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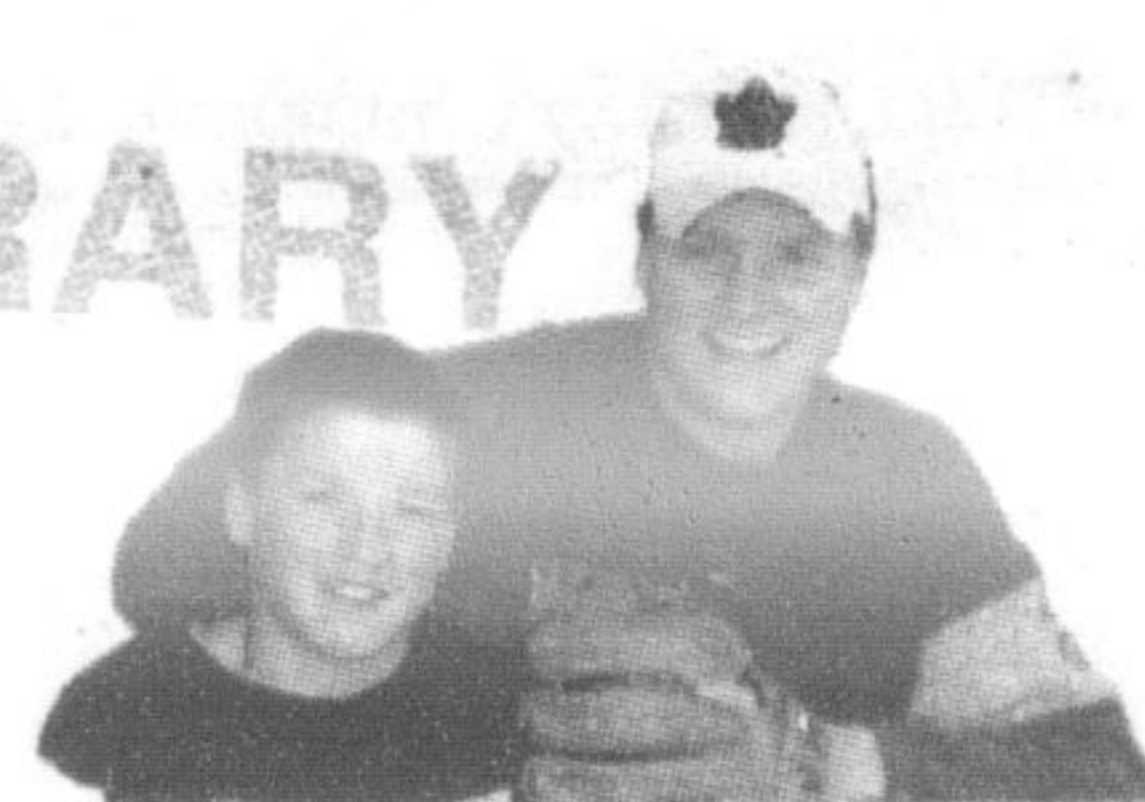
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See what's on the market inside

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COMMUNITY
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A METROLAND COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER VOL. 145 NO. 13 TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2004 \$1.00 (GST included) 56 PAGES "Using Communication to Build Better Communities"



Report recommends closing St. Peter's, Our Lady of Victory

By **KIM ARNOTT**
Special to *The Champion*

The next 20 years could be tumultuous for Halton's Catholic students and their parents.

A series of recommendations outlining where new schools should be built and where others should be closed, consolidated or moved, was contained in a plan presented to the Halton Catholic District school board last Tuesday night.

The Long Term Accommodation Plan, prepared for the board by the consulting firm C.N. Watson and Associates Ltd., analyzes the demographic changes taking place in the region in an attempt to forecast the board's school facility needs through until 2023.

And as early as 2007, it recommends some fairly dramatic changes locally and across the region.

Milton, which will see a new elementary school open its doors this September, is scheduled to get another new school in the urban expansion area in 2007.

However, the same time period would see St. Peter's School closed.

In 2009, the report suggests closing Our

Lady of Victory School and building a new elementary school in the town's urban expansion area.

A second new elementary school would be built in the growth area of the town the following year.

The report suggests a 16-classroom addition should be planned for Milton's Bishop Reding high school in 2014, along with a two-classroom addition to the elementary school scheduled to open this September.

But, board Director Lou Piovesan urged trustees to recognize that the planning process has just started and final accommodation decisions don't yet have to be made.

"This is step two in many steps," he said, noting that the document will be circulated for public comment prior to formal adoption by the board, likely in June.

Cynthia Clarke, associate director with C.N. Watson, told trustees that the board will be impacted by slowing enrolment growth over the next 20 years.

While a 17 per cent growth in enrolment

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Spirited showcase

Iroquois dancer Brian General of the Seneca Nation performs with other members of the Kanata Native Dance group during Earth Day festivities at W.I. Dick School Thursday.

Photo by **GRAHAM PAINE**

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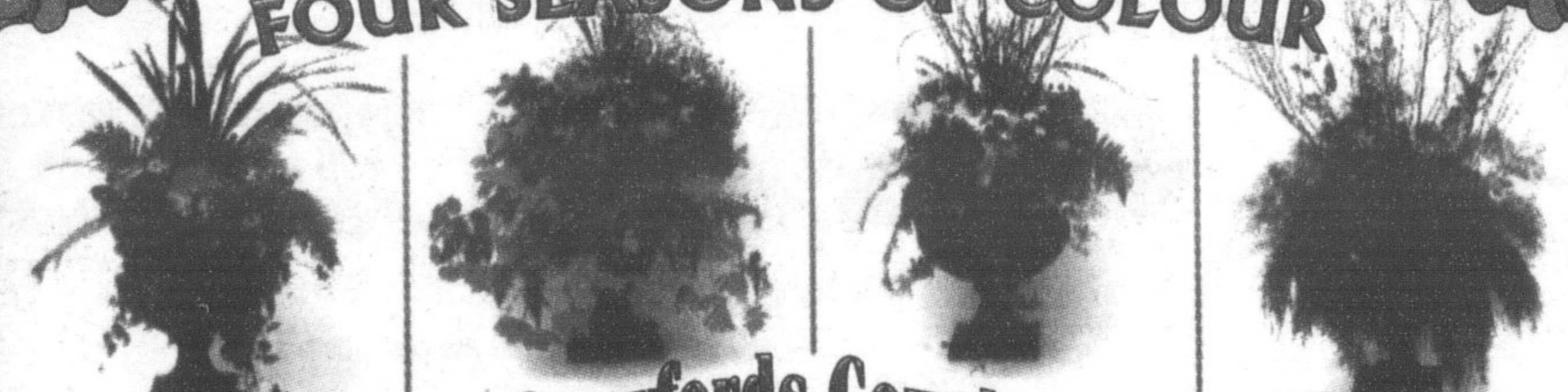
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