

## Nominate now for Junior Citizen award

**N**ominations are now being accepted for Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year awards.

In an effort to recognize the spirit and achievements of young people, and the contributions they have made to their community, community newspapers (including this one) across Ontario are asking you to nominate a deserving youngster, between the ages of 6 and 18, for an Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

Young people can be recognized for community service, heroic acts, making contri-

butions while living with limitations or for being "good kids", helping to make life better for others.

Now in its 20th year, Junior Citizen Awards have recognized the achievements of more than 260 young people and 16 groups during the past 19 years.

Nomination forms will be accepted until Oct. 31 and are available at The Independent & Free Press office (The Georgetown Marketplace, 280 Guelph St., Unit 29) or by calling the Ontario Community Newspaper Association at (905) 639-8720.



### Truck rollover

Halton Hills firefighters surveyed the damage after a southbound gravel truck rolled on its side on the Fourth Line, south of 22 Sideroad at 8:30 a.m. Monday. The truck, which was loaded at the time, came to rest in the west ditch. No serious injuries were reported.

Photo by Ted Brown

## Special needs kids paperwork bill: \$500,000

**P**aperwork required for special needs students costs more than \$500,000 per year, public school trustees have been told.

"This doesn't include class time lost for vulnerable and needy students," said superintendent Brenda Kearney. "It's because (supervisory) officers are needed to do paperwork that the time is lost."

Kearney's observations came during an ISA (Individualized Student Application) cost analysis she provided at last Wednesday's Halton District School Board meeting.

The applications are required to obtain funds for high needs students from the lump sum the board receives annually.

"The paperwork generated by the applications is extremely time-consuming," Kearney said after the meeting. "Report cards and timetables are required and the Ministry of Education keeps changing the process for its applications."

This means officers have to start over

again with applications, instead of using data collected the previous year, said the student services superintendent.

Milton Trustee Erica Andrew noted the cost estimate represents salaries paid to staff not in the classroom.

"The \$500,000 represents money for special services personnel like psychologists, speech pathologists and others," said Kearney. "It's 1,500 person days lost from the classroom and it takes an army of people to do those things."

She said a Supervisory Officers Paper is being prepared by school boards to identify issues and make recommendations for improvements during the next 3-5 years. It will be sent to the education ministry.

Halton Hill Trustee and board chair Ethel Gardiner said the cost is 'quite staggering' and indicates problems with the provincial funding formula.

"And moving supervisors out of class, you can't put a cost on that," she said.

