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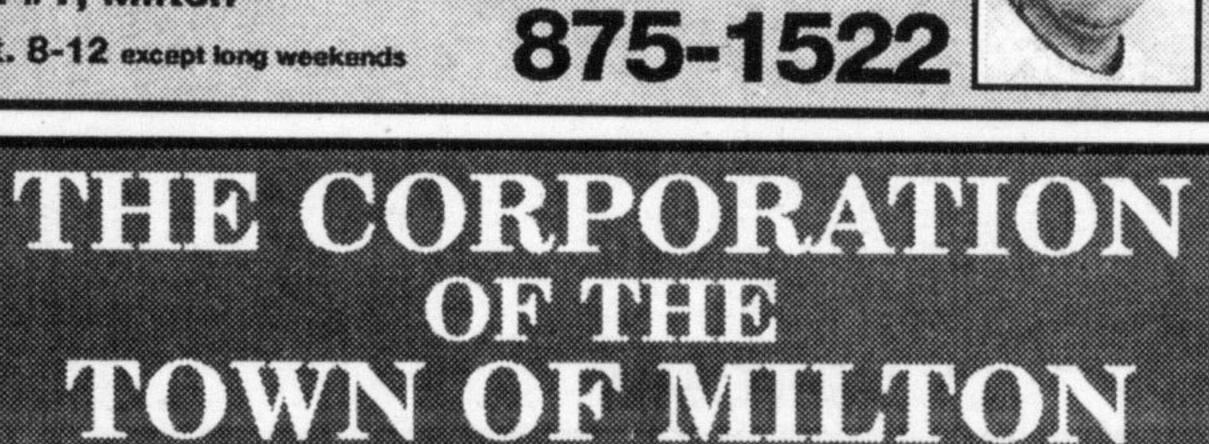


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House Invite

Thursday, July 10th 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

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Plan to visit the Centre, take a tour, and enjoy demonstrations from Clubs and Programs.



Halton has strategies for youth

By BRAD REAUME

The Champion

Concerned Oakville parents kicked off what has become Halton's strategy on substance abuse.

Youth crime and drug abuse among youths in the Maplegrove-Clearview area of Oakville has increased dramatically. Thirty-one high school students from Oakville Trafalgar and Queen Elizabeth Park were admitted to hospital for drug related problems versus only four the previous year.

The strategy, introduced to Halton's health and social services committee recently, is intended to be a tool-kit for community action. It includes efforts to: coordinate services and resources; raise awareness; increase community supports, and youth activities, and provide educators with the skills to identify and respond to problems.

"The problem doesn't exist in one neighbourhood in one community," said Halton Chair Joyce Savoline. "It is necessary to put together a program for the whole region."

Among the community supports will be a web site in which parents and youths can turn for information. Committee members heard how people want to get information anonymously.

"It's a tool," said Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale. "Even if it only snags a few people it's worth it. It's low cost."

Halton's medical officer of health Dr. Bob Nosal said the web site also allows for feedback from those who access it. There's no region-wide telephone hotline, but several organizations have help lines.

"Unless someone in crisis is arrested they cannot access help (through the Health Department) and that is clearly an issue," said Dr. Nosal.

Mayor Mulvale pointed to what she called "affluent, malnourished kids from busy households or kids forgotten from failed relationships" as being the most vulnerable.

According to a 1995 Addiction Research Foundation study, municipalities with alcohol policies have 61.4 per cent less underage drinking, 54.5 per cent less vandalism, 36.4 per cent fewer police interventions, 31.8 per cent fewer public complaints and a host of lesser advantages.

