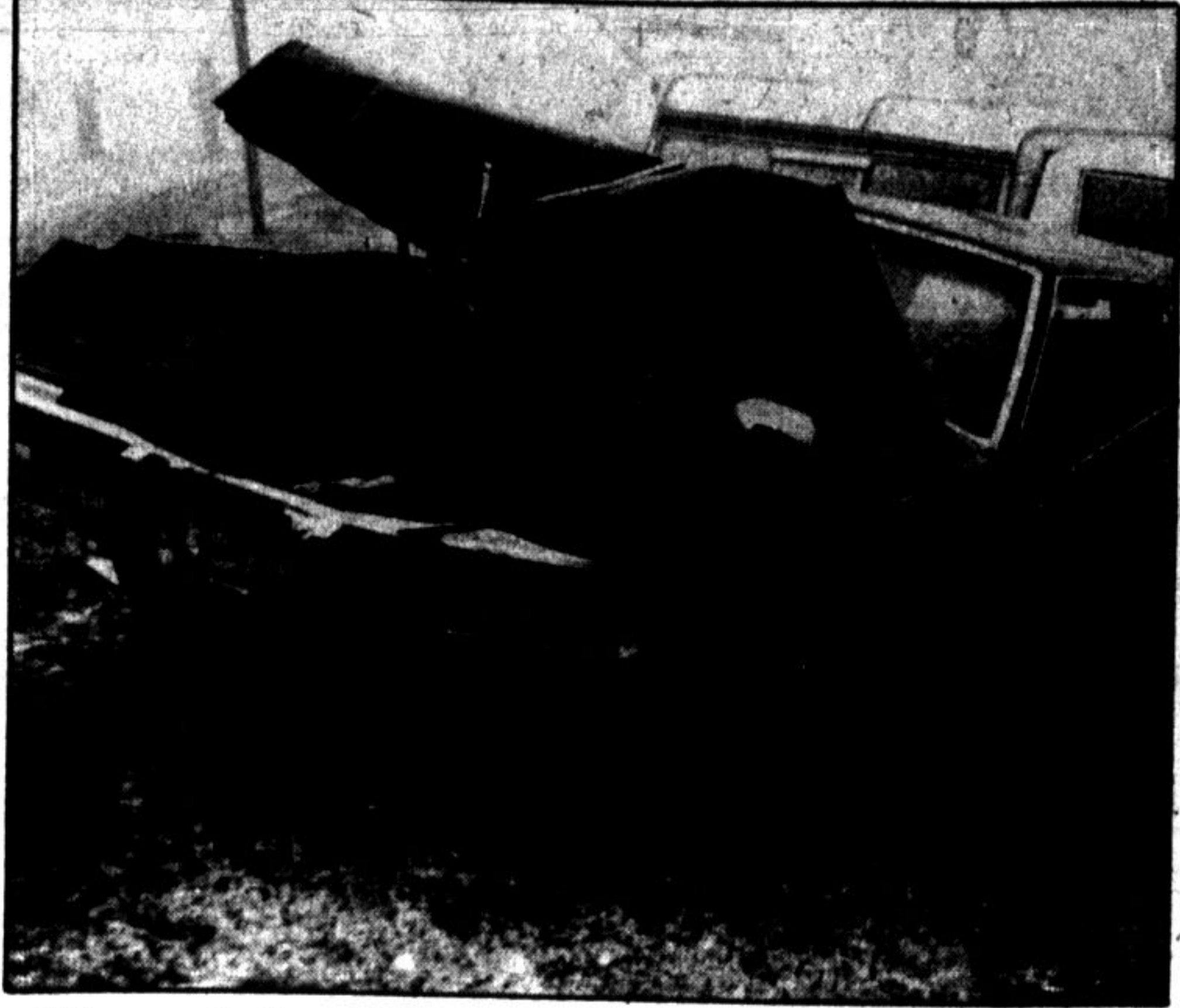
