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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Teddy Bear Picnic

Janice Marlings of Milton Mall's Hallmark store is almost buried under close to 1,000 teddy bears that were donated by mall patrons and staff in the shopping centre's 'Teddy Bear Picnic' drive. The bears will go to young trauma victims through Caring for the Children of Canada. Hallmark led the mall with the highest donated bears per employee ratio.

Hefty hike in unlawful entries

Eight people charged in two-month probe into local break-ins

By **STEVE LeBLANC**

The Champion

Eight Milton men have been charged in connection with a recent crackdown on break-ins across north Halton.

Their arrests followed an intensive two-month police probe — which came in response to a hefty hike in unlawful entries throughout the area.

The local suspects — ranging in age from 18 to 25 — are among a total of 34 people facing a collective 81 charges related to the sweep.

Bar patron sexually assaulted

A date-rape drug is believed to have been used in the sexual assault of out-of-town female bar patron in Milton July 20.

Police reports suggest the 35-year-old Dundas woman — who admits to leaving a drink unattended while at the Nascar Pit — had her beverage spiked with an unknown substance.

She remembers being at the downtown sports bar at about 10:30 p.m. but then has no memory of events that took place over the following several hours.

Her next recollection was of being pushed out of a dark-coloured van at Rotary Park at about 5:15 a.m. The woman reported that she was sexually assaulted, but couldn't provide a description of any suspect. "This is consistent with other date rape drugs circulating the bar scene," said Halton Regional Police Det. Larry Brassard.

Police are seeking the public's assistance in finding out who's responsible for the attack. Anyone with information is asked to contact Det. Keith Woudstra at 878-5511, ext. 2418.

"I can't remember a time when there were so many break-ins around here as to prompt this kind of a project."

DET. BOB ANDREWS

"I can't remember a time when there were so many break-ins around here as to prompt this kind of a project," said Halton Regional Police Det. Bob Andrews, who spearheaded the initiative. "This is an accumulation of many months of increases in entries."

While the majority of arrests and case clearances were made in Georgetown, Milton has also experienced a sharp rise in break and enters — to both commercial and residential properties.

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INSERTS

- **FRIDAY JULY 28** •
- A&P • Loblaws • Biway • Zellers
- IDA • Sears • Food Basics
- Canadian Tire • Bruce Hood Travel
- Future Shop • Home Hardware
- **SATURDAY JULY 29** •
- Walmart • M&M Meats • Cristellos*
- Sears Whole Home • No Frills • TSC

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