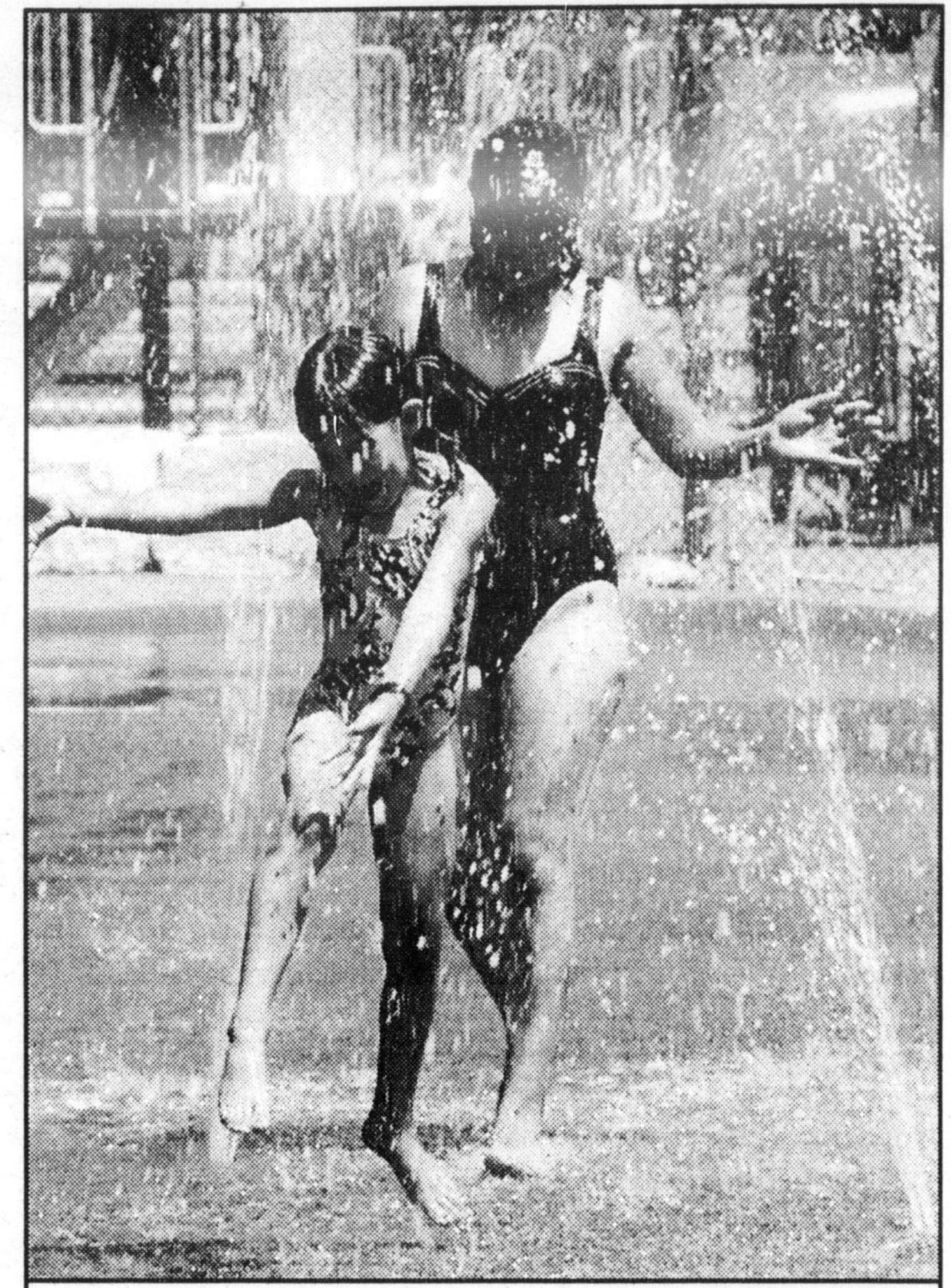


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Splish splash

Six-year-old Laura Burrell with mom Ceu enjoyed the Splash Zone cool water spray at Rotary Park recently. It's one of Milton's busiest spots in the summer.

World's biggest fishing tournament coming up

Everyone is invited to take part in the world's biggest fishing tournament, the Great Salmon Hunt on Lake Ontario, July 12 to August 29.

Walter Oster of the Toronto Sportsmen's Show reorganized the event to help reestablish sport fishing on Lake Ontario. A tournament ticket costs \$25, with one day tickets available for \$15. Tickets are available at participating Canadian Tire stores, The Sports Authority, and by calling 695-0311. A portion of proceeds are dedicated to the aid of sport fishing.

There are \$300,000 in prizes to be won.

The tournament has 14 weigh stations from Port Dalhousie to Wellington. Catches must be taken to an official weigh station which operates 8 a.m. through 8 p.m. every day. Scores will be reported in the Toronto Star and broadcast on CFRB.

The grand prize is valued at \$75,000 for the heaviest salmon caught during the seven week tournament. In addition a draw will be held for a prize package of approximately \$50,000 value. Weekly mini contests will award approximately \$7,000 to each weekly winner as well as several other prizes.

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