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Weekend **Champion** 139

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

✓ Please pitch in

Raggedy Ann, Salvation Army Captain Wendy Broome and Raggedy Andy firefighter Mike McConnell (left to right) hope non-perishable food items such as these will be donated at the Milton Santa Claus Parade Sunday. The firefighters, including Mike Clouston and Paul Hollingshead (back left to right), will join the Salvation Army and Kinsmen Club to collect food along the route. The parade will march through town at 2 p.m.

Public invited to join in

✓ Hospital celebrates 40th anniversary

After 40 years of hard work, Milton District Hospital has been given seven days to whoop it up.

And that's just what they're going to do following town council's proclamation of November 15-21 as Milton District Hospital Week.

"It is a celebration," said hospital program leader of family practice Cindy McDonell.

"We are celebrating that we have been around and providing health care in this community for 40 years."

The whole community is encouraged to join in, said Roger Sharman, acting president and CAO of Halton Healthcare Services (HHS), which operates Milton District and Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial hospitals.

"The anniversary event is truly a community event and we invite all residents to participate in the planned activities," he said.

The week will kick off Monday with a 10 a.m. reading of the proclamation and raising of the anniversary flag at the hospital's flagpole. Refreshments will follow in the front lobby.

On Wednesday, all staff, physicians, volunteers and retirees will discover that there really is a free lunch after all.

An appreciation lunch is scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m., complete with cake and a DJ spinning favourites from the past

"I hear such a sense of ownership from people in Milton. I think a lot of people remember when it opened up. This is their hospital."

CINDY MCDONELL.

40 years.

The lunch will be served by members of the organizing committee and senior management.

So evening staff don't feel left out, they will be able to feast on a pizza and cake dinner delivered to their units.

Thursday will find the hospital looking to the future — or at least a few days

• see CITIZENS on page 4

One dead, 13 hurt in train-truck crash

Via Rail train derailed near hamlet of Limehouse, just north of Milton

A passenger train derailed north of Milton Tuesday morning after colliding with a dump truck, killing the truck driver and injuring 11 aboard the train.

The truck driver, Brett Wade, 22, of Manitoulin Island, was pronounced dead at the scene of the crash at a level crossing at Fourth Line and No. 22 Sideroad, just north of the Milton-Halton Hills border.

Nine passengers and two members of the train's crew were taken to Georgetown Hospital to be treated for minor injuries. All but one passenger

was treated and released.

The train, carrying 37 passengers and four crew, originated in Toronto and was bound for Chicago with about a dozen stops along the way. A VIA Rail spokesperson confirmed the train stopped in Georgetown at 8:39 a.m. Mike Regimbal, senior advisor with operational safety for VIA, said, according to the passenger manifest, three people were to board the train in Georgetown.

The crossing near the hamlet of Limehouse had lights and bells, which were operating at the time of the crash, but no barriers.

"Every indication is that everything that was

supposed to be working was working," Mr. Regimbal said.

The accident occurred shortly after 9 a.m., as the westbound train passed the level crossing. It collided with the loaded dump truck and jumped the track. The engine spun around, landing on its side on the rails facing east. The first passenger car separated from the engine and plowed into a slight embankment on the south side of the track, tearing off part of the undercarriage. The rear three passenger cars remained upright on the track, their wheels off the bent rails. All the passengers were

• see PASSENGERS on page 3

NEWSLINES

Tasty treats at parade

The Milton District Scouts will offer tasty treats at Sunday's Santa Claus Parade.

The Scouts will sell fresh popcorn and hot apple cider in support of their trip next spring to the Canadian Jamboree 2000 in Prince Edward Island.

The trip is quite a worthwhile venture, say Scout officials.

Milton residents are asked to help make the excursion possible by buying some of their treats at the parade.

WEEKEND INSERTS

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