

Established 1861

# The Canadian Champion

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## Uniform hours

There is a large, black empty space at the Main and Martin Sts. intersection that once housed the Ledwith's SuperSave store.

It is sincerely hoped the lights will be on and a new lease on life will be given to this strategic corner by a group of grocer-businessmen who have made a commitment to Milton.

The solution to the SuperSave problem may be salvaged; but what about the solution to the "downtown" problem.

There is increasing evidence the downtown core is being abandoned by shoppers who prefer the other areas in Milton.

One of the main reasons for this interest is customers know stores will be open during normal business hours.

This newspaper has stated before the absolute necessity of regular store hours for the downtown business core.

Opening at 11 a.m. one day and not at all the next might be justified by the store owner who says his or her business doesn't come during a certain time of the day.

But when half of the stores on Main St. are guilty of not being open some times; it is no wonder customers are frustrated to the point of taking their business elsewhere.

The downtown merchants must realize the time has come to co-operate and put together a strategic plan of action which will put them back on top.

What better place from which to start than having regulated store hours which are adopted and followed by each and every merchant downtown.

## Pete's task

Putting a new, efficient face on Halton Region seems to be a phrase we hear about every three years.

In 10 years of regional government we've had four regional chairmen, each of whom has promised Halton will shake off the lethargy of the past and go on to great, gleaming heights of governmental efficiency as set out in Bill 151.

Our fourth regional chairman, Peter Pomeroy, was in Milton last Thursday speaking to the Chamber of Commerce and he spoke about the way he saw the first decade or regionalism; and what he hopes for the near future.

Mr. Pomeroy rightly stated residents view regional government with skepticism, and in some cases that view is tinged with much stronger feelings.

He said he realizes people distrust the region because of problems in the past; but he feels he can change that by being outgoing and keeping a sort of open door policy for the ratepayers of Halton Region.

After the last three regional chairmen, Mr. Pomeroy certainly makes people feel comfortable in his presence; but we wonder how much image changing and trust building he is going to accomplish in the next two years before his term as regional chairman ends.

Like his predecessor, Mr. Pomeroy takes over a job that is still controversial even though regional government has been established for 10 years. Many feel we didn't need a region and they feel we still don't need a government body that seems to do little more than the old towns used to accomplish.

If Mr. Pomeroy is able to accomplish the goal of turning around the public perception of regional government, he will not only have done his job, he will have accomplished something no other regional politician anywhere in Ontario has been able to do to date.

## No smoking

Today is Weedless Wednesday!

This is the day during which those who smoke are being asked to quit for one day; not forever, but for one day.

Everyone who does smoke has made countless promises to quit, but has never quite succeeded.

If you enjoy smoking, we won't urge you to throw the pack away; but we will urge you to seriously consider not lighting one up for the remainder of today.

Today is Weedless Wednesday, and we hope those of you who smoke will be trying to butt-out.

## our readers write

### I'm impressed

Dear Sir:  
As a frequent visitor of Halton Centennial Manor, I'm particularly impressed by the care, concern and compassion shown by staff toward the elderly residents. Indeed, the members and staff of Halton Manor are a tribute to the health care field.

However, upon observing the operation of the third floor of Martin House for some time now, I find it disturbing to note that there seems to be an unreasonable workload placed upon the available staff.

Patient to staff ratio appears to be very high. Seemingly, sooner or later, the quality of health care received by the residents of the third floor of Martin House will suffer.

While fiscal and budget restraints and curtailments of spending are catchwords for governments, business and industry these days, I do not feel such measures should apply to our elderly citizens.  
In short, I feel that professionals in senior positions of the health care field in the Halton Region should review the need of possible increases to their existing staff.

Sincerely,  
ALAN SLAUGHTER  
Burlington

### Thanks Super Save

Dear Sir:  
It was our pleasure to shop at Super Save, formerly Ledwith's, for the past 27 years and we were very sorry to see the doors close for the last time.

You will be greatly missed by many.  
Sincerely,  
GEOFF AND JEAN DREW-BROOK  
Milton

### Best wishes

Dear Sir:  
Many thanks indeed for your kind assistance in helping us to publicize our Annual Christmas Tea, here at the museum. In spite of less than perfect weather we enjoyed a tremendous turnout. Due in no small part, I'm sure, to the generous co-operation of the media.

We shall soon begin spreading the word about the special events on our calendar for 1984, and shall convey these to you as soon as all plans are completed.

