

## CHERISH workshops

CHERISH Parent-Child Centre's Private Home Daycare Program will host a variety of workshops during the first half of the year.

This month, bring a collection of things from home you would normally throw out to a workshop called Beautiful Junk. The event will be held January 23 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Behavior management, discipline without tears for all ages, will be the topic of a February 19 workshop while nutrition will be discussed March 19.

Child abuse - what to look for, how it should be dealt with, and what comes next - will be the subject of an April 16 workshop.

May 21 will bring program planning - how to keep children busy, stimulated and content across the age range - and the topic of communicating with difficult people will come up June 18.

All workshops will take place at CHERISH Parent-Child Centre which is located in the Optimist Centre, 311 Commercial St., Milton.

To confirm your attendance or for more information, call 876-4365.

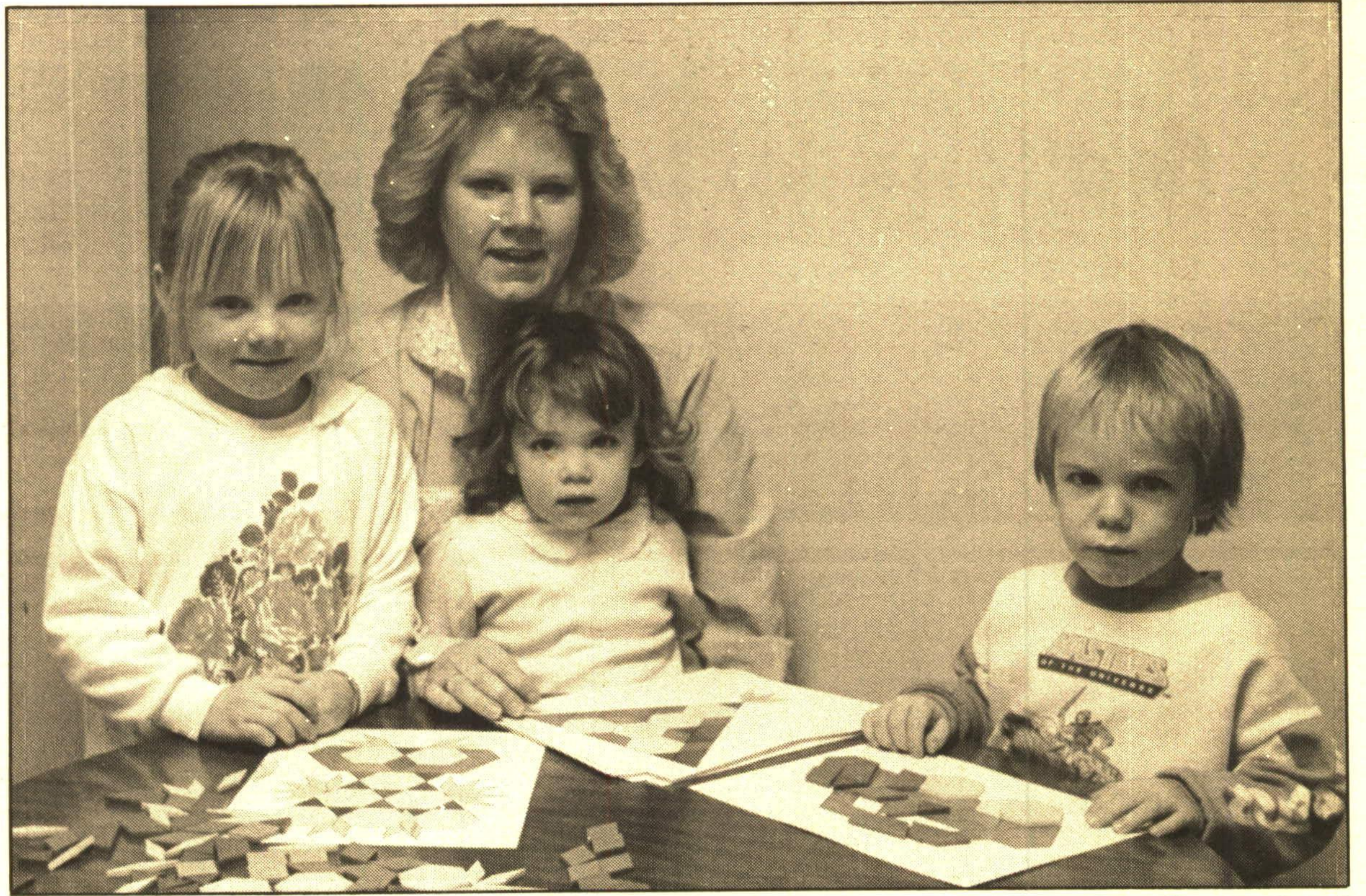
## New women's shelter

The public is invited to an information breakfast meeting February 22, to discuss plans for a second Halton Women's Place shelter opening in south Halton.

The need for a second shelter in south Halton was identified in two studies, one by Halton Women's Place (HWP) and the other by the Halton Social Planning Council.

Please RSVP before February 14, by calling 878-7757.

The meeting starts at 8 a.m. at Herigate Inn, 161 Chisholm Ave. (Hwy 25 and 401), Milton.



