

Car garage computer program developed by Acton teacher

An Acton man has come up with a special computer program for the auto repair industry.

Stan Humphries, an airline pilot, first developed a system for storing car repair information about three years ago. His brother, who owns a repair shop in Waterloo, found that the paper work was almost as time-consuming as the repair work. He asked Stan Humphries for help.

"We tried three or four different accounting options," Mr. Humphries said. "None of them worked out that well; finally, we decided to write a brand new program from scratch."

After Steve Humphries had been using the system for a few months, other repair shop owners wanted to buy one like it. "So, what the heck, we sold it to them," Stan Humphries said.

Now, about 43 shops in the Toronto area are using the program and Stan Humphries has been refining it ever since.

The system can provide computer print-outs of a car's maintenance history and provide the shop owner with up-dates on service checks.

"If you're like me and you don't

keep track of oil checks or tune-ups, the system can really help you," Mr. Humphries said.

Mr. Humphries will be opening a Milton office on October 1. He said he is hoping to reach the over 30,000 auto repair shops in Canada. His program is designed for the small business man. He said it is inexpensive and easy to learn.

The entire system costs just over \$4900 and includes a micro computer, disk drives, word processor and the software (program). A shop owner may also buy just the program for \$1500. Mr. Humphries is purchasing the computers from Trojan Computers in Brampton.

"It's an astonishingly low price for a system that is unique to the auto repair business," Mr. Humphries said, adding that a new competitor of his is offering a program that is similar for \$7500.

Mr. Humphries said the costs of computerizing small businesses have plummeted in the past two to three years. In that time, micro computers have become strong enough and fast enough to be a viable alternative to the small business person.

"The computer industry was caught in a state of confusion for a while; the software couldn't keep up with the hardware that was being developed," he said.

Auto systems' program is geared for small business and the small computer, Mr. Humphries said. Many of the programs available now that could be used are still geared to a multi-user environment, he added.

Mr. Humphries said his program helps the customer as well as the owner. In one Toronto shop he visited Mr. Humphries said he could not read an invoice the owner has filled because he had written it too quickly. The computer system can provide clean, typewritten invoices on which the customer can read exactly what work has been performed on his car, he said.

Sept. 9 is proxy voting deadline

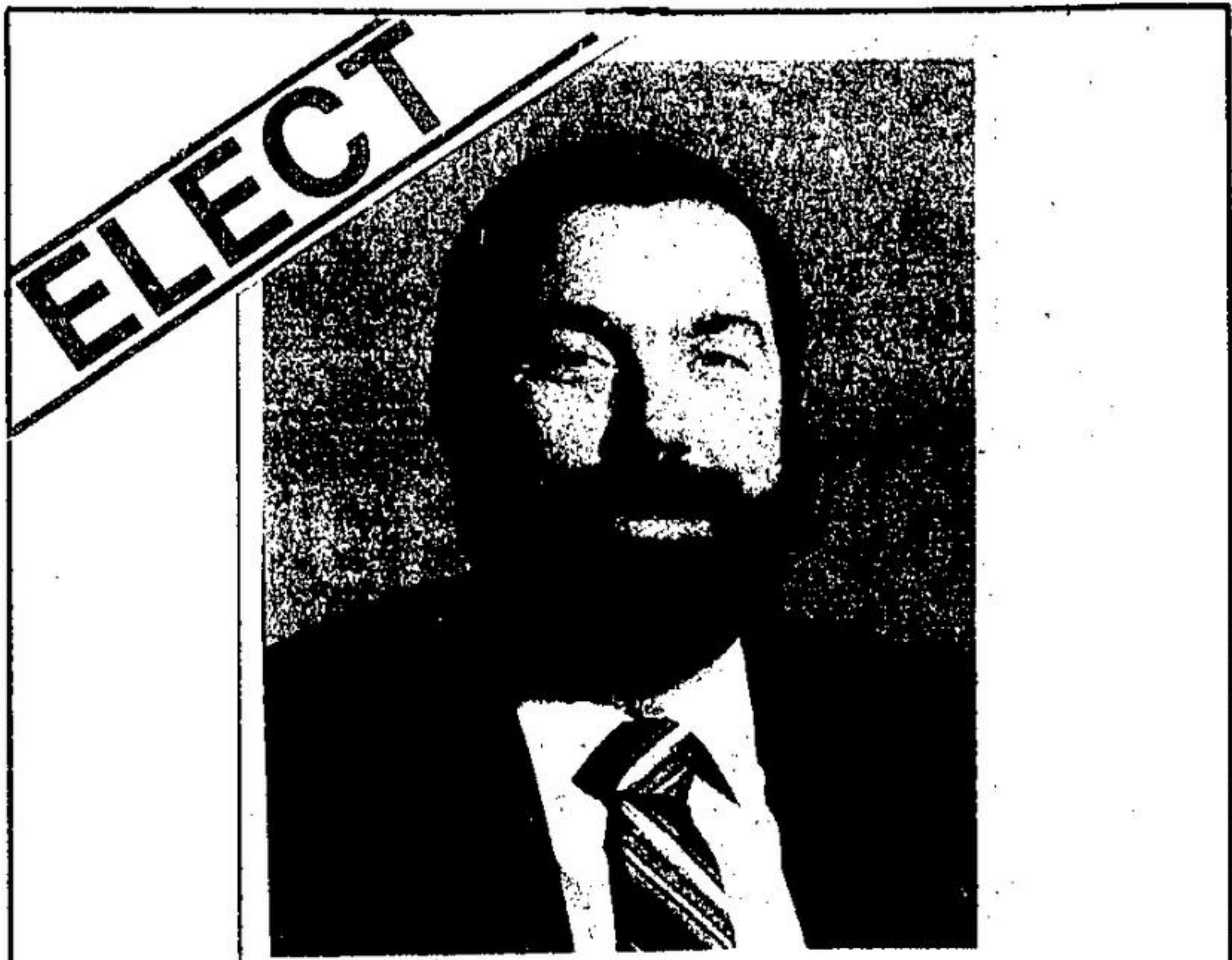
Proxy voting is a provision for certain categories of qualified electors who are unable to cast their ballot in person on the days of the advance polls, or on election day.

