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The Canadian Champion

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NEWS ITEM:
MAN AND MARTIN TRAFFIC LIGHTS
WITH PHASED-OUT WALK SIGNAL
MEANS PEDESTRIANS WILL CROSS
AT THE SAME TIME AS CARS

GET SET
MARTHA...
IT'S GETTING
READY TO
CHANGE!



pages of the past

One Year Ago

From the February 2, 1983 issue
Halton Board of Education has discovered it does not have \$4 million invested with Crown Trust, but \$6.5 million. Superintendent of business and finance Barb Moore told the board Thursday they have two separate investments in Crown Trust, one for \$4 million due Jan. 24 and one for \$2.5 million, due Jan. 7.

Weekend drizzle spelled disaster for local skiers, once again. The rainy, mild weather forced the closure of the Glen Eden slopes and cancellation of a major ski event Sunday afternoon. Unless there are some drastic changes in the winter weather pattern, Glen Eden is likely to fall far short of its projected revenue of \$796,000, according to Bob Harrison, program manager.

The Milton detachment of the OPP experienced a marked decrease in the number of reportable accidents during 1982. A total of 572 accidents were investigated by local OPP officers last year compared to 617 the previous year.

20 Years Ago

From the Jan. 30, 1964 issue
Halton County Council Tuesday applied for a loan of \$250,000 under the Federal-Provincial Works assistant program, for construction of a new 150 bed home for the aged at the present site of the Halton Centennial Manor.

Working drawings of the new home have been ordered and construction is expected to begin in the spring with occupancy anticipated in mid 1965.

W.C. Rowney was re-elected chairman of the Milton Hydro Commission at the inaugural meeting of the group on Wednesday evening of last week.

"The opening of Pineview Public School is a milestone in the history of education in Esquesing Township... the school board is to be congratulated for its efforts in connection with this fine new school," William G. Davis of Brampton, Ontario Minister of Education, told an audience of over 200 at the school's opening ceremonies last night.

A 250-foot by 90-foot skating rink, largest in the area, has been prepared at the Kelso Conservation Area for the pleasure of area skaters.

50 Years Ago

From the February 1, 1934 issue
Hornby Old Boys have issued invitations for a dance to be held in the Orange Hall, Hornby, tomorrow (Friday) evening, Feb. 2, at 9 o'clock. Music will be furnished by Norman Gill's orchestra. This will be the event of the year.

John F. McCallum, governor of the Halton county jail, who had several ribs fractured in an automobile accident recently, is, we are pleased to say, able to be out again.

The Girl's Auxiliary of Grace church are holding an Afternoon Tea and Home-made Baking Sale on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 3rd, in the Sunday school room. Everybody welcome.

Rifleman Bob Charlton left here on Sunday to attend a course of N.C.O.'s instructions at the Royal School of Infantry at Stanley Barracks, Toronto. The course extends over a period of six weeks.

Thieves entered the hen-houses of Wilber Cleave, Norval road, on Friday night last, and removed his entire stock of 75 Barred Rock chickens without leaving a trace. Provincial constable G.O. Cookman, Milton and Chief W.G. Marshall, of Georgetown, are investigating.

75 Years Ago

From the Jan. 28, 1909 issue
The letter of Dr. R.W. Bruce Smith, Inspector of Hospitals and Charities, urging the erection this year of a house of refuge, was considered in committee of the whole at Tuesday's meeting of the county council.

The great thaw of last week replenished the springs which feed the reservoir. The water is not shut off at any time now. Last fall's drought was the cause of the temporary scarcity.

A meeting of the clergy of the Deanery of Halton was held at Burlington on Monday last. One of the important duties was the election of Rural Dean, the present occupant's term of office having expired.

The benedicts and bachelors of Milton have issued invitations for an assembly, to be given at the town hall next Wednesday evening, Feb. 3.

During the darkness of Tuesday night somebody broke the front window of S. Horwick's Jewelry Store.

Mr. Horwick just started up in business here a few weeks ago. The damage done to J.P. Roper's house by the fire reported last week is being repaired.

Dome is dead thanks to politics

The Snow Dome is dead and with it the hopes of many area residents the Macauley Commission on the provincial domed stadium site pick a site in Halton.

Despite every possible reason against, except pleasing voters, the commission is expected to submit a report to the Ontario Cabinet suggesting the current Exhibition Stadium site or the Woodbine Race Track lands for the domed Stadium.

It is another case of the provincial government having made a prior decision and then setting up a commission headed by a personal friend and political crony of Bill Davis to come up with "suggestions" on an issue.

The Halton site along with the two sites in Mississauga had far more going for them than the final two commission choices. Transportation, cheap land, population drawing power; they all exceeded the two Metropolitan Toronto sites.

The final selection is, and was, who would be most pleased; and perhaps, we should add how many would be most pleased.

The Metro Toronto area is not cast in Tory blue like Mississauga or most of Halton. For every pleased voter here there are probably 100 in Toronto.

The choice then, when based on the Davis bottom line, is politics.

Politics set up the commission, politics will finally decide on Exhibition Place, and politics will decide just how much extra in provincial revenues we will pay so the people in Toronto can watch the play.

Knocking donors was wrong move

Milton residents were given a small, and it must be emphasized only a small pat on the back, for their efforts in last year's United Way campaign.

The 260 volunteers who participated in the month long campaign dramatically improved the response to their request for money—a total of \$55,000 was raised or 49 per cent more than the previous year's fundraising drive.

But United Way manager Heather Smith of Oakville, is not happy with the people of Milton.

