

Be careful around creeks, warns conservation group

Now that spring has finally arrived, Conservation Halton is reminding the public of the dangers that exist around area streams, rivers, ponds and lakes.

Along with spring weather comes melting snow, rain and the break-up of ice. During this time of year, higher, faster flowing water can be expected along with slippery, unstable stream banks and extremely cold water temperatures that can lead to hazardous situations.

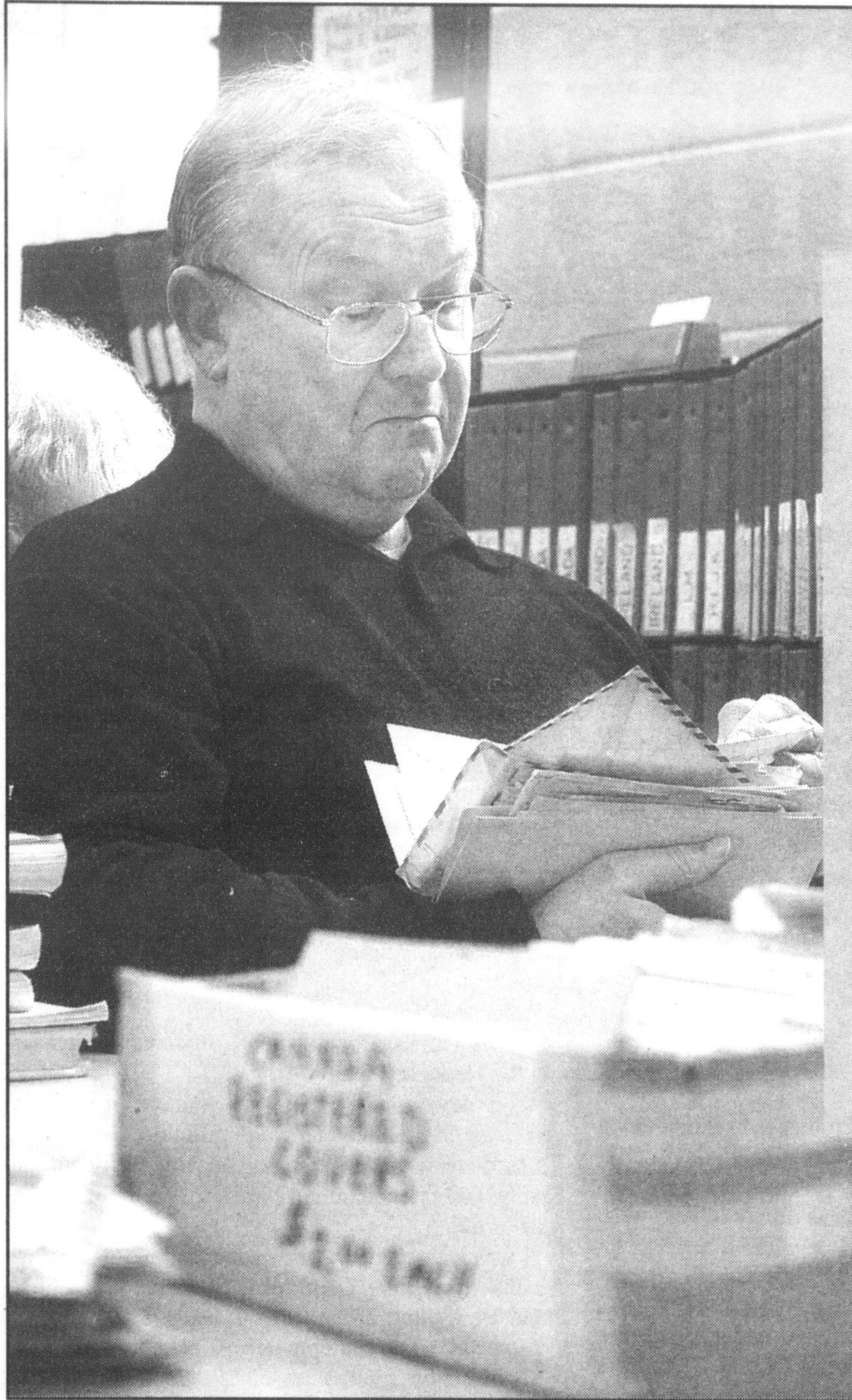
The cold temperatures that persisted in January and February have developed significant ice covers along our rivers and

streams and as temperatures rise, the potential for flooding and ice jamming remains significant.

Conservation Halton (CH) is urging residents to exercise extreme caution around any water body and to alert children of the dangers that exist at this time of year.

CH continues to monitor river and stream conditions and will issue any related flood messages if conditions warrant them.

CH's watershed includes 17 creeks that flow into Lake Ontario. This includes most of Halton.



All-out search

Klaus Queisser searches through stacks of world-wide covers from the late 1800s to modern day during the Milton Stamp Fair at the Milton Seniors Activity Centre March 6.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

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Friday, April 2

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MADD poster, writing contest now underway

Our loved ones are unique, precious and irreplaceable. That's the theme of this year's MADD Canada poster and national writing contest.

MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) is asking students to create a poster or write a short essay that reflects the theme 'You Can't Replace Me! Don't Drink and Drive!!'

The seventh annual contest is now underway, and students are being urged to find a creative way to express their concerns about drinking and driving.

"We use this essay-writing contest as a tool of communication that's taken home to the families," said Linda Brick of the Halton/Peel MADD chapter. "It's not a topic that people talk about openly, and we have to start doing that."

Students can either create a poster, or write an essay of 25 to 250 words communicating this year's theme. There's one category for students 10 years and under, and another for 11 to 14 year olds.

Teachers can also enter the contest by demonstrating their use of impaired driving education in their classroom.

Students are eligible to win amusement park visits, bicycles, pizza parties and gift certificates, while winning teachers will be awarded a \$250 gift certificate from Scholastic Books.

Entries must be received by MADD Canada (6507C Mississauga Rd., Mississauga L5N 1A6) by May 1. For information or an entry form, visit MADD Canada's Web site at www.madd.ca or call Linda Brick at (905) 844-0096.

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