Halton Hills resident Teresa McKee takes care of as many as five children in addition to her own two at her home in co-operation with the CHERISH Parent-Child Centre. Joining Teresa's own

daughter Rhonda, 5 (left) are Erica Bowes, 2 and Kyle Johnson, 3 as they enjoy some of the toys in the play room of Teresa's residence.

TED BROWN Halton Hills Weekend

Len Tuitman and Staff present

### Green Thumb Gardening

#### DECORATING WITH HOUSE PLANTS

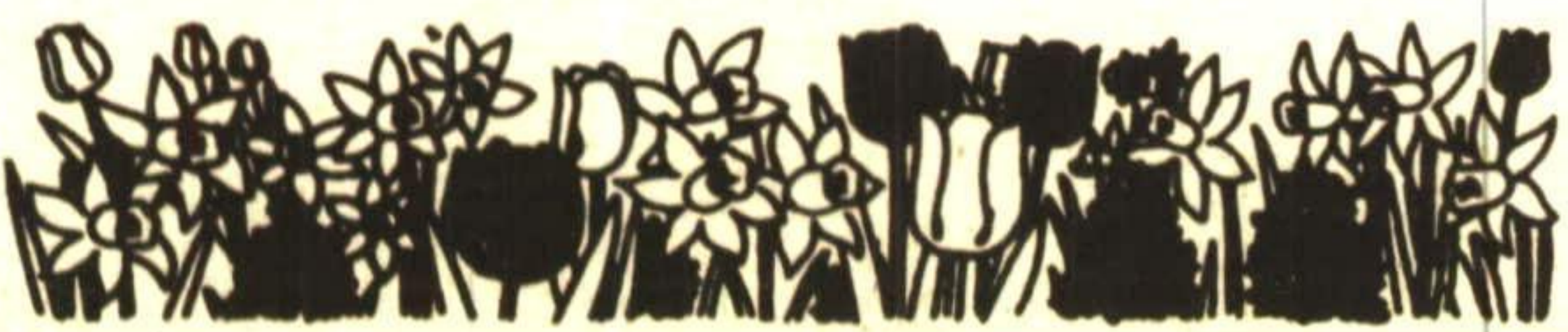
Increasingly, houseplants are used as tools for interior designing. However, houseplants are more than a decoration, because they're living and continuously growing. For this reason plants bring life and visual appeal to a room. The selection, positioning and arrangement of houseplants should be done in a manner to complement your interior design scheme and create a decorative accent too.

Large specimens, such as Rubber Plants, Palms and Dracaenas are usually chosen for their foliage. At maturity, their large size restricts their use to proportionately large rooms. In most houses this is the living room. In the appropriate setting they create an immediate impact, and the necessary vertical accent for this room.

In addition, large specimen plants are most striking when placed alone, and smaller plants when arranged in a grouping together. A small plant is lost in a large room and adds little to the overall decor. Solitary small houseplants like African violets, peperomia and pileas are best when displayed on tables, bookcases, etc.

Most houseplants are more appealing against a plain background. Unfortunately, this isn't always possible. Contrast is the way to overcome patterned backgrounds. In other words, large leaved plants against a small patterned background and small leaved plants with smaller or larger patterns.

Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping, Highway 25, 1 mile south of Acton, 853-2480, will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace!



## Home daycare providers have everything but the children

By KAREN SMITH

The country's recession is being blamed for a slowdown in private home daycare in Milton and Halton Hills.

Local residents who provide licensed daycare in their homes in co-operation with CHERISH Par-

ent-Child Centre have been put on a waiting list for clients - a complete reversal from last year when organizers struggled to meet the needs of parents.

Shelagh Dobson, CHERISH's Private Home Daycare Program co-ordinator, said she believes laid-off workers who no longer need daycare for their children accounts for the decline.

"It's because of the economic situation," she said. "More people are being laid off."

Also a lack of subsidy dollars from Halton Region makes the program unaffordable for some parents, Mrs. Dobson added.

The Private Home Daycare Program was founded in 1983 as an alternative to daycare centres which, in the past, have been filled to capacity.

But right now, "there's only one daycare centre in Milton with a waiting list," she said.

CHERISH currently has 20 spots available for parents in need of full or part-time daycare for their children. Of 28 providers, who look after about 70 children in the north Halton program, 18 live in Milton. One provider can care for up to five children.

Licensed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, CHERISH's Private Home Daycare Program offers care for children aged six weeks to 10 years in government screened homes.

Mrs. Dobson said she regularly visits providers in their homes to ensure a high quality of care is maintained. Flexible arrangements are available to suit part or full-time needs.

Also, daycare providers are encouraged to attend regular workshops to enhance their skills, said Mrs. Dobson.

"It's much more professional than a babysitting service," she explained.

The cost varies according to the hours of service required and the age of the child. For example, the fee for up to three hours of daycare for an infant under the age of two years would be \$10.50.

Meanwhile, a child aged over two years needing 10 to 12 hours of care would cost \$24. Rates are higher for providers who have attended four workshops and have successfully completed a standard first aid course.

For more information about private home daycare, call 876-4365.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY



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(Entrance off Rear Parking Lot)