

Opinion

This week perfect time to thank a police officer

Ontario's police leaders kicked off Police Week (May 10 to 16) Monday during a community event at the Scarborough Civic Centre in Toronto.

Throughout the week, Ontario police services are hosting events and inviting members of their communities to join them in celebrating.

In this region, Halton police held their annual Police Day on Saturday.

Since 1970, Police Week has been observed in May to coincide with Peace Officers Memorial Day, recognized internationally on May 15.

This year's theme, Discover Policing, invites everyone to discover the many ways Ontario police services are working to keep our communities safe. Police Week also encourages citizens to consider a rewarding and fulfilling career in law enforcement.

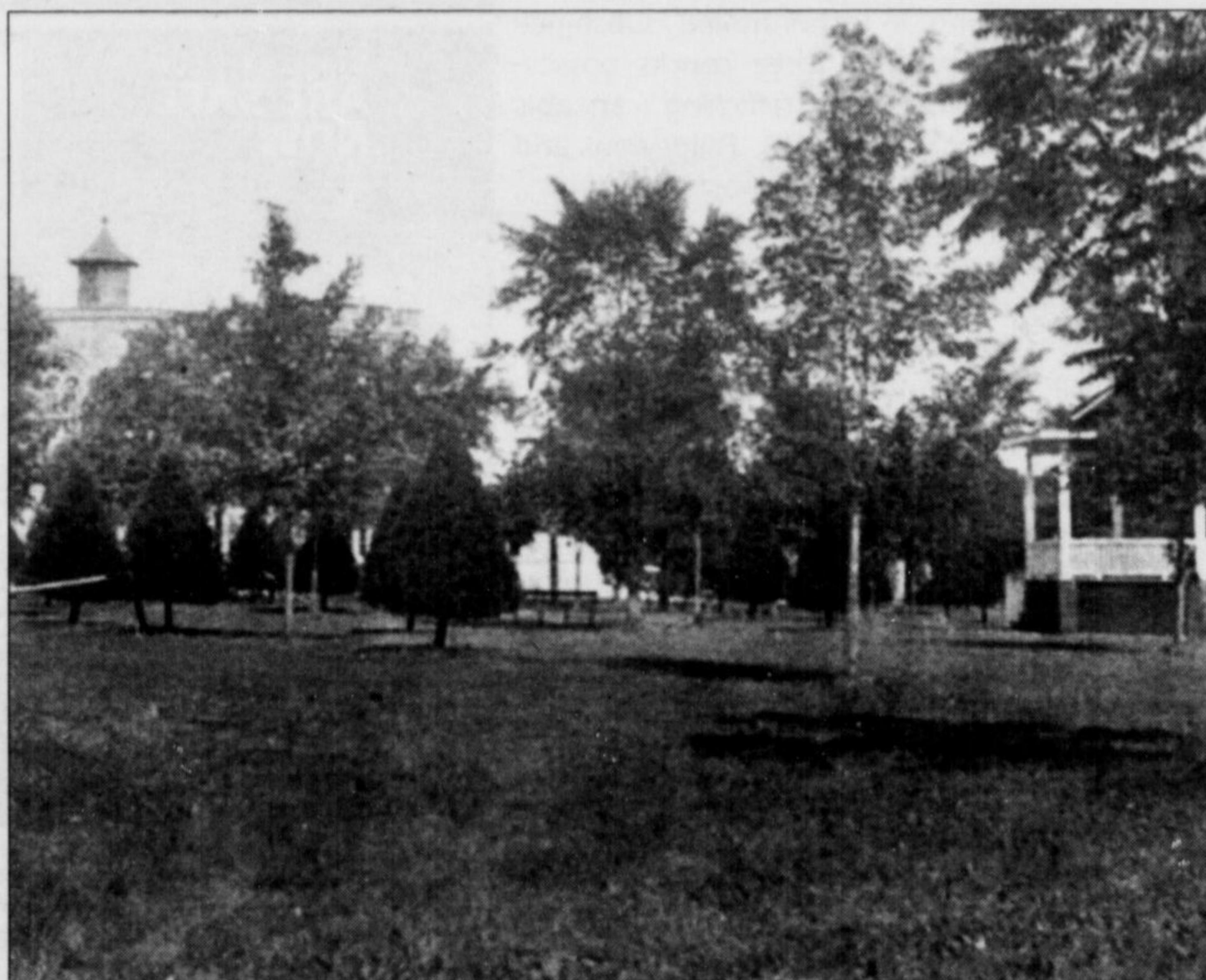
"We are proud to invite Ontarians to 'discover policing' during Police Week. All our police services are excited about showcasing what their police officers do to contribute to community safety and well being," said Peel Regional Police Chief Jennifer Evans, president of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP).

The OACP is working with the Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services and police services across the Province to promote community events that showcase and celebrate policing in Ontario.

"Our government applauds the work the OACP and all police services do every day to build safer communities and a stronger Ontario," said Ontario Community Safety and Correctional Services Minister Yasir Naqvi. "Police officers are driven by compassion, caring and a commitment to public service. Police Week is an opportunity to say thank you for their dedication to our communities and our province."

Indeed, this week is an opportune time to recognize the brave men and women who serve and protect us. The next time you see a police officer, express your appreciation.

To find out more about Police Week activities, visit www.discoverpolicing.ca, and follow 2015 Police Week tweets via the hashtag #PoliceWeekONT.



Heritage Matters

Victoria Park was created in 1854 by Hugh Foster in his subdivision plan known as the Foster Survey three years before the incorporation of the Town of Milton. Hugh Foster donated the land to Halton County for the Halton County Courthouse and Victoria Park. The park has been the home to community events for more than 160 years, including hangings in the old jail courtyard. It has been the site of cricket matches, fireworks displays, moving picture shows and Remembrance Day services. As a playground and gathering place it includes items of the past, like the 1918 German field piece, the town bell, a replica of an early bandstand and the cenotaph honouring Milton's war dead.

— Submitted by Heritage Milton and Milton Historical Society

Editor's Desk

These are exciting times as torch relay set to start later this month

It's an exciting time in this town with the Pan Am Games fast approaching. The Games will be here before we know it. Just how close they are to gracing this community was brought home with Monday's announcement that Steve Bauer — an Olympic silver medalist who now serves as head coach with the Milton Cycling Academy — was named as one of the torchbearers for the Milton stretch (June 23) of the torch relay. (See story on page 2 in today's edition.) I can't think of a better line-up of torch-



Karen Miceli
Managing Editor

bearers representing Milton. Joining Bauer in carrying the torch through town will be Olympic aerial skier Travis Gerrits, well-known music teacher Derek McGowan and longtime volunteer/community shutterbug Donna Coulter. The torch relay will start in Canada on May 30 and make its final stop on July 10 at the opening ceremony of the Games. Deeply rooted in history and tradition, the Pan Am flame will be lit during a traditional ceremony in Teotihuacan, Mexico, before it travels to Canada. Each of the 3,000 torchbearers will cover an average of 200 m. I can't wait to report on this historic event for Milton. Watch the *Champion* and insidehalton.com for coverage. *Karen Miceli can be reached at kmiceli@miltoncanadianchampion.com or on Twitter @ChampionEditor.*

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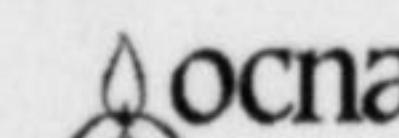
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