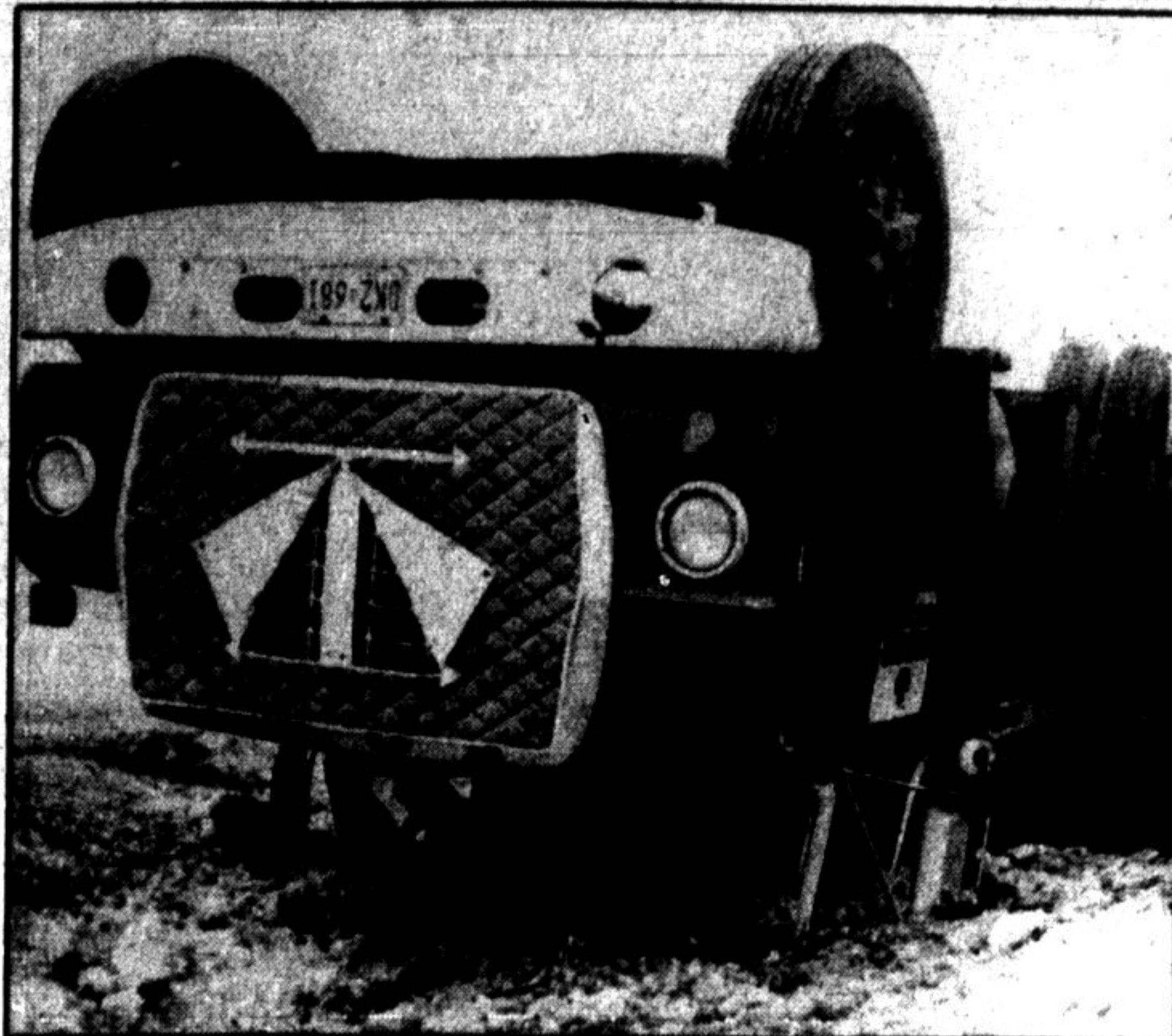