Thank-you, and best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Yours truly,  
JONATHAN MITCHELL  
Media-Co-ordinator

The Canadian Champion welcomes Letters to the Editor. We do, however, reserve the right to edit, revise, and reject letters. In cases where revisions are called for, or where a letter is to be rejected, the writer of the letter will be telephoned and the reason explained. We ask that all Letters to the Editors be signed and the address of the writer and the telephone number be included. Unsigned letters will be rejected.



News item: Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy can drive as flashy a car as he wants as long as he pays the difference.

## viewpoint

Bits and bites



with JIM ROBINSON

The street I grew up on wasn't very long, but most of the kids living on it got polio.

Carol Defroy got it in the legs and had to wear braces.

She died when a mild undertow pulled her into Lake Erie because she just didn't have the leg power to fight it.

Pat MacDonald got it in the lungs. He's still alive.

I got polio in the spine. I can still remember being shut up in a hospital in a room where there were many other children.

I was about five-years-old at the time; and it still strikes me as so bizarre that I was the only kid on the ward who could walk.

I'd get out of bed and go to the next bed; and the next bed; and the next bed but those kids just laid there.

Every now and then, one would (to me) just disappear.

Poo! They were gone and no one would tell me where.

My mother and father could come to the hospital but there was plate glass between us.

I thought I was in an orphanage; but how do you explain polio to a five-year-old?

By the grace of God, sulpha drugs and Baby Huey comic books, I "beat" polio although I still faint every time I have to go into a hospital.

I guess it was the six months in quarantine plus the smell of disinfectant, bleach and urine which makes me weak-kneed.

I will always associate those three smells combined as the smell of death.

I have lived the remaining 32 years relatively free of health problems, until I heard from Pat Woode of Georgetown.

Pat also had polio as a kid and she tells me a lot of middle-aged polio kids are now facing medical problems ranging from shortness of breath to muscle weakness.

These symptoms in former polio patients are leading some researchers to think there may be a lingering link.

To that end a Post-Polio Registry is being set up by the Ontario March of Dimes. Pat Woode, 877-1436, is handling the registry for this area.

If you had polio as a kid and you are experiencing medical problems, the registry would like to hear from you.

Even if you are healthy and have had no problems, it might be worth your while to find out more about the registry and how it might affect you.

Good New, Bad News  
Last Wednesday, we were able to announce the Fifth Wheel had been selected by the Milton Chamber of Commerce as Business of the Year in the annual Citizen of the Year awards.

Few Milton firms have done more for the community. Speaking from a personal point of view, the Fifth Wheel gave us a great boost in December when they helped with a huge Christmas stocking-draw.

The stocking contained some \$500 worth of merchandise including a television. After the draw, we got a big slice of the revenue from the draw for The Canadian Champion Christmas Bureau Fund.

It was nice to see the Fifth Wheel win that award.

Therefore it came as a considerable shock to learn Lew Lovridge died on Friday.

He could well be called Mr. Fifth Wheel and was extremely well known throughout Milton.

Lew will be missed.

### Pete's Car

A former actress, and well-known Nassagaweya resident (she didn't want me to use her name) took last week's column to task with regard to Peter Pomeroy.

She pointed out that presidents of major U.S. multinational firms drive to work in AMC Spirits and LeMans; and strenuously pointed out the calibre of the man should not be incumbent on the magnificence of the conveyance.

The president of the Chase Manhattan Bank may drive a Skoda for all I know; but the fact remains, visiting dignitaries don't expect to be driven around in a Lada or Toyota.

But it has now been decided by regional council Mr. Pomeroy can have any kind of car with any number of options as long as he is prepared to pay the difference over and above a fixed regional car allowance.

A person's personality is very accurately reflected by the type of car he drives. Why else would there be so many different shapes and sizes of automobiles.

Cars are designed to flatter the image-cum-pocket-book.

There may be many hundred more sailboats, for instance, being built, but they are very much the same, even down to the color white.

I'm glad Pomeroy got the kind of car he was after.

Now, I just wonder what he's going to do with his Mazda RX7.

### Billy Bishop

Members of the Royal Canadian Legion and the Army, Navy and Air Force Club are extremely upset over a new National Film board financed movie which leaves viewers the impression Billy Bishop may not have shot down the 72 aircraft he got credit for during the First World War.

Called "The Kid Who Couldn't Miss", the movie is being defended by its producer (who else?) who admitted on television his research showed Bishop to be less than truthful. He had the incredible two-facedness to state his film did nothing to tarnish the image of the highest scoring Allied ace in the Great War.

