

MISSISSAUGA '71

That was the year that was. . .

January

JANUARY 1

Kevin Hietikko of 2360 Bonner Rd., had the honor of becoming the first baby born in Mississauga in 1971. The little seven pound, six ounce bundle first opened his eyes at 5:19 a.m. on New Year's Day.

A hooded bandit entered a Beckers Milk Store at 3075 Hurontario St. just one hour before 1971 started and made off with \$395 in loot. Manager Ed Couri was forced at knifepoint to the back of the store where the intruder slashed the telephone wires, emptied Couri's pockets and then locked him in the store.

Port Credit council banned the use of snowmobiles from all roads, lanes and streets but only over the opposition of snowmobile enthusiast Ed Donner. "Any logical man with a head on his shoulders can operate them properly—if he is going to get killed he'll do it somewhere regardless of the law," he argued.

The first Jumbo jet landed by accident at International Airport after being diverted from New York because of snow. The Alitalia Air Lines Boeing 747 took off shortly after noon with 205 passengers.

Flames destroyed the home and bird cages of the famous 92-year-old Roy Ivor—the bird man of Mississauga. About 100 birds were destroyed in the fire at the Winding Lane Bird Sanctuary on Mississauga Road in Erindale but within only a few days \$3,000 in contributions for reconstruction had been accumulated.

Plans were finalized for a major kick-off rally in support of the Bill Davis campaign for leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party. The occasion started with a parade at the Clarkson Community Center at 1:30 p.m. and then moved inside for an old fashioned political rally with balloons, bands,

cheerleaders and visiting dignitaries.

Mayor Bob Speck was reported early this week to be resting well in Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital where he was recovering from a heart attack. The mayor, 56, was rushed to hospital shortly after being sworn into office at council's inaugural meeting Jan. 4.

A hostile audience greeted Energy and Resources Minister George Kerr as Clarkson residents fired off criticisms of a proposed \$3 million industrial liquid waste plant.

Nearly 300 people turned out at Clarkson Secondary School and greeted Kerr with skepticism when he reassured his audience that the plant would not merely treat one form of pollution to create another and that the installation would be "perfectly clean" and controlled by stringent anti-pollution regulations.

Teñ Conover was re-elected chairman of the Peel County Board of Education. It was his second con-

secutive year in the post. Conover said improving communications with the public would be high on his list of priorities.

JANUARY 20

Mississauga Ward 2 Councillor Lou Parsons was elected Warden of Peel County, defeating Port Credit Reeve Frank Leavers 26 to 19.

Meanwhile Parsons, in an effort to avoid whisperings of payola, decided to finance his own trip to Baton Rouge, Louisiana and New Jersey to view liquid waste disposal plants there.

He said he would not accept plane tickets from Acres Ltd.—the company which hoped to build a \$3 million waste treatment plant in Clarkson—to avoid speculation "or connotation of wrongdoing."

The old Port Credit road widening debate came up for its yearly thrashing at a regular meeting of town council and the opponents of the high cost scheme were once again defeated. Deputy

Reeve John Caldwell charged that the town had "asphalt intoxication" and that the cheaper suburban roads with ditches would be sufficient.

A 12 year old Mississauga boy was taken into custody by police Monday after his parents house on Narva Road was set afire shortly after he was reprimanded for taking money from his mothers purse.

JANUARY 27

A British Overseas Airways Boeing 707 successfully landed and off-loaded its 99 passengers and crew Monday afternoon following a reported bomb threat.

The kids in the south end of Peel County were released from school a little early because of blizzard conditions that rolled over the area from the north.

The board of education's capital expenditures and building committee approved a building budget of almost \$14 million for 18 new schools and school additions and 15 school sites.

February

FEBRUARY 3

Mississauga councillors lashed out at accusations of "free trips" to Louisiana and New Jersey at the expense of Acres Ltd.

Acting Mayor Chic Murray stressed that the trip was not "all expenses paid" and Acres was supplying only the transportation which would be difficult to organize through a commercial airline.

The Quaker Oaks Co. announced it would close its Society Pet Food plant in Streetsville on April 8. The move affected 76 employees. The closing was blamed on a drop in the competitiveness of Society Pet food and the inability of the plant to expand in the largely residential neighborhood.

The 17 week long ESB Co. Ltd. strike finally ended last week when an agreement between the International Union of Electrical Workers and the battery company was reached after 17 hours of intense negotiations. The 140

workers voted to accept the company offer of 55 cents an hour increase over the subsequent 15 months.

The Town of Port Credit, with a population of only 9,000 persons had paid out more than \$15,000 in welfare to 105 recipients during the first 20 days of 1971—double the previous year's rate.

Postal service in Port Credit worsened since the Jan. 1 postal district changes and some local first class letters were taking 14 days to reach their destinations.

