

# recreation & entertainment

YOUR GUIDE TO WHERE TO GO & WHAT TO DO IN HALTON

## The 32nd Annual Canadian Federation of University Women Book Sale

STORY & PHOTO BY ANN KORNUA

The CFUW are setting up in the Milton Mall for their 32nd annual book sale and are urging the community to keep the book donations coming in. This year the CFUW book sale will also feature used CD's, DVD's, audio books, and computer games along with their selection of books. Donation bins are located in the Milton Public Library and inside Zellers department store in the Milton Mall. The sale will take place in the centre of Milton Mall by the main office on April 8th and 9th during mall hours. Setting up for the annual book sale were CFUW members (from left) Publicity Manager Margaret Gray, Co Chair Kathy Sellers, Co Coordinator Brenda Trikey, CFUW president Jennifer Minogue and Co Coordinator Lorraine Gibson.



## from the bookshelf

A REVIEW BY DIANE DINEEN

### Midnight at the Dragon Cafe

Judy Fong Bates

McClelland and Stewart, 2004

Every Ontario town has one, a small Chinese restaurant that serves "Chinese" and Canadian food. Few know the story behind the scenes; the lives lived by the immigrants who serve them their meals.

In the novel *Midnight at the Dragon Cafe*, Annie, now an adult, looks back on her 1960's childhood in a small town an hour outside Toronto. She was born in China, coming to Canada with her mother to be re-united with her father. The father, who is much older than the mother, has been running a Chinese restaurant and sending money to support his family in China. Soon after the arrival of his wife and daughter, his adult son, born during his first marriage, joins the household.

Language, unusual names, different clothing, unfamiliar customs, lack of communications with the local residents, working very long hours at menial tasks, a very limited social life, family pressures to succeed; all these are seen through the eyes of a child in public school. As the child becomes older she becomes aware of an unusual secret within her family, one with the potential to cause great pain.

Even success at school, usually much sought by immigrant parents, can become

a sore point between a mother and her child. The mother sees her daughter taking on the ways of the town residents rather than traditional Chinese ways and she feels she is losing control of her daughter.

The difficulties caused by the 1923 laws against Chinese immigration are apparent. Many men came to Canada ahead of their families hoping to soon bring their families to join them. The law was passed before many families could be reunited. Men grew old alone in Canada while their wives and children continued to hope for the possibility to come to Canada. Other men were never able to marry as no suitable women were at hand. Several characters in this novel are in this awkward position.

The unusual secret becomes a serious problem causing considerable family anguish.

Annie's father shows remarkable courage as he "swallows his bitterness", rises above the situation, and continues as head of the family.

This Canadian novel is positive even as it demonstrates the courage and strength brought by many Chinese newcomers to this country.

## Top 10 Rentals

THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES AT HOME

This week's Top Ten Movie Rentals brought to you by



- |                                   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. <b>The Incredibles</b>         | 6. <b>The Notebook</b> |
| 2. <b>Alfie</b>                   | 7. <b>Ray</b>          |
| 3. <b>Ladder 49</b>               | 8. <b>Saw</b>          |
| 4. <b>Flight of the Phoenix</b>   | 9. <b>Taxi</b>         |
| 5. <b>Exorcist: The Beginning</b> | 10. <b>I Huckabees</b> |

## New Releases

### The Incredible

Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson

Bob Parr and his wife Helen used to be among the world's greatest crime fighters, saving lives and battling evil on a daily basis. Fifteen years later, they have been forced to adopt civilian identities and retreat to the suburbs where they live "normal" lives with their three kids, Violet, Dash and Jack-Jack. Itching to get back into action, Bob gets his chance when a mysterious communication summons him to a remote island for a top assignment. He soon discovers that it will take a super family effort to rescue the world from total destruction.

rated: G as suitable for everyone!

