

What can I tell you? — I'm a proud grandparent

If I haven't shown you the picture I carry of my granddaughter yet, it's probably because I haven't seen you.

I should think everybody would want to see a picture of the most beautiful baby in the world, but perhaps I'm slightly biased. I only have the one picture so it won't take much time if everybody could form a nice orderly line.

I know deep down that you couldn't care less, and in several cases we've never even seen each other before, but I'll show you anyway. I'm not even sure why, but you can look at one picture for a couple of seconds and we'll all be the better for it.

Maybe it's got out of hand, I don't know. For example, there was the time I pulled out the picture to show someone, and the baby was actually there in person with me. Oops.

I guess that's the way proud grandparents act. Maybe we ought to have our own club so we can sit and drink tea and pull out our pictures. Later we can all have a nap.

Being a grandparent is a pretty easy job if you ask me. Baby cries — take her to her mother. Baby's hungry — take her to her mother. Baby's tired — take her to her mother. Baby needs a diaper change — take her to her mother, quickly.

I haven't changed diapers in about 20 years, a task I haven't missed for even a second, so when I was put on babysitting duty one day, I had to weigh my options when a diaper became wet. I could wait, and pretend I didn't know it was wet, very tempting, or I could change it.

The baby appeared uncomfortable about it after a while, so I figured I had better do the right thing. I used the wipes and the powder and put on a fresh diaper. I tend to make myself scarce at diaper changing time so I wasn't aware of the exact procedure, but it wasn't so



On the loose

with MURRAY TOWNSEND

hard, and I was quite pleased with myself.

I glowed with pride when my daughter told me what a good job I had done. There was just one slight teeny weeny problem — the diaper had been put on backwards.

Maybe at Grandparents Club, we could have watched a movie or had a demonstration about diapers. That could be useful even for ourselves when we got a little older. Being a grandparent isn't all about knitting and shuffleboard, you know.

I don't know if Grandparents Club could help me with my biggest problem so far. The baby would cry every time I held her. I mean, she would scream. And when I finally handed her back to her mother, she'd give me a little look as if she was na-na-naing me.

My only consolation was that she did that with most everybody. She's much better now, and tends to scream more with others than with me, which gives me a measure of misguided satisfaction.

But, back to the baby picture, I have to admit that for a long time I've thought that all babies pretty much looked the same. Not any more.

I even like looking at other people's baby pictures. And I certainly do like to show mine. It's much too late not to be annoying about it, but I'll make you a deal. You show me yours and I'll show you mine.

HaltonSearch.com

ATTENTION NEW PARENTS

We are now counting down to our final days for the

New ²⁰⁰³ Baby Arrivals

SPECIAL BABY EDITION



If you placed a birth announcement in The Canadian Champion in 2003 you can put your baby's picture in

THIS FEATURE ABSOLUTELY FREE!

Please bring in your photo before
Monday, Jan. 12/04 to

The Canadian Champion,
191 Main Street East,
Milton, ON L9T 4N9

It's time to register for JUNIOR or SENIOR KINDERGARTEN Program

We look forward to welcoming your child to school!

Junior Kindergarten 2004-2005:

Children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2004.

Senior Kindergarten 2004-2005:

Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2004.

Note: If your child is currently attending one of our schools for Junior Kindergarten, you do not need to register for Senior Kindergarten.

To determine your designated home school, access our website www.hdsb.ca and review our on-line boundary maps or use "School Locator" (click on "Schools" and "School Attendance Boundaries"). Call your designated school to find out which dates have been established for Kindergarten registration.

Parents/guardians must be public school supporters.

Please bring the following **original** documents with you*:

- your child's immunization record
- proof of address
- your child's Ontario Health Card
- proof of your child's age (birth certificate or passport)

*If you are not the child's parent, please bring proof of custody (court order).

Please ensure that your child is registered by **February 6, 2004.**

For further information contact 905-335-3663, ext. 3271 (Milton and Halton Hills), ext. 3294 or 3307 (Burlington and Oakville).



Halton District School Board
Dusty Papke, Ed.D. Director of Education
Mary Chapin Chair of the Board

**1 in 10 women
will develop
BREAST CANCER**

For the centre nearest you call:
1-800-668-9304

The risk increases with age.
The Ontario Breast Screening Program provides
breast examination and a mammogram at no
cost to women who are 50 years of age or over.
Make your appointment today!

After all... It's your life

The Ontario Breast Screening Program is a program of
The Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation

SMOKING
what's the point?



Someday, you'll be offered a cigarette or be tempted to smoke.

Before you start, think about it: every drag you take screws up your body.

Smoking can cause permanent damage to your body.

Once a person starts, it becomes extremely tough to quit.

And did we mention all that cash you'll be blowing in the process?

So, if you're tempted to start, ask yourself, "What's the point?"

This message brought to you by:
The Canadian Champion



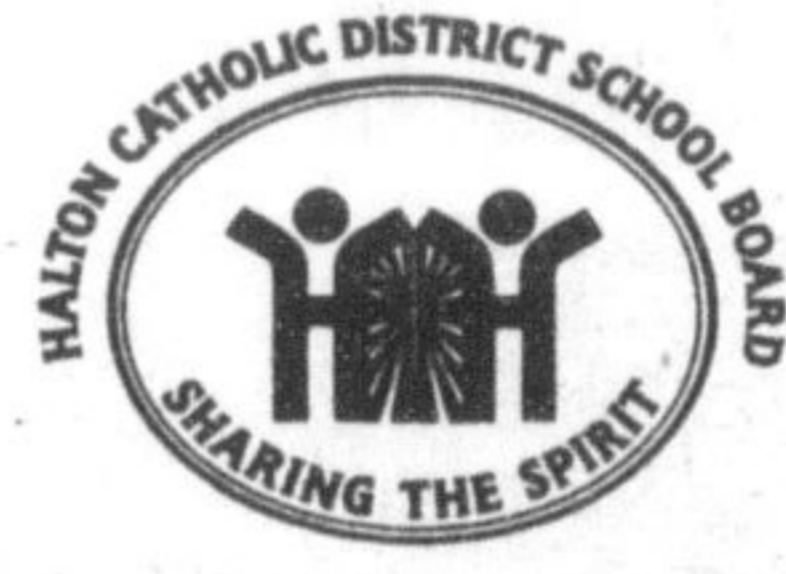
The Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) of Halton
is now accepting applications for admission to

Billings Court Manor

The Community Care Access Centre has received notification that Billings Court Manor, a new long-term care facility, is progressing in its plan to open in the spring of 2004. Billings Court Manor is a 160-bed long-term care facility located in Burlington.

Anyone interested in applying for admission to Billings Court Manor or any other long-term care facility, should contact the CCAC of Halton for information regarding the application process for placement.

For further information, contact:
905-639-5228 or toll free by calling 1-800-810-0000
and ask for Information and Referral



HALTON CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

NOTICE TO PARENTS OF GRADE 8 STUDENTS

INFORMATION MEETING AT BISHOP REDING CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

Parents of grade 8 students residing in Milton are invited to attend an information meeting regarding the Grade 9 programs and services offered at their designated Catholic Secondary School in September 2004.

Bishop Reding Catholic Secondary School
1600 Main Street East, Milton
Principal: Mr. Stan Gajewski
Telephone: 875-0124

Date: Thursday, January 15, 2004
Time: 7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

For further information please telephone the School Principal.

"SHARING THE SPIRIT"

Al Bailey
Chair of the Board

Lou Piovesan
Director of Education