

# The Canadian Champion

A Metroland Community Newspaper

Vol. 140 No. 42

Tuesday, August 10, 1999

36 Pages

\$1.00 (GST included)

## Slots are ready for action at Mohawk

The much-anticipated operation of slot machines at Mohawk Raceway is expected by the end of the week as preparations are in the final stage.

At press time yesterday, an invitation-only pre-opening for the media and dignitaries was to be held tonight (Tuesday).

Then the doors were expected to be open to the public within the next couple of days, a spokesman from the Ontario Lottery Corporation (OLC) said Monday.

In the first such gaming partnership between the Ontario Jockey Club (OJC) and the OLC, 750 slot machines will open at the Campbellville race track. The OLC will run the operation.

Meanwhile, the OJC will operate year-round simulcast wagering in addition to its regular schedule of live racing.

Slot machine operation is expected to run from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily.

### NEWSLINES

#### Corn crunching

Milton's Farm Museum expects a husky lineup this weekend for its 18th annual Corn Fest.

On Saturday, Aug. 14 and Sunday, Aug. 15 freshly steamed cobs of corn will be cooked to perfection and ready to satisfy every visitor's taste buds.

A host of family-oriented events, including country square dancing, will help build up an appetite.

Games, arts and crafts and pony rides for the children will help round out the day's activities.

The Corn Fest will run each day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### TUESDAY INSERTS

- Business Depot\*
- Future Shop
- Zellers
- M&M Meats
- \*Selected areas only



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Fan-tastic

Leanne Rew, a faithful follower of both NASCAR and Jeff Gordon, was all smiles when she got up close with the champion driver's 1998 Chevy Monte Carlo race car. It was in town Saturday, as part of 50th anniversary celebrations for Bill's Auto Body. See story on page 8, more photos on page 9.

## Child Find golf tourney

Child Find Ontario hosts a charity golf tournament at Carlisle Golf and Country Club on Tuesday, Sept. 21.

An \$85 entry fee covers the cost of 18 holes of golf, a continental brunch plus a barbecue dinner and door prizes.

Entry forms can be obtained at all Ontario Provincial Police Regional Headquarters and the deadline to sign up is September 3.

For more information, call (905) 841-5777.

## New strain of rabies arrives

By KAREN SMITH  
The Champion

The Halton Regional Health Department is warning citizens about the dangers of rabies after an unprecedented case was recently discovered in a raccoon in Eastern Ontario.

As a raccoon rabies epidemic in the United States appears to have crept into Canada for the first time, local residents should be more aware of the risks to people and their pets, said Dave Stronach of the Halton Regional Health Department.

While there's no reason to believe that raccoon rabies is present in any other part of Ontario, the recent case is a reminder for citizens to take safety precautions, he said.

He said pet owners should ensure their dogs and cats are vaccinated against the disease, which they must be by law. Children should be warned to stay away from wild or stray animals.

Mr. Stronach said people should try to stop wild animals from living in their homes or on their property. But he warned citizens not to attempt to trap nuisance raccoons themselves.

Contact the Oakville Humane Society for advice or hire a commercial service to remove all raccoons, he said.

"Don't trap and take nuisance raccoons to a new location," he said. "You could help spread the disease."

He warned citizens not to keep wildlife, including raccoons, as pets. It's against the law.

He added that citizens should report any animals behaving strangely to the humane society. Don't touch dead or sick animals.

And most importantly, anyone who has been in contact with a rabid animal should immediately call their doctor or the Halton Regional Health Department at 825-6060.

A raccoon that died of rabies was found about 10 km north of Prescott, prompting the Ministry of Natural Resources

• see STEM on page 5

## A scam attempt raises suspicions

Halton Regional Police are warning citizens to beware of telephone fraud artists following a close call in Milton.

A King Street woman received an August 4 phone call from a person identifying himself as a Toronto police officer. The caller asked the woman for personal financial information.

However, the wise woman asked for a return telephone number, which turned out to be a residential number randomly given by the fraud artist.

Det. Sgt. Jackie Gordon said that's exactly what all citizens should do in the same situation.

"She handled the situation very appropriately," she said. "There's no doubt in my mind that this was an attempt to get information from these people."

She said people should ask for a return phone number from the caller and check the number in the phone book to ensure it's the right one for the party represented.

#### TIP OF THE WEEK

Fleas are small blood sucking insects that feed on the blood of cats, dogs and man causing irritation, skin disease and allergic reactions. Fleas transmit tapeworms to your pet. Flea season in Southern Ontario begins when the weather gets warm and lasts until the second hard frost in November. The peak months are August, September and October. Yet fleas may live in our homes all year round. New innovations in flea control have made flea collars and sprays practically obsolete. Come and visit us for the most up-to-date and effective methods of flea control.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE.  
AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE.

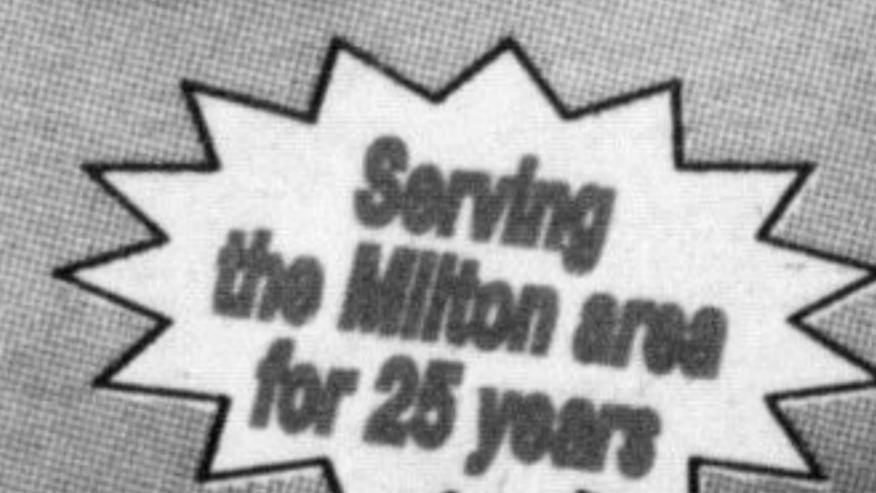
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