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Weekend Champion

139
SERVING MILTON FOR YEARS

KAREN'S FLOWER SHOP
Flowers say it best on Easter Sunday, Apr. 4th
487 Laurier Ave.
878-2881

A Metroland Community Newspaper

Vol. 140 No. 7

Friday, April 2, 1999

28 Pages

75¢ (GST included)

Y2K will cost board \$332,000

Ongoing efforts to avoid Y2K computer problems will cost the Halton District School Board at least \$332,000.

The board approved allocating that sum from its working reserve recently, following a recommendation by superintendent Keith Johnson.

He noted much of the work to avoid problems in 2000 has been done by staff, but extra help had to be contracted.

"The identification, planning and implementation of year 2000 solutions continues to be the largest single undertaking the board has experienced in the last 15 years," said Mr. Johnson in his information report. "Hardware and software application replacement is a very people-intensive activity."

Of the reserve funds approved, \$162,000 will go toward contract staff helping with upgrades and implementations.

• see **SCHOOL** on page 12



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

✓ Easter fun

Five-year-old Brandi Jagoe, a senior at Rainbow Village Daycare, has a hopping good time on the slide after taking part in the daycare's hop-a-thon for muscular dystrophy Wednesday morning.

Since August Gevaert no-show at most council meetings

By IRENE GENTLE
The Champion

Ward 3 residents may be justified if they feel neglected since an extended work assignment in Israel has made Councillor Lieven Gevaert a virtual stranger in council chambers.

"Being here is not perfection for my constituents," admitted Mr. Gevaert, calling The Champion at 11 p.m. Israel time. "I can do a better job when I'm home. Let's not kid ourselves."

Since taking on work as a consultant for a firm in Israel last August, Mr. Gevaert has been all but missing in action at Town committee and council meetings.

Attendance records show that Mr. Gevaert managed to make only 15 out of 23 administration and planning committee meetings in 1998.

That put him just one or two meetings ahead of Councillors Rick Day and Rick Malboeuf, neither of whom are even part of the committee.

Neither is councillor Art Melanson, who nonetheless managed to show up every

• see **GEVAERT** on page 10

NEWSLINES

Food drive underway

The Salvation Army has kicked-off its Easter Food Drive with a plea for canned meat and kids' snacks.

Items such as peanut butter, jelly and pasta are in demand during the mini-drive that began yesterday.

The Salvation Army box is stationed at Loblaws throughout the Easter weekend and into next week.

Typically, the Sally Ann stocks up on food during their mega drive at Christmas.

The Easter drive is a smaller initiative, usually picking up an extra 40 to 60 bags of food.

WEEKEND INSERTS

- A & P • Biway • Campbellville Foodland (rural)
- Canadian Tire • Dr. Green Lawn care (P)
- Future Shop • M & M Meats
- Milton District Hospital
- Sears

Three youths steal van, escape custody

Three young offenders are being sought in connection with the theft of a van in north Burlington Sunday.

Four residents of an open custody youth program in Milton were on an escorted outing at Burlington's

Mount Nemo at about 5:20 p.m. when one of them grabbed the keys to the van from their supervisor, said Halton Regional Police spokesman Sgt. Frank Phillips.

The youth — along with two others — ran to the van and made good on their escape attempt. They were

last seen driving westbound on Colling Road. No one was injured.

Police attended the area but the van and occupants couldn't be located.

The stolen vehicle is a 1996 Ford Aerostar van, blue with gold trim. It's equipped with a screen separating the passengers from the driver.

The license number is 818 BPX.

The suspects — two 16 and one 15 — are from Toronto, Mississauga and Montreal.

Anyone with information is asked to call detectives at 825-4747, ext. 2315, or Crime Stoppers at 825-8477.

Join Milton Bible Church for Easter Services

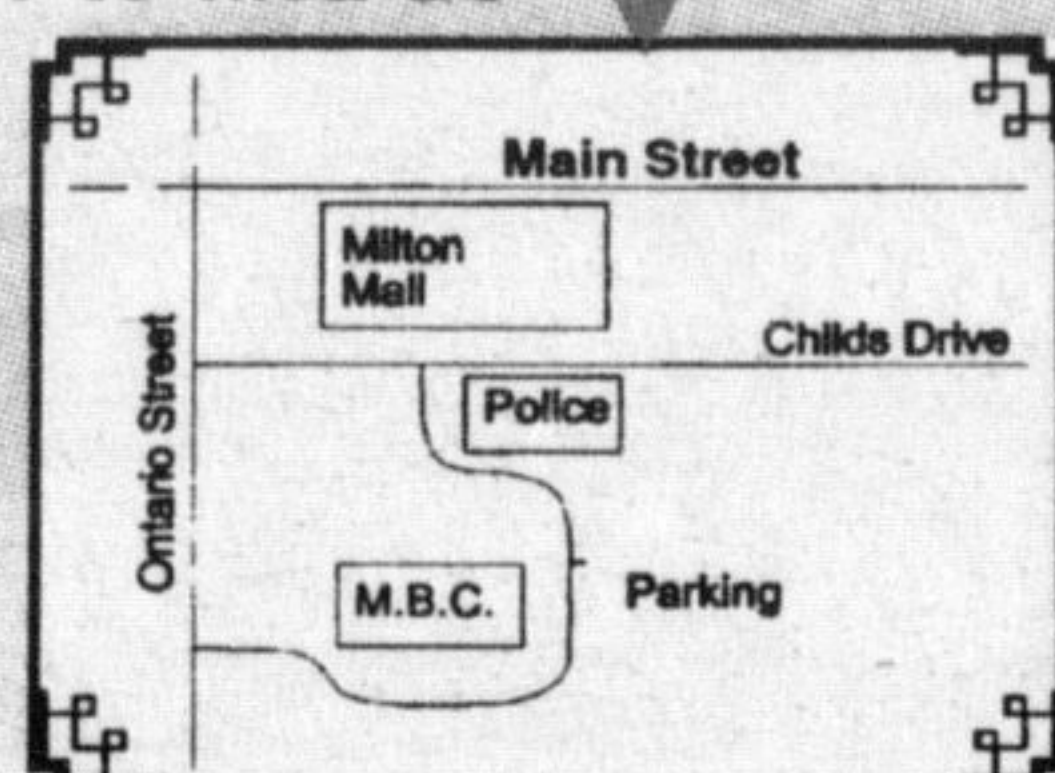
at the Milton Seniors Activity Center
500 Child's Drive

GOOD FRIDAY
10:30 a.m.

EASTER SUNDAY
10:30 a.m.
"Friendship with God"

Separate Children's Easter Program & Nursery is provided.
876-3586

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