

# Leadership is value for each tax dollar

Midland mayoralty candidate Ted Symons yesterday expanded on his election platform statement that leadership is the most important issue in Midland.

"Every taxpayer in Midland deserves to know that each tax dollar is spent carefully and wisely. Your mayor and Midland council are obligated by the public's trust to ensure that each tax dollar buys good value for the most Midlanders."

"As a taxpayer, I am concerned that in addition to talk about holding the line on taxes, there be homework done to ensure Midland gets the best value for each and every tax dollar."

"Low taxes and good value for Midland's taxpayer can be ensured in two ways."

"First, as your mayor, I would insist that a tough budget and planning process be put into place at Midland town hall. Tax dollars are so hard earned and so precious that each dollar of expenditure needs to be examined and justified. Rather than a budget which justifies increases, your mayor must insist on a budget which justifies each dollar of expenditure."

"Through a process called zero-base budgeting, every department would start each year with zero tax dollars and justify every single expenditure. Often we find we can do without things we assume are indispensable. Zero-base financial planning will ensure 'assumed' expenditures do not creep into the system, never to be questioned. By systematically examining each and every dollar spent, I am certain Midland council can find real tax savings and ensure good value for each Midland taxpayer."

"Second, your mayor and Midland council have an obligation to attract new sources of tax revenues to Midland."

"Industrial and commercial tax assessment is frequently misunderstood. Often we hear about the costs of having a new factory locate in Midland and the costs of providing downtown services such as snow removal.

In addition to the real employment and social benefits, the tax benefits which industry and commercial enterprises bring to a community are often overlooked."

"Every factory and every business storefront in Midland contributes a higher proportion of tax revenue than does the

home owner. With a healthy and growing industrial and business tax base, Midland home owners should and can expect to bear a lower proportion of the tax burden. Municipalities which are stagnant must turn to the home owner each year for a higher proportion of their tax needs."

"Talk is cheap but not for taxpayers. Holding the line on taxes cannot be done without careful, time consuming preparation to justify each and every tax expenditure. As your mayor, I will insist that a sound zero-base system is adopted at town hall."

"As Midland's mayor, I can provide the leadership to restore confidence and pride in Midland so that we can attract new industries.



**Fall back this weekend**

Spring forward ... fall back.. That's the old adage one has to remember when it comes to changing from Daylight Saving Time to Standard Time. Don't forget to turn your time-pieces back one hour before you go to bed, Saturday night...

## St. Theresa's students addressed

by MURRAY MOORE  
St. Theresa's High School students yesterday heard mayoralty candidate Ted Symons talk about the importance of a council made up of people willing to listen

—Symons on the campaign trail—

to another opinion, and of the town having a stable, economic base. During the last federal election, each of the three candidates

running in Simcoe North addressed the high school's students.

Incumbent mayor Allan Roach will be invited to also address the students.

Symons told the students that the advantages to industry of locating in Midland outnumber the disadvantage of not being on a major transportation route. But the image of the municipal government

can outweigh the advantages which Midland enjoys. Every municipality in Ontario would like to attract industry, and a poor image of the municipal government can outweigh the advantages which Midland enjoys.

If Midland continues with its present image, the town "will be knocked out of the ball park before the first pitch is thrown."

Midland needs a council with the courage to lead, and mutual respect among its members, he said.

The ideal situation is one in which views are received as well as expressed, "or it's almost like talking to a brick wall."

Not everyone has the ability to listen. "There are those who can do it. Others have not quite learned it."

The situation is not one of black hats and white hats, just conflict, he explained.