Proxy voting is possible for a qualified elector who is a member or spouse or child of a member of the Canadian Forces; employed in the business of long distance transportation; committed to business activities or employer's directions; those physically incapable, because of medical reasons, of attending a polling place; a student duly registered at a recognized educational institution; those participating in a job training or retraining program; or an inmate in a penal or correctional institution not under sentence of imprisonment.

To vote by proxy, the elector authorizes another qualified elector in the same electoral district to cast the vote. A qualified elector may not act as proxy for more than two electors.

Proxy application forms may be obtained from any Returning Officer throughout the Province. The completed form, naming the proxy voter, must be certified by the Returning Officer in the electoral district where the person appointing the proxy resides. The deadline for the certification of proxy votes is 8 p.m. on September 9, the day before election day.

Persons eligible to vote in this election are those who, on election day, are 18 years of age or older, a Canadian citizen, and have resided in Ontario for the six month period prior to election day, and whose names are on the list of electors or on a certificate to vote in the electoral district where they reside.



ELECT

Dave Whiting

Halton North

Progressive Conservative MPP

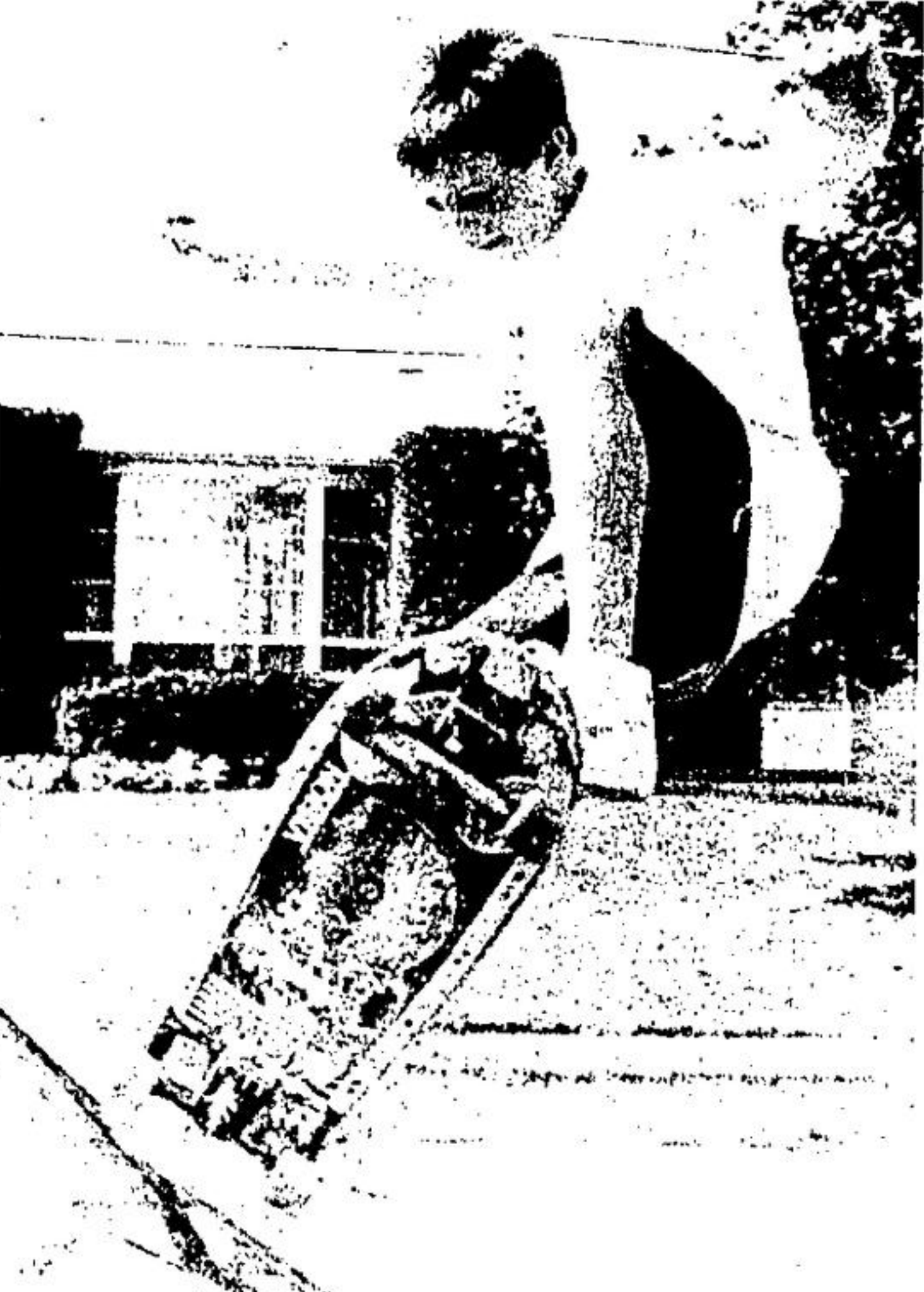
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On September 10, VOTE

WHITING, Dave

To enquire about supporting Dave Whiting, call
853-4370 (Acton); 873-2301 (Georgetown);
875-1230 (Milton); 854-0550 (Nasagaweya)

Authorized by Dave Whiting, Halton North P.C. Candidate



Ramp daredevil

Tony Hawk, 13, performs a skateboard stunt he created off a ramp set up on Faloudon Court Sunday. He is one of about 15 boys belonging to a club known as the Bones Brigade. (Herald photo)

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|--|----------|----------------|
| Sirloin Steaks (Boxes)..... | 8.99 kg. | 409 LB. |
| Prime Rib Steaks (Capless) | 9.99 kg. | 454 LB. |
| Sirloin Tip Steaks | 7.99 kg. | 363 LB. |
| Sirloin Tip Roasts | 7.99 kg. | 363 LB. |
| Lean Ground Beef (5 LB.) | 3.94 kg. | 179 LB. |
| Butt Chops (Boxed)..... | 4.38 kg. | 199 LB. |
| Loin Chops (Centre Cut)..... | 5.99 kg. | 272 LB. |
| Butterfly Loin Chops | 7.99 kg. | 363 LB. |
| Breaded Pork Cutlets..... | 5.99 kg. | 272 LB. |
| Chicken Breasts (Boxed) Boneless & Skinless .. | 9.99 kg. | 454 LB. |
| Black Forest Style Bacon | 6.36 kg. | 289 LB. |

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