



Champion COMMUNITY Page

Home visits by Welcome Wagon have tripled since new residents started arriving in town

By FANNIE SUNSHINE

The Champion

If you're new in town and want to find out what Milton has to offer, Welcome Wagon is at your service.

"We welcome people into the community and we provide information and a gift basket," said Linda MacLeod, community welcome hostess for Welcome Wagon, adding business sponsors of Welcome Wagon provide the free gifts and gift certificates.

"We have a wide variety of gifts, including a fresh flower, rug cleaner, a bingo dabber and a \$5 dry cleaning gift certificate. The value of the basket is around \$200."

And while most new residents will call Welcome Wagon, members of the organization also take it upon themselves to find out who's new in town.

"If we can't get their phone number we'll knock on their door," Ms MacLeod said. "We pay a short visit to the home and answer questions. The people new to the area aren't familiar with the town and want to know where the library is. They don't get telephone books right away so we tell them where the churches are and how to get in touch with sports groups. Since we only do one visit, we make sure they have

the numbers to call for more information."

Since May, she said, Welcome Wagon has been busy visiting with new residents.

"We've tripled the number of visits we usually do (for the year). Most people are really looking for information about the town."

And the majority of people Ms MacLeod has met said they like Milton's quiet atmosphere.

"Most have said they hope the town doesn't grow too large. Some are disoriented because of the lack of big box stores but most love the proximity to the escarpment. We did a survey to see where people were coming from and found they are coming from all over Canada and the world, not just from Mississauga like most people think. I'd say about 60 per cent are from Mississauga but people are coming from Oakville, Burlington and Guelph."

Ms MacLeod, who has been with Welcome Wagon for five years, said the organization has been in Milton for more than 30 years.

"We have other programs as well, like the baby, bridal and business professional. If you have a new baby, if you're about to be married or if you're starting up a new business in town, give us a call."

For more information about Welcome Wagon, call Linda MacLeod at (905) 854-1563 or visit www.welcomewagon.ca.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Linda MacLeod (left) of Welcome Wagon delivers a basket to a new Hawthorne Village resident.

Schools collecting inkjet cartridges in C.A.R.E.

Two schools and a child care centre are helping to reduce waste, raise funds and plant trees — all in the same effort.

Our Lady of Victory and Sam Sherratt schools and Family Place Childcare Centre are active participants in the Collect And Recycle Empties (C.A.R.E) program offered by Greentec International.

The program sees kids collect empty inkjet cartridges and laser toner print cartridges, which Greentec buys. Depending on the type of cartridge, participants collect between 50 cents and \$5.

For every 12 cartridges collected, Greentec also plants one tree, through a

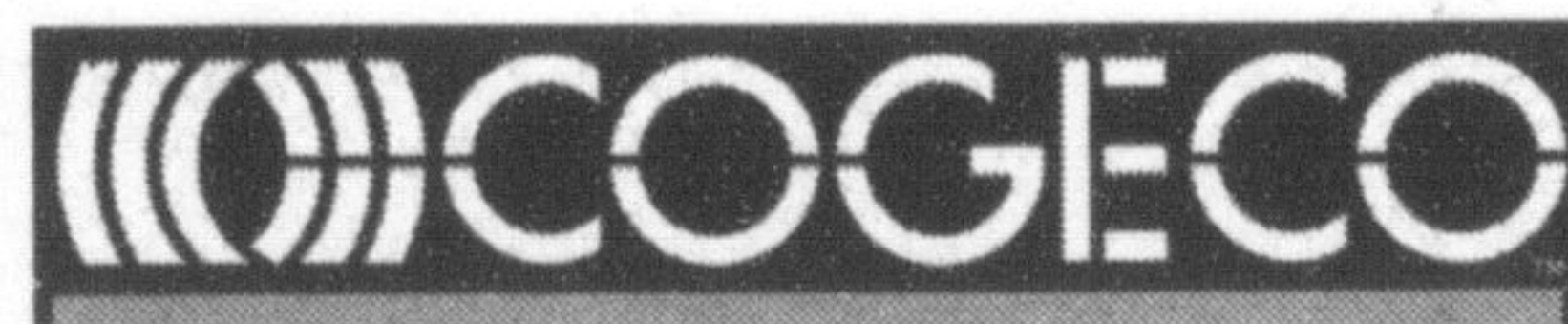
partnership with the Tree Canada Foundation.

"Sam Sherratt is doing very well," said Todd Warren of Greentec. "They're the top school for the Halton/Peel region for the first half (of the school year). They collected 154 cartridges."

Sam Sherratt joined the program late last year, collecting 26 cartridges.

As of mid-December, Our Lady of Victory collected 78 cartridges. Last year — the first year of the program — the school collected 274 cartridges.

Family Place Childcare Centre has collected 67 cartridges since September.



Keeping North Halton turned ON!

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COGECO 14 Programming Schedule — January 29th - February 4th

Tuesday, January 29th	Wednesday, January 30th	Thursday, January 31st	Friday, February 1st	Saturday, February 2nd	Sunday, February 3rd	Monday, February 4th
9:00am Plugged In - Early Week Edition	9:00am Plugged In - Early Week Edition	9:00am Plugged In - Early Week Edition	9:00am Plugged In - Late Week Edition	Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming		Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming
10:00am Monday Replay	10:00am Tuesday Replay	10:00am Wednesday Replay	10:00am Thursday Replay	Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming		Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming
5pm, 6pm & 7:30pm Plugged In - Early Week Edition	5pm, 6pm & 7:30pm Plugged In - Early Week Edition	5pm, 6pm & 7:30pm Plugged In - Late Week Edition	5pm With Good Taste	Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming		5pm, 6pm & 7:30pm Plugged In - Early Week Edition
5:30pm Seniors Showcase	5:30pm Connection	5:30pm With Good Taste	5pm Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming	Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming		5:30pm With Good Taste
6:30pm Optimist TV Bingo	6:30pm Swap Talk	6:30pm Osler Health Connection	6:30pm Money Week	Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming		6:30pm Money Week
8:00pm Halton Hills Council, Jan 14th	8:00pm Milton Council, Jan 28th	7:00pm Milton Council, Jan 28th	8:00pm Halton Region Council, Jan 23rd	Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming		7:00pm PeopleSpeak
				Cogeco 23 - South Halton Programming		8:00pm SportsZONE Live

Feature this week: You can win playing Optimist TV Bingo every Tuesday, 6:30 pm