"To quote, 'there were not nearly as many donors as we should have had... on a scale of one to 10, volunteerism is two in this community...'"

Mrs. Smith seems to feel that it is up to her to dictate exactly how much residents should be given, never mind what they have already done.

This town has shown tremendous community spirit in a great number of ways, perhaps the most noteworthy being the Milton District Hospital Expansion Fund.

Do not forget, Mrs. Smith, it was this community which raised \$7,000 to ensure that every needy family enjoyed a Christmas dinner and toys, and it was not because citizens were badgered or made to feel guilty.

This is a town that does not hesitate to organize all manner of money raising ventures to help a young boy received the costly treatment that will keep him alive and assist with travel expenses for his family to the United States where he must go to get such medication.

This is a community that rallies to help strangers who are left homeless after a fire.

Youngsters empty their piggybanks and factory workers sign the back of their pay cheques to help out those in need.

They give from the heart and many of those are hardly in a position to make the generous donations they provide.

So perhaps, Mrs. Smith should take a moment to look around her and see exactly how much this community has done to help out each other.

viewpoint

Arnold's Farewell



Goodbye. That, and a two paragraph letter of resignation, are all that's needed to close the book on the area where 70 per cent of this career has been spent.

For all who haven't heard, it's true. After this week Steve Arnold will be nothing but a short, fat memory, nothing more than a name on a few stories in yellow, crumbling copies of The Canadian Champion and The Oakville Beaver.

After 10 years as a reporter, including time on five newspapers, it's sad in a way to be severing the ties which have been such a comfort and anchor during the last few turbulent years.

It's customary at times like this to reflect a bit, to ponder the triumphs and defeats of time spent in one of the most exciting and demanding professions of all.

A great deal of the time Arnold has spent in Halton has been devoted to following the affairs of Halton Regional Council.

Even a full decade after the birth of the upper tier of local government, there is still an immense resentment of it and the way it was born.

But the one thing opponents of the new style of local government have to realize is they are stuck with it. Regional government is here and it's here to stay.

Even dumping the provincial Conservatives from the pinnacle of power they have occupied for so long won't change that because too much money, time and change has been vested in the region to even think about dismantling it now.

From the dark days when Halton was plagued with deficits and the almost total collapse of its structure, a new system has been created which has the ability to provide the type of government which is needed at the local level.

No matter how much some Nassagaweya residents bemoan the good old days, there are some services which simply can't be provided to the high standard needed now by a single municipality.

Certainly there are inadequacies in regional government and changes are needed, but trying to kill the patient isn't the answer.

Newspapers have an important role to play in the process of local government; a role that frankly has nothing to do with the kind of coverage provided in the "good old days" of long ago.

Too much of the quality of life in Halton, and Milton, is affected by the actions of town and regional council for them to go unnoticed.

The people who are compelled to provide large amounts of tax money to these councils every year have to be informed of what they are doing with that money and a local newspaper is the only way they are going to reliably get that information.

A great deal of criticism has been weathered by this newspaper, and others, for the space devoted to the doings of local government over the years, often at the expense of other stories.

There was a time when newspapers like The Champion were a journal or record for the area, filling the news columns with gossipy little tidbits about who went to Toronto for dinner and exhaustive accounts of the minutiae of the meetings of the Women's Institutes.

How often has the question "nobody cares about what Roly Bird said to Harry Barret down at the region last week" been heard in this office?

To any thinking person, the reply has to be "who cares who read the minutes of a WI meeting two months ago."

When Bird and Barrett and the others are arguing in that green monstrosity in Oakville, they are spending your hard earned money and deciding how long it will take for a policeman to get to your home when you need help, whether or not your daughter will get birth control pills without your knowledge, how much money will be available when you're flat on your back and need welfare or a visiting nurse, or that a garbage

Watch are examples.

There are also numerous pamphlets available on other Crime Prevention topics that can be picked up at the police station at any time.

Why not get involved in Crime Prevention this year? Who knows, maybe this year you won't become another statistic.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicize Neighbourhood Watch again. There are a little more than 700 homes involved in Neighbourhood Watch, which is only ap-

proximately one quarter of Milton.

If you live in an area that is not involved or if you aren't involved but live in an area, already involved in Neighbourhood Watch, then why not attend the upcoming meetings?

The meetings are as follows: Feb. 1 to 8 at Robert Baldwin School and Feb. 22 and 29, again at Robert Baldwin School.

All of the meetings begin at 7.30 p.m. and last for approximately 90 minutes.

So why not do yourself a favour and get involved in Neighbourhood Watch!

crime prevention

Your help is needed

with CONST. DAVE CRAWFORD

Constable Crawford is a safety officer with the Halton Regional Police.



The year 1984 is well under way and if you are anything like me, you have probably broken all of your New Year's Resolutions.

However, there is one resolution you should try hard not to break and if it is not already on your list, then you should put it on.

The resolution I am suggesting is: Don't Become A Police Stastic.

For example, house break-ins in Milton were up 10 per cent in 1983 over 1982, involving over \$140,000 in lost property.

There were 264 reports of theft from motor vehicles with over \$65,000 in lost property and

there were \$50,000 lost in 119 reported business break-ins.

The risk factor for these is amazing. One in every 55 homes will be broken into, one in every 65 cars will have something stolen from it and one in every 10 businesses will become a victim of a break-in.

There are many crime prevention programs available to help prevent you from becoming a statistic.

Operation Identification, Operation Provident for Businesses and Neighbourhood