



## 1988: Advisors arrive for hospital

JIM QUANTRELL, AT A GLANCE

Published on Jul 11, 2008

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

### EVENTS FROM 20 YEARS AGO

#### ***Second week of July 1988***

Two advisors from the Ontario Hospital Association arrived in the city to assist officials at the Cambridge Memorial Hospital in obtaining a balanced budget. Richard Pierce, a retired administrator from the Public General Hospital in Chatham and Trevor Williamson, the director of finance at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, were to assist the board of directors and the administration of the local hospital in developing a balanced budget and in establishing a "firm financial footing" for years to come. The objective of the advisors was to maintain current services as much as possible while ensuring that the budget recognized and complied with the restraints imposed provincial spending cutbacks.

**Continuing drought conditions and the resulting Waterloo Region water use restrictions caused the cancellation of charity car washes at least until September. Regional officials advised the postponement because the constant running of hoses would waste a tremendous amount of water.**

**Members of Heritage Cambridge began conducting hour-long guided tours of the downtown city core and the riverbank. The idea behind the walking tours was to demonstrate to the community just how unique the downtown area really was. Coinciding with the tours was the publication of a newly designed tour guidebook that included three or four self-guided walking tours that could be taken in the downtown section of "Old Galt".**

### EVENTS FROM 15 YEARS AGO

#### ***Second week of July 1993***

After initially rejecting a proposal that Cambridge tie into the Mannheim water supply system, city council changed its collective mind and agreed to the hook up. Council had balked at the plan two weeks earlier after an outbreak of cryptosporidium, an infestation of an intestinal parasite that had been tied to the Mannheim treatment facility and nine regional wells, had caused 146 people across the region to become ill. Council reversed its position after hearing about the safeguards that had been added to the Mannheim plant and learning that Cambridge would not receive water from the Mannheim plant until the following year. Cambridge was to receive water from outside the city only at peak periods or when threatened with water shortages. Council's decision meant that the water mains required to hook into the regional water system would be laid that summer. A contract to do the work valued at \$211,000 was awarded to Steed and Evans of Kitchener.

### EVENTS FROM 10 YEARS AGO

#### ***Second week of July 1998***

After six months of work a study aimed at protecting the historic and rural character of the village of Blair was to be presented to council for consideration. Within the 32-page document was a wealth of information, analysis and direction including the goals of the proposed Blair Heritage Conservation District. It included boundaries, conservation guidelines for historic buildings, landscapes and streetscapes as well as design guidelines. The plan also looked at connecting the Blair core with the city's expanding community trail system.

Several registered practical nurses (RPNs) that delivered services to the Cambridge area were among those on strike at the Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON). A spokesperson for the VON said that 74 practical nurses were on strike. Of that number, 10 to 15 delivered services to Cambridge. The main issue in the dispute was mileage allowance. The two sides were eight cents a mile apart.

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**CAMBRIDGE**TIMES  
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