



1994: City rallies around pools

JIM QUANTRELL, AT A GLANCE

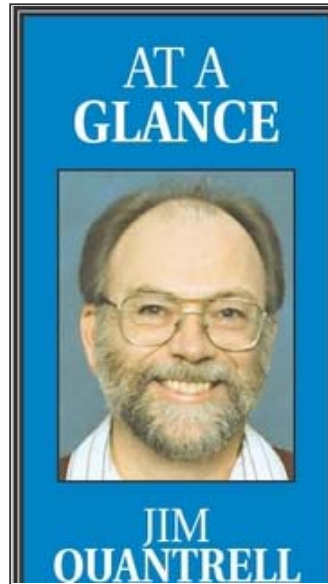
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Cambridge archivist Jim Quantrell takes our readers back for a glance at events which occurred 10, 15 and 20 years ago.

EVENTS FROM 20 YEARS AGO Four week of June 1989

Fed up with ever increasing taxes, including those imposed in the most recent federal budget, a local resident called upon his fellow citizens to refrain from purchasing cigarettes, alcohol and gasoline, three of the most heavily taxed commodities, on June 26. He hoped that if enough people participated it might be enough to make government realize that its citizens were upset with the high rates of taxation and that something needed to be done to "give the average guy a break".

EVENTS FROM 15 YEARS AGO Four week of June 1994



1994: City rallies around pools.

After declaring that the Hespeler Sewage Treatment plant would not be able to accommodate the level of growth planned for the eastern edge of Hespeler, Waterloo regional planners rechecked their figures and were now giving the go ahead for further development in Hespeler East. The regional planners now had the preliminary results of the 1994 Water and Waste Water monitoring report and noted that the capacity figures for the Hespeler treatment system had been upgraded significantly from those of the previous year. It was felt that the system could now support the 2,126 new homes that had already received approval and would soon be under construction. A major source of the new capacity came from the closing of the Artex Woollens factory, a heavy water user that had used about 20 per cent of the Hespeler wastewater capacity.

Chuck Yates resigned from the Waterloo Regional Separate School Board following 31 years of service, beginning with the Preston Separate School Board in 1963. Yates had been chairperson of the Preston Board in 1968 and became the first Cambridge trustee to serve as chairperson of the regional separate school board when he was elected to the post for the 1974-76 term. When he was elected to the post again in 1987 he became the first trustee to serve as the board chairperson for two terms.

Responding to public requests that their neighbourhood pools remain open, the head of the committee conducting the ongoing review of the city's parks, recreational areas and open spaces pledged to do all that was possible to ensure that all existing outdoor swimming pools in the city remained open. The rallying point at the time was the George Hancock pool that needed major renovations and was scheduled to close the following year. The committee chairperson would not, however, support the construction of any new outdoor pools. In its draft proposals the parks and recreation master plan steering committee had recommended that the City of Cambridge phase out the city's outdoor pools and concentrate efforts on building and maintaining indoor pools. Under the plan outdoor pools were to be closed gradually over the next five to 10 years whenever the pools required major investments to keep them going.

EVENTS FROM 10 YEARS AGO Four week of June 1999

The Waterloo Regional Police reported that the crime rate in the region had increased by 5.8 per cent over the previous year. Included in that figure were 4.5 per cent jump in violent crimes and a 7.7 per cent increase in property crimes. The report also showed that the number of homicides had doubled to six from the previous year's total of three. At the same time attempted murder charges increased from three to five. A police

spokesperson suggested that the increases were due to the increased population and the "growing pains" that came with it.

Municipal councils in Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo flatly rejected many of the recommendations for regional reform that had been proposed by the region's eight mayors. While endorsing the continuation of the two-tier system of local government, the area councils were far less receptive to the concepts of a regional transit system and regional garbage collection. There was also strong opposition to turning over control of the water and sewage systems to the region and to the establishment of a single region-wide fire service.

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