it has come to exist in Canada today, but there are so many blameless people out there who have lost jobs, even hope, that we would be remiss in not stressing the importance of funding the United Way.

The agency, which is in effect a funding platform for a wide variety of other agencies, keeps the money it collects in the community. In fact, it is likely all of us know someone, or at least know of someone, who has been touched by the good work of the United Way.

There is a lot of competition for your charitable dollar at this time of year. There are many worthy channels through which charitable donations can flow. The United Way is probably the best-known one. It is also an extremely effective way of helping out your fellow Miltonians.

Those who can spare a moment, some thought and a small gift would do well to help the United Way meet its fundraising goal. No contribution is too modest. We can all make a difference. Let's help put the United Way over the top.

## More focus on teens is a good idea for all

It's nice to see people paying attention to keeping teens entertained and occupied in Milton, through the dance planned for this weekend at the leisure centre.

We have reservations about the chosen location, but the hearts of the organizers are in the right place.

Town councillor Colin Best is to be commended for his efforts in this area, as are the teen organizers.

Some sort of teen dance club, supervised, strikes us as a workable idea, although we feel the leisure centre is a poor locale. Why risk the vandalism that often accompanies the inevitable few poorly behaved kids who will attend this or any other teen function? A school site would be better. If they smash something there, they're the ones, by and large, who have to live with it, not the community in general.

That reservation aside, we recognize the need for teens to have a place where they can congregate and socialize with their own, especially younger teens. Right now they seem to be doing it on Main Street, and all that does is cause friction when they get a bit rowdy.

## PAGES OF THE PAST

### One Year Ago

From the December 2, 1992 issue

□ The Salvation Army Christmas Bureau Fund was launched and the need for donations was never greater. The demand for food from the Army food bank doubled since the previous year. It was hoped the Christmas bureau would raise \$18,000 to ensure that there was a gift for every child and a festive meal on every table.

□ Milton Fire Chief Richard Playfair was resigning as of the end of the month. Unconfirmed reports said Mr. Playfair had accepted the chief's position in Stoney Creek. Mayor Gord Krantz confirmed the news of the chief's resignation and said he could see a replacement coming in around February or March. Mr. Playfair had succeeded Blake Patrick, who resigned after a short stint as chief three years previously.

□ Bishop Reding High School's senior girls basketball team made history by capturing the Halton title. The Royals earned the title by defeating the M.M. Robinson Rams 36-26 in the final at Sheridan College in Oakville. Awesome defence by Carla Johnson and 15 points by veteran Margaret Eidt were crucial to the Royal victory.

### 20 Years Ago

From the December 5, 1973 issue

□ The stork was working overtime at Milton District Hospital. Newborn births were up 40 per cent in the first 10 months of 1973 over a similar period in 1972. Hospital administrator Ron Woods told the hospital board that there were 170 births to the end of October, compared to 121 in the same period the previous year.

□ A local application for a cable television licence to serve Milton was endorsed by Milton council. The application by William Johnson of Parkway Drive

received council's endorsement on a non-exclusive basis. Emphasis was placed on the application being locally owned and that local programming would be aimed at providing maximum benefits for the town. Members decided they would endorse the application, but not withdraw earlier support for an application by Georgetown Cable Television.

□ A \$20 million park was proposed for 400 acres of Nassagaweya farmland on the escarpment west of Milton. Ontario Historic Theme Parks hoped to develop the recreational area on lands just south of Kelso Conservation Area. The parksite was bounded by Appleby Line, Bell School Line and Milton Quarries. The proposed park was expected to attract more than 16,000 visitors a day and would employ 1,200 to 1,500 people.

### 50 Years Ago

From the December 2, 1943 issue

□ Mrs. Gordon Agnew gave an address on "The Women of China" to the Women's Canadian Club of Milton. The main point stressed by Mrs. Agnew was winning the peace following the winning of the war. Mrs. Agnew spoke from her experiences of teaching at one of the leading universities in China and being a resident of the country for 20 years.

□ Ronald Galbraith of Milton was assistant stage manager of the Queen's University play, "You Can't Take It With You," presented before a capacity audience in Kingston. Mr. Galbraith was a second year engineering student.

□ Provincial Constable Reavley received word of a transfer from his duties in Halton County to Toronto. His Honor Judge Monro and Crown Attorney W.I. Dick presented Mr. Reavley with a smoking set as a farewell gift on behalf of officials and other friends at the county building.

### PUD

BY STEVE NEASE

