

# Local conservation areas offer maple syrup programs

How do you teach a four year old about conservation? One great way, at this time of year, is through their taste buds.

Yes, that sweet taste of spring in Ontario, known as maple syrup, can be used as a tool to give young children a better appreciation of the natural world.

The Halton Region Conservation Authority accommodates over 6,000 students annually during the maple syrup program held at

the Mountsberg Conservation Area located just west of Campbellville. The school program operates from February 28 to April 17 and there are still a few openings available. Demonstrations are also held on weekends and holidays March 3 until April 14, and daily March 11 to 22.

The students range in age from nursery school level to about Grade 3. The program includes a puppet presentation with a talking maple tree named

"Sugar" and a rambunctious red squirrel named "Bushy."

This is followed by an exciting horse-drawn wagon ride out to the sugar bush where the students go on a guided hike that ends at the evaporator house.

Once in the sugar bush, the students are taught how to tap a maple tree and volunteers are chosen to help select a tree, drill the hole and set up the equipment.

The visit to the steamy and

sweet-smelling sugar house is where the real magic takes place as the children learn how the sap is changed into delicious maple syrup. And this is the point where everyone gets a taste of maple syrup. Gleaming eyes and sticky fingers are everywhere as the sample cups of syrup are quickly devoured. This is one of the best ways to create some unforgettable childhood memories as well as cultivate a better understanding of the environment.

The Sweet Water Season takes place at Crawford Lake Conservation Area. Here you can explore a reconstructed Iroquoian village and learn how native people discovered sweet water and turned it into maple sugar. Maple products are available in the gift shop.

For more information and group bookings for the Mountsberg maple syrup program, call the Halton Region Conservation Authority at (905) 336-1158.

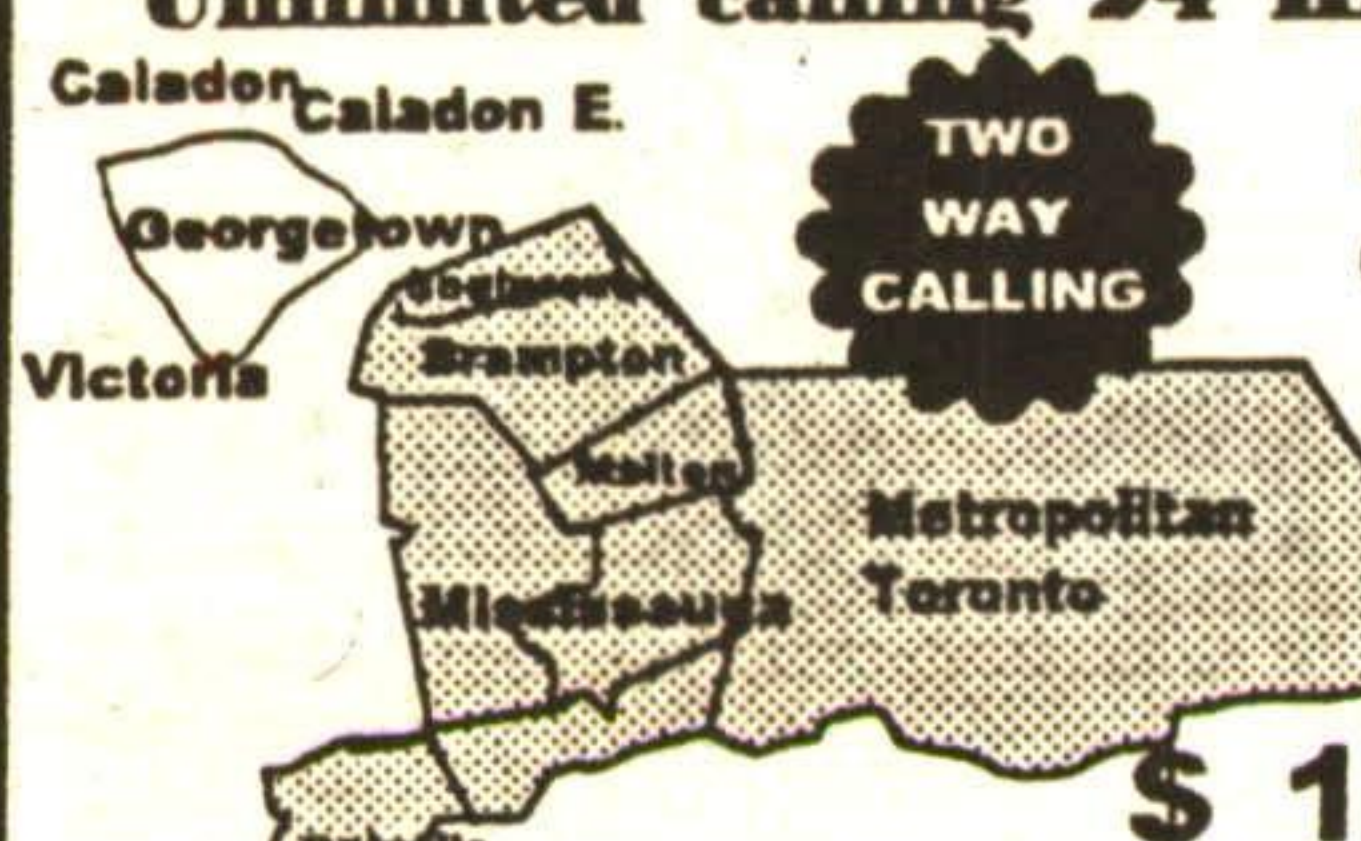
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<p><b>KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> 116 Main St. S.</p> <p>Minister Rev. Peter Barrow B.A., B.D. MORNING WORSHIP &amp; SUNDAY SCHOOL 11 A.M. TIME FOR REFLECTION AND RENEWAL</p> <p>Ministers Office 877-2848 Secretary's Office 877-7585</p>	<p><b>THE BAHAI FAITH FROM A-Z</b></p> <p><b>N</b></p> <p><b>NOBILITY</b></p> <p>Every human being has a spiritual as well as a physical nature. It is the part which distinguishes human beings from the animals. God asks, "Noble have I created thee, wherefore dost thou abuse thyself? Rise therefore unto that for which thou has been created!"</p> <p>Sponsored by the Baha'is of Halton Hills, 873-INFO</p>
<p><b>THE SALVATION ARMY</b></p> <p><b>GEORGETOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH</b></p> <p>318 Guelph Street (in Fabricland Mall) SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30 a.m. Pastors: Captains David &amp; Donna Kennedy 877-1374</p>	<p><b>To advertise in this feature call Cindi 873-0301</b></p>