FEBRUARY 10

With snow flying thick and fast, and many roads in South Peel impossible, the resourceful mayor of Streetsville, Mrs. Hazel McCallion, drove to her Britannia Rd. home after a late evening council meeting—in the front seat of the town's snowplow.

Mayor Bob Speck of Mississauga said he was feeling fine as he recuperated from his early January heart attack and

subsequent surgery for the removal of a blood clot which blocked the flow of blood to both legs.

Architect Donald McCuaig was given the go-ahead for his plans for the Cawthra Road double rink arena by Mississauga general committee, providing the cost did not exceed \$800,000.

FEBRUARY 17

Firemen and Hydro officials were still investigating the cause of a \$100,000 fire which destroyed a large lumber warehouse at Cawthra Road and Dundas Street.

It was announced that the World Championship Shark Class Sailing Regatta would be held during August in Port Credit. The Port Credit Yacht Club, serving as host club, hopes to attract upwards of 352 entries for the title of world's champ.

A grand jury report described the Peel County courthouse as only "func-

tional" and the county jail as "very antiquated." "We urge the utmost haste in building the new regional facilities that are planned—and we feel that some attempt should be made to segregate the prisoners awaiting trial from those who have already been convicted," the jury recommended.

Looking pale and gaunt (weighing only 105 lbs.) Mayor Bob Speck vowed he would be "right back in the thick of things again," after returning home from hospital.

FEBRUARY 23

The federal government announced it would build a giant \$12 to \$15 million mail processing plant in Mississauga in 1973. The facility will be the West Toronto portion of an \$80 million five-plant project that will eventually ring the city with the most modern letter and bulk mail processing facilities in the world.

Town council endorsed the incorporation of the Day Glow Drug Distress Treatment Centre, opening the way for complete financing of the project by the provincial government. Until Day Glow then asked Mississauga for \$2,000 to tide it over until the provincial grant came.

The Peel County Board of Education learned it would have to sit down and trim \$3 million from its proposed 1971 operating budget. New Provincial expenditure limits meant the budget would have to be kept to a maximum of \$55 million.

Two young Port Credit suspects were nabbed and charged with cultivation and possession of a narcotic after police seized what they believed to be five marijuana plants in a Park Street apartment.



About 250 local residents showed up at the Jan. 7 public meeting to voice their feelings on proposed Mississauga wastes treatment plant.



A lone Mississauga fireman directs a stream of water on the blazing Triangle Lumber Co. warehouse destroyed Feb. 15 at Cawthra Road and Dundas Street.

March

MARCH 3

The scene of Mississauga's wildest shoot-out and most violent bank robbery eight years ago was revisited when an armed bandit held up the Royal Bank at the Dixie Road and Dundas St. and made off with \$3,000.

A stocky man, 30, to 35, entered the bank with a sawed off shotgun and ordered six customers up against a wall and told the tellers to step away from their cages. He handed the accountant a paper bag and told him to fill it up.

Six year old Suzanne Lanols, of 33 Maple Ave. South who was seriously injured in a car accident came out of her coma and was "coming along fine" a Port Credit police spokesman said.

Education taxes in Peel county dropped by 71 per cent or about \$2 on an average home assessed at \$30,000.

Ken Neeb, popular superintendent of Community Centres, lost his battle for life in Toronto Western Hospital. Neeb never regained consciousness since suffering a stroke less than three weeks earlier.

MARCH 10

Bately three days after a bandit armed with a sawed-off shotgun held up the Royal Bank at Dixie Road and Dundas Street, Mississauga police had a suspect behind bars.

Heleen Leavers, that grand old Lady of Port Credit, died at her Forest Avenue home in her 106th year. She was born in Arnold, Nottingham, England on July 9, 1863.

Sheep rustlers struck the farm of F.B. Jackson of Second Line E. north of Burnhamthorpe Road. Thieves made off with \$100 of his best mutton—namely two sheep.

An attempt to use the kidneys of six year old Colleen Percy in a transplant



Three new aluminum light standard poles came crashing down onto Highway 10 during a wind storm. As a safety precaution the remaining 37 poles were removed.

failed at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. Colleen was struck by a car on Lakeshore Road E. in Port Credit on Feb. 26 and died March 1 but the organs had deteriorated because of the prolonged delay.

Three new and extremely expensive light standard poles came tumbling down in the 98 mile per hour winds. As a safety precaution the rest of the 40 light standards were removed.

MARCH 17

The Ring Road long range plan to relieve the traffic chaos of the intersection of Highways 5 and 10 in old Cooksville was unriveted by town engineer Bill Anderson this week. The five year capital works plan called for partial construction of the ring road system in 1972.

Five people were taken to hospital after fire swept through a Scarborough Street apartment building in Malton. Damage was estimated at \$15,000.

