



1990: Delays cost Knob Hill Farms

At A Glance-Jim Quantrell

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Cambridge archivist Jim Quantrell takes our readers back for a glance at events which occurred 10, 15 and 20 years ago.

20 YEARS AGO

First week of May 1990

The much-delayed Knob Hill Farms food terminal project fell even farther behind schedule and the construction delays were costing the company plenty. The opening of the 350,000-square-foot project that was to rise at the southeast corner of the intersection of Hespeler and Pinebush Roads had originally been scheduled for May 1990, but would now be delayed for at least another five months. As a result, Knob Hill Farms was ordered to pay an additional \$540,000 to the city in compensation for lost revenues caused by construction delays. The latest penalties brought the total amount the company had to pay to the city to \$2.04 million for failing to meet its obligations under a construction agreement reached with city officials.

The *Times* announced the creation of the 1990 Good Neighbour Awards, a new awards program that would recognize "outstanding contributions" by individuals, groups and corporations to environmental awareness. The awards were to be presented during National Environment Week in June.

Preston merchants in the area around King and Bishop streets were preparing for a second summer of business upheaval as the city and the region went ahead with the next phase of construction of the Delta-Freeport Trunk Watermain. While every effort was to be made to diminish the economic impact of the project on local businesses, engineers noted that work on the project would disrupt traffic in the area for the next four to six months.

15 YEARS AGO

First week of May 1995

After study and consultation Waterloo Region engineers, taking the concerns of local residents to heart, were recommending that Concession Street remain a two-lane street in the area west of Chisholm Street. A three-lane option had originally been preferred since it was thought to be a safer means of controlling traffic flow in the area. However, the two-lane option with a traffic light and turning lane at Christopher Drive was considered acceptable, although there was some concern that traffic congestion might still occur in the area.

The city was joining forces with a number of partners to see what could be done to improve traffic problems and make the downtown core area more attractive. Under the newly announced project, \$250,000 was to be spent within the river basin in the downtown core to study traffic concerns, develop a master plan for the long-term streetscaping of the downtown core and to implement the first phase of that master plan prior to 1996. One of the issues to be considered was the possibility of revamping Water and Ainslie streets for two-way traffic.

10 YEARS AGO

First week of May 2000

A four-month effort by the organizers of the Cambridge Markets came to fruition when what was termed Canada's second largest indoor flea and antique market opened in the former Smitty's Mall on Holiday Inn Drive. The new antique and flea market was to boast 442 stalls for flea market vendors, along with an additional 64 stalls for antique vendors. In addition to the shops, the new market was to feature a large food court with three vendors and seating for 200 people. Beginning with the opening weekend, the Cambridge Markets was to be the backdrop for magic acts, lookalikes, strolling entertainers, a bike safety rodeo and a mountain bike demonstration. Also part of the festivities was an appearance of Toronto Maple Leafs legend Darryl Sittler.

After eight months of hockey and four rounds of playoffs the Cambridge Winter Hawks were named undisputed champions of Ontario Junior B hockey. The Hawks clinched the Sutherland Cup with a 5-2 win over the St. Catharines Falcons to complete a four-game sweep of the Ontario championship final.

An operational overview of Cambridge Memorial Hospital concluded that the hospital was "very efficiently run" and needed another \$10.8 million to meet the health care needs of the community. The review, conducted over the previous eight months by PriceWaterhouseCoopers along with Canadian Health Care and Geyer Szadowski Consulting, found the hospital needed an extra \$6.2 million pumped into its base funding from the Ministry of Health, in addition to another \$4.6 million for salary and wage compensation and inflation and growth.

The Gore Tower Pavilion in Centennial Park was about to be dismantled and shipped to Mississauga for a \$50,000 facelift. The tower was built in 1895 and once topped the Gore Mutual Insurance headquarters, once located at the north east corner of the intersection of Main and Ainslie streets. The tower was to be shipped to Roof Tile Management who was to replace the copper sheathing and perform other work to preserve the architectural artifact.

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