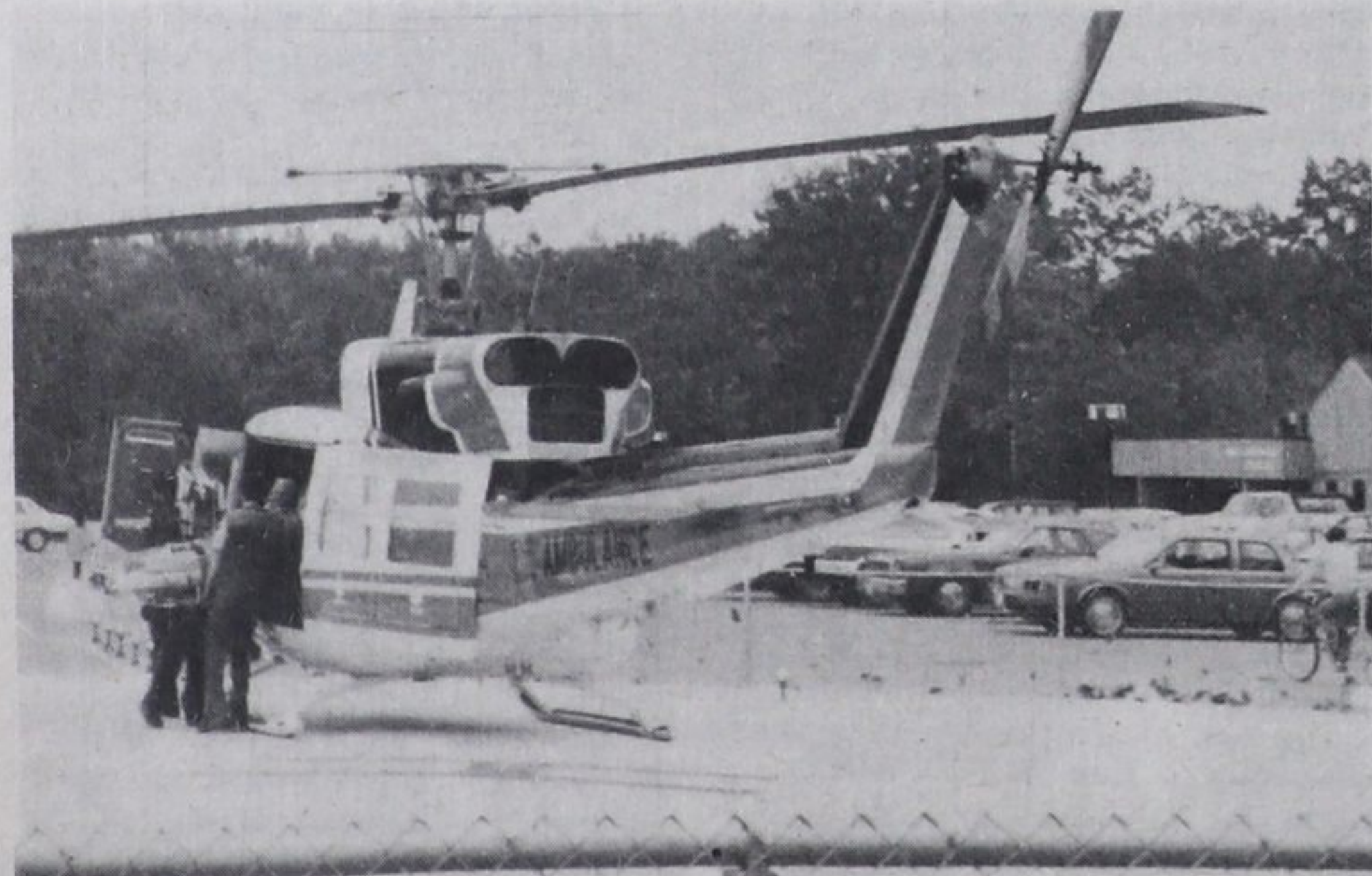
## Sharing world of children

With the cooperation of 11 Huronia region children's social service organizations, Georgian College is currently accepting registrations for their 10th Annual Conference of Sharing the Young Child's World, Saturday, Oct. 26.

The \$25 conference registration fee covers a talk on parenting skills by psychologist Stan Shapiro, a director of Toronto's Adler-Dreikurs School for Children.

Mothers and fathers at the conference will choose from 11 workshops on topics as diverse and contemporary as early identification of learning disabilities, purchasing computer hardware and software for use with young children, and keeping the "grand" in grandparents (the delights and dilemmas of mixing the generations.)

For more information contact Pennie Shaughnessy, (705) 722-7213.



### On his way to a Metro hospital

Bandage One, Ministry of Health's helicopter ambulance made a quick dash, Friday afternoon to HDH from Buttonville to pick up a cardiac

patient and rush him back to a Metro hospital before the rains came to stall the flight.

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