## Robots

Brought to you by the creators of *Ice Age*, Academy Award winning director Chris Wedge gives audiences a hilariously mechanical world of *Robots*. Set in the fictitious and clanky world of Robot city, the characters in *Robots* are somewhat reminiscent of *The Wizard of Oz*. Hoping to find the solutions to their problems, a team of tin friends eagerly follows newcomer Rodney Copperbottom (voice played by Ewan McGregor) through his adventures as an inventor. As a young genius trying to make the world a better place, Rodney runs into all kinds of issues when he initially leaves the comfort of his parents' home to venture to Robot City. How will he get in touch with Bigweld (Mel Brooks) and get his ideas heard? Where will he stay in the big city? What if companies turn down his inventions and he is forced to go back home? Amidst all this confusion in Robot city, an evil conspirator named Ratchet (played by Greg Kinnear) has taken over Bigweld's company and discontinued all the robotic spare parts spelling trouble for any of the poorer robots who can't afford full upgrades.

## film review

By LAURA COOK

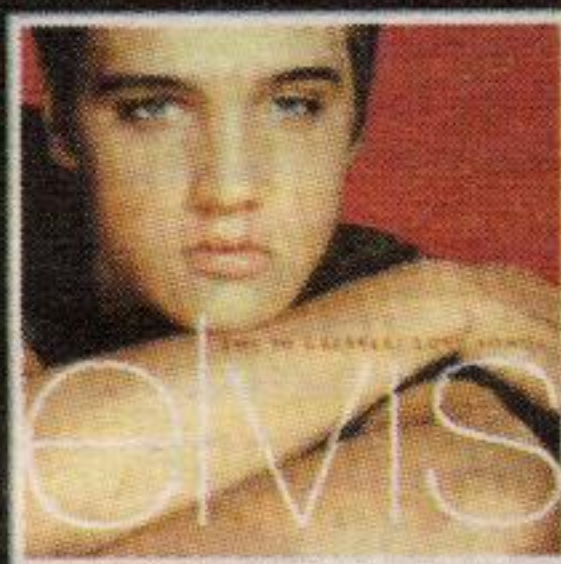
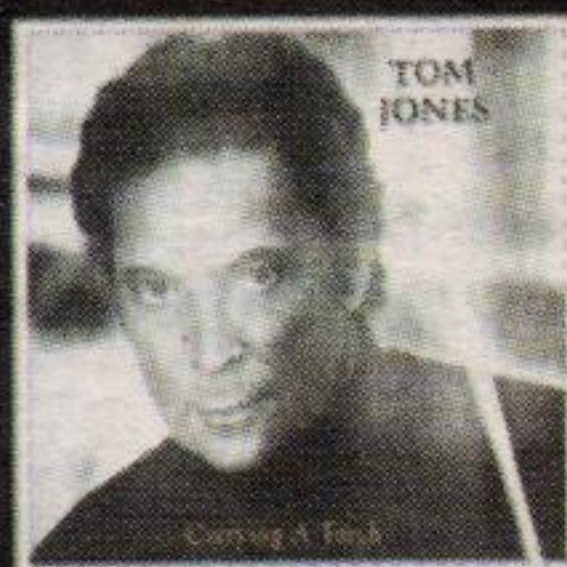
What will happen to the robot population? Can Rodney save the day?

This film is a great example of a true family film that will please just about any aged audience member. Although it is done in full animation, there is so much visual stimulation that any adult will be more than impressed with the detail that animators put into the setting. With a cast consisting of Ewan McGregor, Robin Williams, Halle Berry, Mel Brooks, Drew Carey, Jim Broadbent, Dianne Wiest, Jamie Kennedy, Jennifer Coolidge, D.L. Hughley, and Dan Hedaya, audience members are sure to recognize the many voices that perform in the film. With a surprising MPAA rating of PG for some brief language and suggestive humor, this film is definitely one you could relax and bring the kids to over March break. Running for approximately ninety minutes, *Robots* is sure to bring a smile to your face.

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prime time radio

All Time Favourites



\* BEATLES \* FRANK SINATRA \* NAT KING COLE  
\* TONY BENNETT \* DIONNE WARWICK \* TOM JONES

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