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| OKTOBERFEST             | - A Tradition!         | Oct 13 |
| 1 DAY SHOPPING          | - Buffalo, NY          | Oct 23 |
| ROYAL WINTER FAIR       | - Exhibition Place     | Nov 10 |
| 1 DAY SHOPPING          | - Buffalo, NY          | Nov 20 |
| SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS     | - A Festival of Lights | Dec 3  |
| OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS | - Dave Hoy             | Dec 8  |
| LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE   | - Peoples Church       | Dec 19 |

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# New mission for Amnesty group

By JANET DUVAL  
 Special to The Independent/Free Press

The Halton Hills Amnesty International group has a new mission: to see a young Cuban civil engineer released from prison.

Thirty two-year-old Israel Marcelino Gonzalez Leyva was jailed for 10 years in 1991, on a charge of "enemy propaganda" for peacefully speaking against Fidel Castro's Communist government in Cuba. The government immediately stripped him of his professional title as well.

"It's a standard of Amnesty International never to demand the release of anyone who has used or advocated violence" says Linn Kingston, who coordinates Israel's case for the group. "We'll work full out, no holds barred, to obtain this

man's release."

Upon being assigned the case, the group immediately posted a barrage of cards and short letters to the prison, hoping that guards might let some through to Israel Gonzalez.

They also lobbied prison officials to ensure he was being properly fed and cared for, and sent letters and faxes to Castro and member of his cabinet.

It is the experience of Amnesty International groups around the world that such letters do make a difference.

Government officials may simply find it easier to release a prisoner than to pay staff to open and translate floods of foreign mail about him or her.

Prison officials, aware that the world appears to be watching them,

may give inmates better treatment, including a reduction in the use of torture.

Recently, the Halton Hills group received a reply from their "prisoner of conscience" several pages of tiny, precise Spanish printed on onionskin paper. Apparently the letter was smuggled from prison and posted here by his sister Beatriz, who is allowed to visit her brother once every two months. It was translated for the group by local supporter Gilda Brown.

"Your encouraging letter can only be compared to a miraculous ray of light in the midst of so much darkness," he writes. "I don't know how you learned of my existence in this grave for the living."

As a child, he says, he enjoyed writing science fiction stories, one of which won a contest in a Cuban magazine. "I still hope that one day, when I regain my freedom, I may renew this old and secret fondness."

"I send affectionate greetings to everyone of those, up to now unknown friends, to whom I owe so much gratitude and eternal thanks."

Anyone interested in helping with this case, particularly through letter writing or occasional Spanish translation, can contact Linn at 873-3383.

The group also meets monthly at St. Francis of Assisi School in Georgetown. It's next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12th. Everyone is welcome.



## CARD OF THANKS

VIANA: The funeral of Teresa de Jesus Viana, who died suddenly in Georgetown, September 14, 1993, at the age of 24, took place from Jones & Son Funeral Home to Holy Cross Church where Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Father Dan Cyr. Interment took place in Greenwood Cemetery. Left to mourn her loss are her sons, Anthony and Jonathan; her parents Tony and

Frances Viana; brothers Nelio and Phillip. The family wishes to extend sincere thanks and appreciation to the Portuguese Community, family, friends and neighbours who assisted them at the time of Teresa's death. A special thank you to the Paramedics; the Emergency Room Staff of Georgetown Hospital; Father Dan Cyr, Father Ed House, the funeral choir of Holy Cross Parish. To everyone who brought food to the home, sent floral tributes, Mass Cards, phone calls, letters and cards of sympathy, to the CWL of Holy Cross for the reception; to everyone we extend our sincerest thanks.

We leave Teresa to rest in the peace of Christ until that day when we will all be together in eternal life.

Tony, Frances, Anthony, Jonathan, Phillip, Nelio Viana Family

## DIRECTORY OF HALTON HILLS Churches & Temples

### Georgetown Alliance Church

Main St. south of Maple Ave.  
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 Pastor Paul Little 873-0249  
 Pastor Tim Brown  
 Sunday School 9:45 am  
 with classes for the whole family  
 Sunday Worship 10 am  
 Wed. night Children's Program 7 pm  
 Youth Program Tues./Friday

### Christian Reformed Church

Trafalgar Rd.  
 SUNDAY 10:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.  
 Rev. P. Stadt  
 LISTEN TO THE BACK TO GOD HOUR  
 Sunday 8:00 A.M. Burlington FM 108  
 Radio 10:00 P.M. Guelph CJOY 1460  
 Faith 20 TV  
 Mon. - Fri. - 5:30 A.M. CH. 6 & 41  
 Sat. - 7 & 10 PM Cable 33  
 \*\*\*  
 Ladies' Coffee Break Tues. 9:30 a.m.  
 (Sept. through May)

### KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 Main St.S.  
 Minister Rev. Peter Barrow B.A., B.D.  
 MORNING WORSHIP 11 a.m.  
 Ministers Office 877-2848  
 Secretary's Office 877-7585

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### THE SALVATION ARMY

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 853-1140  
 Captain L. McNutt  
 Lieutenant L. Roberts  
 Sunday Services:  
 9:45 a.m. Christian Education  
 11: a.m. Worship Service  
 7: p.m. Gospel Service  
 Ladies Fellowship - Thursdays  
 Men's Fellowship - Saturday (once a month)  
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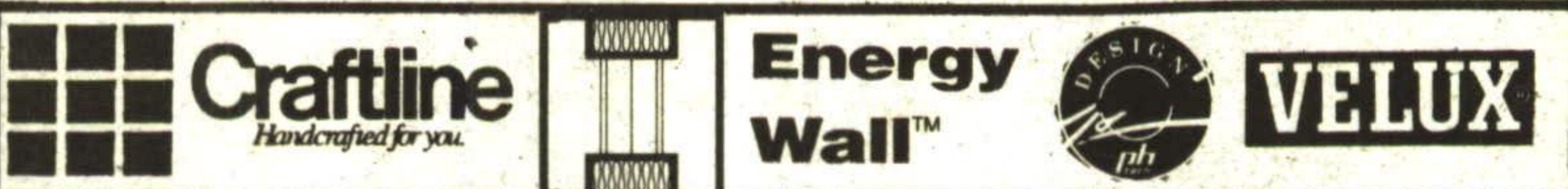
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### GEORGETOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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 Kids Klub - Begins Thurs., Oct. 7th  
 6:30-7:30 p.m., ages 4-12  
 "Time Out For Ladies" - Tuesday 9:30-11 a.m. (Child Care Provided)  
 Pastors: Captain & Mrs. David Kennedy 877-1374

### ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

60 Guelph Street (beside High School)  
 877-8044  
 HARVEST THANKSGIVING SUNDAY, OCT. 10th  
 8:00 am Holy Communion  
 9:30 a.m. Family Eucharist  
 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist



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# LOOK

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HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

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 Youth Pastor Bob Barwick

**SUNDAY SERVICES**  
 9:45 am Sunday School & Adult Elective  
 11:00 am Morning Worship Pastor Woodcock Preaching  
 6:00 pm Equipping the Saints  
 "People Caring For People"  
 Wed. 7:00 p.m. Family Night  
 Fri. 7:30 p.m. Youth Alive