



MILTON TIME CAPSULES

# Aviators land in farmer's field, then crash into fence

Time Capsules are gems of information extracted from past issues of the Champion and other publications in order to provide a window into Milton's past.

April 1919

Last Friday two aviators left Toronto for a flight to Milwaukee, Wis. They passed over Milton flying low. Later they lost their bearings and about 2 p.m. they landed Aon Geo. Agnew's field at Guelph Junction. When they tried to make a fresh start they got into trouble on account of the softness of the ground. Their bus ran into the fence and was so badly wrecked that they had to take it apart and take it back to Toronto.

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Wanted- Matron for the Milton Children's Aid Shelter in Milton. Initial salary \$30 per month. Assistant supplied. Apply to Mrs. T.J. Brown, Sec. C.A.S. Milton.

...

Pte. James Newell, son of the late James Newell, got home to Milton Heights on 28th. He went overseas with the 164th Batt and went through last year's fighting without a scratch. He was gassed once, but was never off duty. Gunner Wilfrid McDougall, son of Mr. and Mrs. A.B. McDougall of Vancouver, formerly of Milton stopped off here last Saturday to call on Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Tuck. He went overseas with a Winnipeg battery and has had two years' service which ended at Passchendaele when he was wounded in his nose and face. He was some time in a base hospital at Etaples and later another in London. He has fully recovered and is not disfigured.

Pte. Gordon Ford, son of Thos. Ford got home last Friday morning by the G.T.R. via Hamil-

ton. He was overseas fifteen months, got into last year's fighting at Cambrai and saw some hot work. He got a slight touch of gas once and had a close call when his tin hat was dinged by shrapnel but he carried on until flu put him out of the action and he was sent to England. He was in several hospitals. His sickness sent him home ahead of his unit. It is in the Fourth Division which will not come home before June. Pte. Ford's brother, Jack, is also in the Fourth Division.

Lance Corpl. John A. Stover and Ptes. Ed. Beasley and Bailey got home on Sunday afternoon....official welcome... All three went over with the 164th Batt. Lance Corp. Stover and four others went to France three weeks after landing, in a draft of reinforcements. They were transferred to the 3rd Battalion. Lance Corp. Stover had his full share of fighting. In August 1917 he got a shrapnel wound in one of his knees and was in bed for three months. After a long time in hospital he got back to the front and carried on until last August, when he got a second wound in one of his arms, in the defence of Amiens. It was slight but it kept him out of action until the end came in November.

Pte. Harry Hemming who got home two months ago, went to France with Lance Corp. Stover and into the 3rd Batt. but an attack of trench fever ended his serve. Ptes. Bailey and Beasley came through unwounded but Pte. Bailey was gassed. All three men are quite well now.

*This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached through the society at (905) 875-4156.*



## Flyin' flapjack

Mountsberg Conservation Area hosted its annual Flapjack Olympics recently as a kickoff to maple syrup season. Above, Liam Farrell throws a flapjack at a target during the flapjack frisbee event. At right, Drew, Rhys and Anna Craddock enjoy their maple candy treat.

Eric Riehl / Metroland West Media Group  
(Follow on Twitter @halton\_photog)



# Acts of goodwill made a difference

At a time when she must have been overwhelmed by the enormity of the situation — can that phrase even begin to encapsulate what it's like for a young mother to face her own mortality and leave two children behind? — Sandra refused to become marred in what she couldn't control.

Instead, she focused on what she could — namely, making some final memories with her boys.

And when she wasn't doing that, she pleading with Tara and others in her close-knit support network to help spread her appreciation for everyone's efforts.

Trust me, this woman was grateful.

Sandra leaves us with an important lesson.

There's so much sadness in the world, and at times we can become emotionally paralyzed by the extent of that — to the point of thinking

any goodwill act we offer can't possibly make a difference.

That's simply not true, as Sandra clearly showed us. She made the best of a horrible situation with her boys — giving them some memories to cherish — and Milton in turn helped create those memories and let a poor mother know she wasn't alone.

That's about all that could be asked under the circumstances.

We're not put on this earth to save it, just to try and do our part to make it (at least our little corner of it) a slightly better place.

To that end, there's a lot of people in this community who can take comfort in the difference their collective effort made.

Miltonians have shown once again that they truly care, and in her final days Sandra couldn't have thanked you enough for that.



Sandra Marchand is joined by sons Cole (left) and Callum at an exercise fundraiser for the family last fall.  
File photo by Graham Paine

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