



1998: One-day teachers' strike averted 23

JIM QUANTRELL, AT A GLANCE

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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.

EVENTS FROM 20 YEARS AGO

Third week of Sept. 1988

Although city staff had been instructed to keep a lid on the details of the project, Cambridge council had chosen one of several proposals for development of the former Capitol Theatre building on Water Street South. A project had been selected during a closed-door meeting of council but details were not to be released to the public until further negotiations with the chosen developer had been completed. The city had purchased the property from Famous Players for \$150,000 in 1987 to ensure that any development of the property would complement the "living levee" concept for the core. The city hadn't had much luck to date in getting the property developed. The previous fall council decided to sell the property to Rossteutscher Holdings Inc. for development of a multi-use complex. That deal had fallen through in the negotiations stage and council issued a new call for proposals.

EVENTS FROM 15 YEARS AGO

Third week of Sept. 1993

Residents on Fountain Street were relying on a series of temporary water pipes to bring them clean drinking water while workers from Waterloo Region cleaned up contamination in the permanent water main. The contamination wasn't in the water supply but rather in the new water main that was being installed. Two weeks previously health officials testing water in the newly built and connected Fountain Street water main found coliform bacteria in samples and advised 150 residents in the construction zone between Shantz Hill Road and Preston Parkway to boil their water until the problem could be corrected. It was believed that the contamination had been caused by dirt or mud that got into one of the water main sections during the

connection.

EVENTS FROM 10 YEARS AGO

Third week of Sept. 1998

The city took the first step in creating a monument in memory of all those who had died at the Park Hill Road dam. A city resident made an impassioned plea to city council outlining why the memorial was needed. "It would be a memorial to Mark (Gage) and Dave (Nicholson) and act as a visual deterrent to children who tend to gather at the dam," she explained. She further suggested that a special committee be created with representation from the Grand River Conservation Authority, Waterloo Regional Police, the City of Cambridge and residents. The committee would make decisions on the size of the monument, construction and location.

A one-day strike at Waterloo Region's high schools was averted when teachers and the public school board bargained into the night to reach a tentative deal. Details of the agreement were to remain confidential until a ratification vote could be held.

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