



1994: '87 murder on front burner

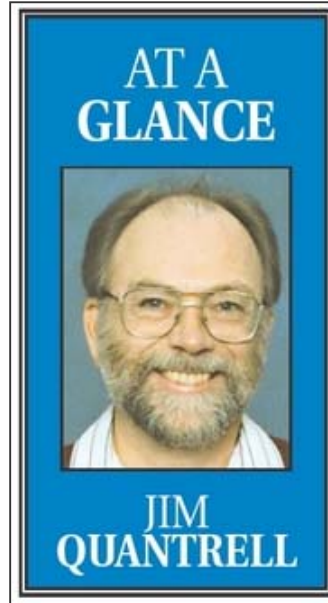
JIM QUANTRELL, AT A GLANCE

May 7, 2009

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

EVENTS FROM 20 YEARS AGO *First week of May 1989*

A former chairperson of the city's Museum and Archives Board, along with nine interested Cambridge residents, had formed a non-profit corporation designed to raise funds for a third study related to developing a destination museum in Cambridge. The study was to look at the feasibility, cost and potential sources of funding for a possible \$10-million museum project that would include an Omnimax Theatre to be built by the IMAX Corporation. The earlier museum studies had raised the possibility of combining an Omnimax Theatre with a major destination museum to be housed in the former Babcock-Wilcox South Works on Grand Avenue. The theatre/museum combination had



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been declared feasible in the earlier studies but those studies had not gone into sufficient detail in describing funding possibilities. The newest study as to determine sources for both the startup funding and perhaps more importantly the ongoing operation funding. A report to council was expected by the end of the year.

EVENTS FROM 15 YEARS AGO *First week of May 1994*

Parking, rooms and telephone services at the Cambridge Memorial Hospital were to cost more following a decision by the Board of Directors to increase fees to help achieve a balanced budget and avoid additional layoffs. The parking fees in the staff and emergency lots were to be raised to \$2.50 per exit although fees at the parking lot on the other side of Coronation Boulevard from the hospital remained unchanged. The cost of a semi-private room was raised from \$125 to \$135 per day while the cost of a private room was raised from \$150 to \$160 per day. It was expected that the fee increases would result in additional revenues for the hospital of \$300,000 per year.

Waterloo Regional Police put the investigation of the 1987 murder of a Cambridge woman back on the front burner and were asking for assistance from the public. The woman's body had been found in River Bluffs Park on September 20, 1987 by three canoeists. She had been reported missing by her husband after she had failed to return home from a trip to a grocery store. At the time her death had been ruled a homicide but police had been unable to turn up any leads during the initial investigation. Police officials noted that the passage of time made the investigation that much more difficult but they hoped that with the new emphasis on the case someone would come forward with new information that would lead to an arrest.

EVENTS FROM 10 YEARS AGO *First week of May 1999*

The City of Cambridge received an "inch thick" in-depth report on how the Cambridge Farmers' Market operated and how to enhance its performance. Chief among the findings were that the market, both directly or indirectly, pumped \$5-million into the local economy and itself generated \$1.5-million annually in sales. It was estimated that the market attracted 150,000 shoppers a year to the downtown. An economic impact statement noted that 86 per cent of the market's shoppers lived within a 10 minute drive of the market and that only 2 per cent of its customers drove more than 30 minutes to get to the market. While the majority of the vendors declared

themselves happy with how the market operated the study suggested areas in which improvements could be made including the hiring of a full time market clerk. Other suggested changes were improvements to the market building itself and an increased effort to "market" the market to enable it to reach a wider audience.

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