Two dead, many shaken up as 401 fog causes major crash



This smashed car is just one of the 72 vehicles involved in the chain reaction crash on the eastbound 401. Travelling too fast in the fog is considered a cause.



Cambridge truck driver Larry Pletch kicked out the front window of his oil truck after it rolled over onto its back. He said he was glad to be alive.

By LINDA KIRBY
Staff Writer

Two Kitchener truck drivers lost their lives early Monday morning in what police are describing as one of the worst pile-ups ever in this area.

A total of 20 accidents involving 72 vehicles turned the stretch of highway between Guelph Line and Highway 25 into a disaster area.

Dense fog which reduced visibility to a mere 50 feet is blamed for the carnage which occurred during the peak morning rush hour.

Police also say far too many drivers were travelling too quickly for the dangerous fog condition.

The fatal collision which claimed the lives of two Dare truck drivers happened shortly after 8 a.m. in the eastbound lane of Highway 401 four kilometres west of Guelph Line.

Milton OPP Constable Terry Brandt who investigated the accident said three cars had initially slowed to a stop because of the fog, causing a chain reaction of accidents.

The first Dare truck slammed into the back of a double axle van type of truck, instantly killing 28-year-old Mike Silvestro of 11 Overlea Dr.

Seconds later the second Dare truck crashed into the rear of the first truck. Brian Lee 35, of 28 Windyridge Dr., died a short time later at the scene.

"They were obviously travelling together," said Constable Brandt.

Both men were married and had families. Contrary to early news reports there was no fire or explosion at the scene of the fatal crash. Milton firefighters were called to assist with removing the bodies of the two men.

Miraculously, no other lives or serious injuries resulted from a score of other accidents, which police estimate caused a damage figure in the area of \$500,000.

Every OPP unit from Milton, Port Credit, Burlington and Guelph were called in to help, as well as officers from Halton Regional Police detachments in Milton and Burlington.

The injured were transported to hospitals in Milton, Oakville, Guelph and Mississauga, though police report the vast majority were treated for cuts and bruises and

released a short time later.

The chaos produced many good Samaritans who pitched in to help fellow motorists and assist police with directing traffic.

In one of the more serious pile-ups involving an oil tanker and 14 other vehicles, one driver ended up upside down when his car was sandwiched between two others and tossed onto its back bumper sending the front end of his car straight up into the air.

It was a fellow motorist who managed to extricate the uninjured man from his car.

Another vehicle was reduced to half of its size when it was also compacted between two cars. The driver walked away with facial cuts.

By the time police and ambulance began arriving, many motorists had got out of their cars and were checking other vehicles for injured.

They were also responsible for helping reroute traffic and open up a lane for emergency vehicles.

"It was the most appalling destruction and carnage I have ever witnessed on the road," said one Frelton driver.



Ian McCamont, left, a Milton resident was honored as Firefighter of the Year by the Mississauga Fire Department, where he works. Mr. McCamont shared in saving a child from a burning home last summer. He is shown receiving his award from Mississauga deputy fire chief, Boyd McKee.

Roses come out for the Heart

By KEN MABERLY

During the month of February, Heart Month in Canada, various malls around

Halton will be brimming with roses as volunteers from the Halton Heart Fund sell the flowers to help combat heart and blood

vessel disease, the leading cause of death in Canada.

Making people more aware of the problem of hypertension, or high blood pressure, is just one of the tasks the Ontario Heart Fund has undertaken during Heart Month.

Hypertension is the single most important identifiable factor contributing to heart attack, stroke, and kidney disease and is also a factor in half of the deaths due to heart disease.

Approximately two million Canadians have high blood pressure, of which 50 per cent do not know they have it.

Those one million people are risking premature death or disability and the Ontario Heart Foundation would like to see that number reduced.

Majorie Farrell, co-ordinator of the Halton Heart Fund, has volunteers going door to door and in the malls canvassing for donations to the fund.

Drink-drive group said up to Halton

A drinking-driving committee, suggested by the Province as a good idea for municipalities, is a good idea for Halton Region to implement, the City of Burlington administration and finance committee agreed last week.

Attorney-general Roy McMurtry has suggested a committee be established in every community to help educate the public and "bring about a fundamental and permanent attitude change toward the practice of

drinking and driving."

When the notice first came to the city's attention, it decided to wait for the region to come to a decision.

The region is now asking for responses or whether such a committee is a good idea, and if so, how it should be implemented.

"As far as I'm concerned, the police commission is where it belongs," Burlington Mayor Roly Bird said, which will put the committee at a regional level.

CORRECTION

Zellers

Page 4 of Zeller's Fashion Fair circular February 14th to 18th.

Turquoise Rugby Pants NOT AVAILABLE
Green will be substituted.

Sorry for the inconvenience.

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