MARCH 24

The man who topped the polls in Peel County's school board elections last

December was headed for the polls again—this time as the New Democratic Party's Peel South candidate. Dr. Ted Humphreys, 39, of 1387 Shadowna Rd., was acclaimed as the NDP choice. Thieves wormed themselves out of the police's grasp early March 20 after hijacking an estimated 115,000 dew worms from the Brennan Bait Co. on South-down Road. The wriggly load was estimated to be worth \$1,300.

Teachers at Lorne Park Secondary School warned area parents that the quality of their children's education might drop when the new higher ratio of students to teacher took effect in the fall. The ratio was increased in an effort to cut costs and stay within the province's board of education spending guidelines.

"A teacher is like jam," said teacher Bob Savage. "The larger the class the more diffused his effectiveness."

MARCH 31

James Robb, convicted of the March 1 hold up of Dixie

Dundas branch of the Royal Bank, was sentenced to four years in penitentiary.

A 1971 Catholic School Board budget in excess of \$7 million, an increase of about 16 per cent from last year, was approved at a special budget meeting. The board had 10,600 students attending 30 elementary schools.

Peel County's high school teachers may strike on May 3 according to the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation deadline for a change in the provincial educational budget ceilings but teacher sentiment here was running against such a move. "I don't want to see the relationship we've built up with the Peel Board destroyed," said George Smith, administrative officer of the O.S.S.T.F. District 10.

Welfare costs in Mississauga reached \$100,000 a month and town councillors were blaming federal government fiscal policies for the soaring bill. Almost 2,000 people collected welfare cheques in January.

April

APRIL 7

Another free trip perhaps loomed on the European horizon. Developers of the Erin Mills New Town (Don Mills Developments) invited five Mississauga representatives to tour England and Scandinavia to view unique, low cost housing. The 10 day tour would start April 30 and end May 9.

Irate Port Credit councillors decided to stock up ammunition to fight the postal zone change-over from Port Credit to Mississauga. An angry deputy-reeve John Caldwell vowed he would not pay his 1971 municipal taxes if his tax bill was addressed to his Port Credit home on Cumberland Drive with the postal address "Mississauga" on the envelope.

APRIL 14

A petition calling for a halt

to high-density development was presented to Mississauga planning board. The 2,000 name petition, prepared by the Forest Glen Community Association, sought to put off the proposed development of 231 townhouses units for Burnhamthorpe Road. The group claimed the population density of Forest Glen had already reached 36 people per acre despite a town plan for only 30 people per acre.

Roy Ivor, Mississauga's famed 92 year old birdman, moved back to his Mississauga Road property to live in a small trailer at the site. About \$22,500 had been contributed to the Ivor Fund.

Dean Pickell, 16, just may have been the first person east of the Rockies to don water skis in 1971 as he went for a whirl on the Credit River. The Erindale Secondary School student was a member of the Canadian National Water Ski team, headed for California

to train with the world championships there.

A bomb went off in a locker at Toronto International Airport. A Brampton man, Ricardo Girogi, 23, was charged with causing an explosion and possession of hashish.

APRIL 21

After three days of budget talks, Mississauga town council managed to whittle only \$304,603 from a 1971 draft budget of \$14.6 million. Town Manager Dean Henson claimed that \$2.5 of \$14.6 million had to be taken out of the budget if the same mill rate was to be maintained and municipal taxes to remain at the 1970 level.

Mayor Bob Speck turned 56 and talked to The Times from his Florida hideaway where he was recuperating from his latest heart ailment. "I'm feeling fine," he said. "I've gained back 10 pounds and I'm hoping for 10 more. I'm really a

Mississauga Indian now with my color pretty near black."

The town approved its council-sponsored 10 day trip to Europe. Six representatives of the town went to Europe on a trip—paid for by the town and organized by Don Mills Developments. The troupe viewed high density housing projects in England and Scandinavia.

A controversial report recommended priority redevelopment of Mississauga Rd.—the same proposal that brought a flood of opposition from area ratepayers and politicians alike one year earlier. The \$12,000 study pointed out the high traffic accident rate on the Mississauga Road section between Dundas and the Base Line.

APRIL 28

Town officials were predicting a \$30 tax hike in 1971 despite efforts to trim the Mississauga \$14.6 million draft budget by \$2.5 million. The average home assessed at \$30,000 paid \$422 in municipal taxes a year earlier.

Nitrate conditions in well water in Peel County could kill young children, Peel Board of Health Chairman Dr. Bob Williams warned. He suggested that deed restrictions be put on some areas of land, ruling that no children under the age of two be allowed to live there.

A 42 year old Toronto man Rezzo Scholtz of Weston Toad was crushed to death when he was pinned between two trucks in the parking lot of Mother Parkers Tea Ltd. on Stanfield Road.

Retired deputy-reeve Roy McMillan, who had farmed 50 acres near Streetsville for the past 15 years, was told to get off his farm to make way for work on the Erin Mills Parkway. McMillan moved into a house he owns on the Second Line West at Meadowvale and said he would auction off his farm assets.