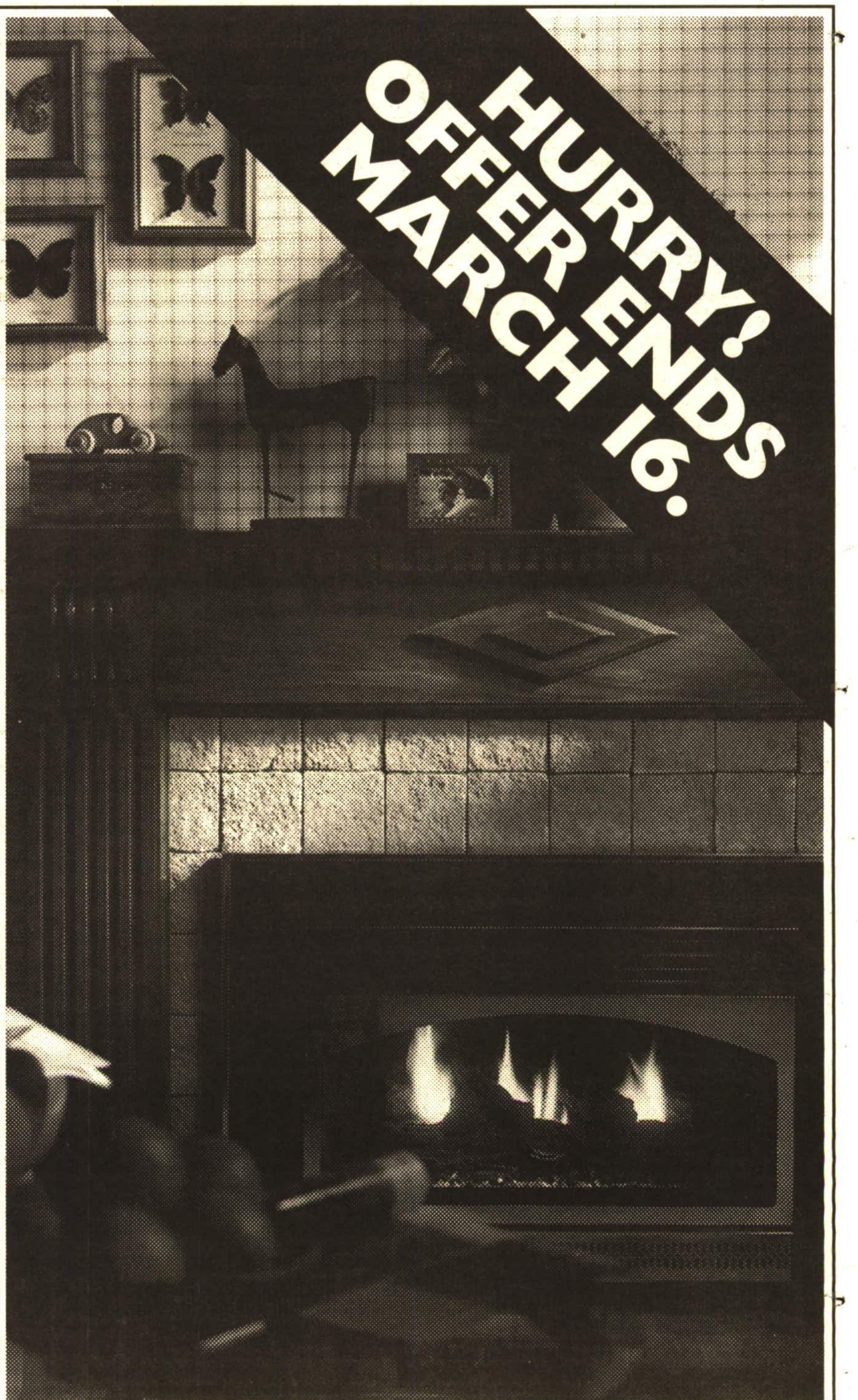
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