

# Pets don't make good Easter gifts, Humane Society warns

Rabbits, chicks and ducklings given to children as Easter presents usually end up in an animal shelter, said a representative from the Oakville Humane Society (OHS).

Suzanne Harris, community services coordinator assistant for the OHS, said after the newness of a pet wears off, many people realize they don't want the cost or the responsibility of owning a pet.

When this happens, people will either drop the animal off at a shelter or release it into the wild.

At a shelter, rabbits and other small animals take a long time to be adopted, Ms Harris said.

"It's a long stay — six months to one year before we find homes for them," Ms Harris said.

Animals that don't find homes are put to sleep.

And the problem with putting the unwanted gifts into the wild is that they're already domesticated — dependent on people — and can't survive on their own, she said.

People who give animals as gifts

usually do it spontaneously, without much thought or research into how much it will cost in time and money, she added.

Ms Harris said that many people purchase bunnies without realizing that they require veterinarian care, special food and housing and can live up to eight years.

Instead of a real animal, Ms Harris suggested people put a stuffed animal in their children's baskets or give them books about the animal they were considering.

## Milton's Newlove featured in exhibit

Miltonians are invited to join Campbellville artist Tina Newlove at Indigo Books tomorrow to launch her latest collection entitled 'Angels, Saints and Spirits'.

The art exhibit will kick off from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Brant Street bookstore. People will be able to visit with Ms Newlove and look at her latest collection of original works and prints. Some of her art will also be for sale.

Singer and songwriter Rik Leaf will also be in attendance at the opening, performing selections from his latest CD.

The show will continue until May 31.

Ms Newlove has had a busy career since graduating with honours from the fine art program at McMaster University five years ago. Her work, which ranges from delicate miniatures to funky extravaganzas, has been featured at exhibitions in Canada, the United States and Europe.

She also recently went to Kosovo for a benefit concert for children affected by war. She painted on stage to music with a live band.

## Colour course on next week

Television personalities Jane Lockhart and Mary Dobson will drop by Milton Wednesday to deliver a seminar based on a new book from Benjamin Moore & Co. Ltd. entitled 'Room Recipes — Cooking up Style with Colour'.

The event, sponsored by Bergsma Paint and Wallpaper, will be held at Halton Hills Place, 3090 Steeles Ave., at 7:30 p.m.

Ms Lockhart, owner of Jane Lockhart Design Communications, is the host of HGTV show 'One House, Two Looks'. She's also an award-winning graduate of the School for Interior Design at Ryerson University in Toronto.

Ms Dobson is a regular on the Citytv program CityLine and is also a featured presenter in the spin-off videos Best of CityLine.

Got a hot scoop?  
We'd love to hear your story ideas.  
Call 878-2341, ext. 234.

Want to Quit Smoking?  
Design your own program!

The Canadian Cancer Society knows most people can't just say, "I'm going to quit smoking now," then quit for good. But our smoking cessation program — **One Step at a Time** — can help change the way you think about your smoking and provide you with tools to create the best way for you to quit.

Take the first step to becoming smoke-free. Call your local office of the Canadian Cancer Society, or the Society's toll-free Cancer Information Service.

1-888-939-3333, for your free copy of **One Step at a Time**. Also available online at [www.cancer.ca/tobacco](http://www.cancer.ca/tobacco)

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DU CANCER

*Spring!*

**Pansies** everyday low price **99¢** a box! \$10.99 a flat

**PLANTING SPECIALS**

Buy 3 Get the 4th **Perennials FREE!**

Bring in this coupon and receive an additional **10% off** your total purchase!  
One coupon per customer. Expires April 30/2000

**Top Soil 9.99** 30 litre bag Reg. 2.49 ea.

**Flowers for Easter!** Potted Plants, Cut Flowers & Floral Arrangements!

Growers of quality plants since 1960

**OPEN GOOD FRIDAY**  
5558 Trafalgar Road (905) 878-0722  
5 minutes north of Hwy. #5 Open Mon-Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5  
1/4 MILE SOUTH OF BRITANNIA RD.

**Jade Gardens & Greenhouses**

check us out for Selection, Price & Service

**SPRING RATE BREAK**

Purchase up to 48 months\* **1.9%** Lease up to 36 months\*

2000 Cavalier

2000 Venture Van

\* O.A.C. See sales rep for details

**GM Value Pricing**  
The affordable way to buy a car or truck.

**RICHARDSON CHEVROLET-OLDSMOBILE** 878-2393

HWY. 25 S. AT DERRY RD., MILTON

SALES HOURS		SERVICE HOURS	
Mon.-Thurs.	8am-9pm	Mon.-Fri.	8am-5pm
Friday	8am-6pm	Tues.	8am-6pm
Saturday	9am-5pm	Saturday	9am-2pm