—By Dennis Smith, special

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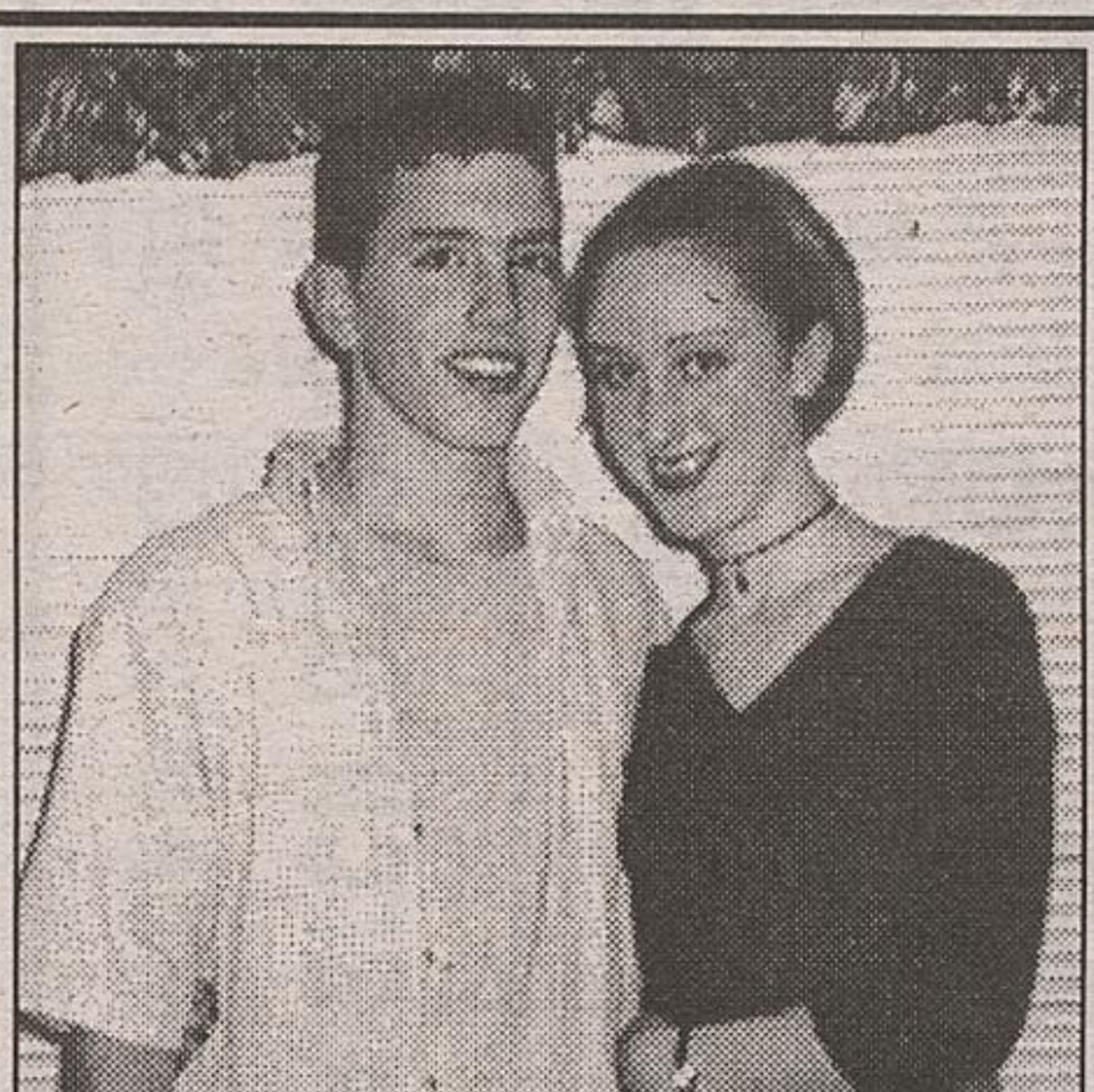
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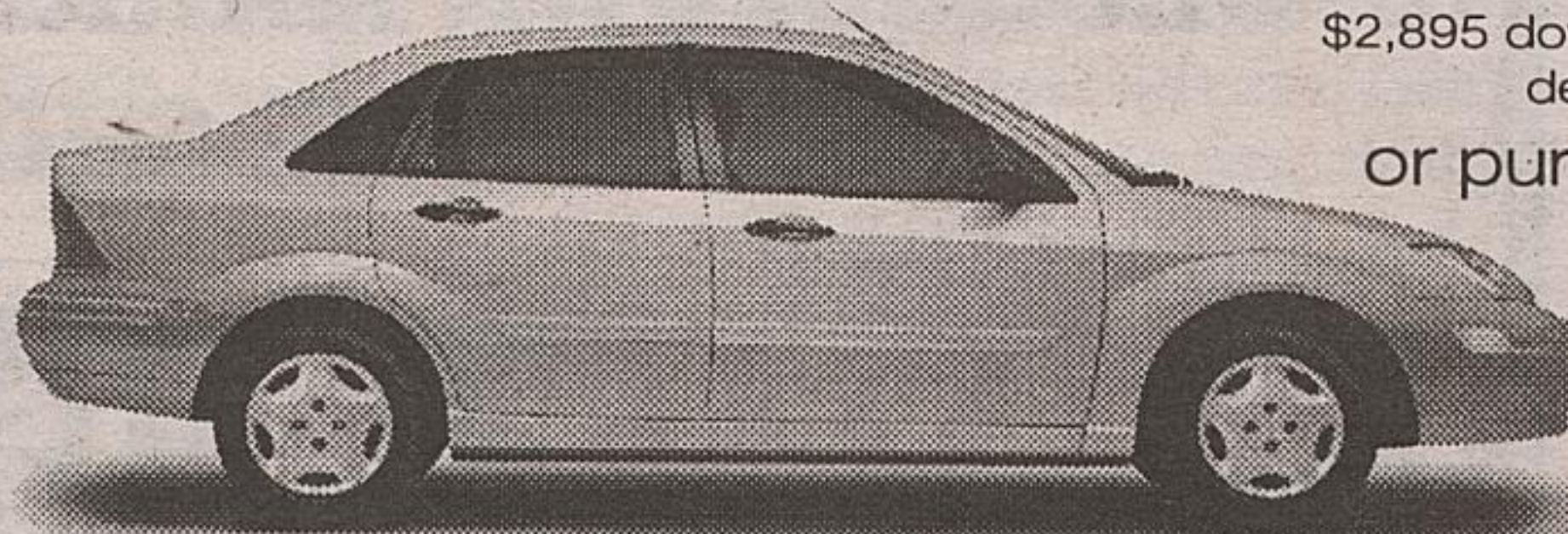
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