This producer, if it wasn't for federal tax dollars, would never have been able to make the movie. He sure wouldn't have got the financial backing from the private sector because they know the difference between a winner and a loser.

The Bishop film is a loser, and it probably cost each of us a tidy sum from our tax dollars last year to keep Liberal-infested anachronisms like the Nation Film Board in lavish productions about woodchucks and in marvellously expensive little movie preview dinners (they don't serve Canadian sauterne there folks).

The National Film Board and the Canadian Film Development Corporation should not exist as separate, fully tax receiving and tax spending agencies.

When they turn out crap like the Bishop movie, or yet another Carol Laure flick, then the state of the film industry in Canada is even worse than we suspected.

## pages of the past

### One Year Ago

From the January 26, 1983 issue  
A 57-year-old Milton resident and proprietor of Milton Shoe Repair died Friday.

Leon Jacyno was found in his 157 Main St. shop by Halton Regional Police, dead of an apparent heart attack.

An attempt at freedom was short-lived for a 35-year-old Toronto man who fled Halton Regional Police outside of Milton Provincial Court last week.

Bryan James George of 6030 Bathurst St., Toronto had appeared in court Tuesday (Jan. 18) minutes earlier on several charges including possession of a narcotic (two counts), obstructing police, theft under and two counts of uttering forged documents.

Conflict of interest allegations against a local councillor, dormant since December, may soon be revived. The allegations against ward three councillor Don McMillan were first filed in October by developer Brian Ambler.

He contended Mr. McMillan's support for cuts to a subdivision in Moffatt was motivated by the fact he owns property across the road, rather than concerns for possible drainage problems.

### 20 Years Ago

From the Jan. 23, 1964 issue  
Borden Wheeler, CNR agent in Milton, is expected to be named 1964 president of the Milton Chamber of Commerce tonight when the Chamber holds its annual dinner meeting in the Legion Hall.

Mr. Wheeler, an active participant in Chamber of Commerce activities for several years, has been chosen by the nominating committee and their slate including 18 other officers will be presented for approval at tonight's meeting.

Milton District Hospital hasn't been bursting at the seams this January, like it did last year, but it has been "fairly busy" all month, administrator John Wilson reported today.

Last January there were beds in the corridors most of the month, following an unusual rash of illnesses, operations and accidents.

This year the medical-surgical ward has been busy, most beds are full, and beds have been needed in the halls a few times but not constantly.

Dog lovers from several Ontario centres attended the Niagara Peninsula Retrieving Training Club field trials held at Campbellville Pheasantry on Sunday.

### 50 Years Ago

From the January 26, 1933 issue

The Intermediate O.H.A. game, Oakville vs. Milton, which was to have been played here last night, will, if weather permits, be played in the Milton Arena on Saturday night next, Jan. 28th at 8.30 o'clock.

Game Warden W.B. Hare was in town yesterday looking about to see if there were any offenders against the game laws.

Mr. Hare expects Oakville will soon be a game preserve which will be of assistance protecting game. Notice will be posted giving the penalties for even-carrying fire arms in a game preserve.

At a special meeting of the Trafalgar township council, held at Trafalgar on Monday, arrangements for the building of a sea wall on the lake front at Bronte were completed.

The action was taken following requests from seven property-owners who have difficulty in obtaining access to their residences due to the condition of roadway, which is exposed to the wash of the waves.

### 75 Years Ago

From the Jan. 21, 1909 issue

About 1 a.m. on Tuesday John P. Roper was awakened by a glare in his new brick house on Martin Street.

He got up and found that his old blacksmith and carriage-making shop adjoining was in a blaze, the fire having begun in its rear.

He got to the town hall as quickly as possible and sounded the alarm, but by the time the fire brigade got on the spot and had the hose in operation nothing could be done to save the shop, which was an old frame building.

The roof, window sashes and frames on the side of Mr. Roper's house, next to the shop, had begun to blaze and so had the verandah.

The water was turned on them and the house was saved, but it and its contents were damaged by fire and water to the amount of \$500.

Complaints are being made that cottontail rabbits in large numbers are being killed in this neighborhood with ferrets, the ferreters going on lands and into woods without permission.

Thomas Shanks, sen., of Pettapiece, Manitoba, in a letter written on 15 inst., said that the weather was cold, the mercury having reached 40 below zero.