



Police cruisers in rural areas to get defibrillators in the fall

By **ROBIN DOWNTON-POIRIER**
Special to *The Champion*

Two defibrillator units will be installed in Halton Regional Police Service cars in the Nassagaweya area by September 1 with the goal of increasing the chances of saving lives in the community.

"The units are scheduled to be installed before September 1," confirmed Halton police Staff Sgt. Susan Delaney. "We will have a minimum of eight officers trained on the equipment and they are all very

interested and eager to begin."

The units cost \$5,000 each and are being funded by the Mikey Network, a project spearheaded by Heathwood Homes in honour of friend and colleague Michael Hart Salem — who died of a heart attack in 2002.

The Mikey Network's goal "is to raise funds to place public access defibrillators where they are needed most."

Approximately 6,500 people in Ontario suffer from cardiac arrest each year and it's critical to shock the heart within two to six

minutes of the attack.

The average response time for paramedics in Ontario is eight minutes although police are often first on the scene. The defibrillators will allow police officers to begin life-saving procedures if they're there before a paramedic team.

"This project will have a big impact on response time," said Staff Sgt. Delaney.

"Anything that can help sustain life until paramedics arrive is worth the cost. If these machines help save even one life, they've paid for themselves a hundred times over."

Take look back in time this weekend

Most people have seen the pioneer days depicted in various TV shows and movies — even reality shows — but what were they really like?

That's the question Country Heritage Park will be attempting to answer Friday, Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

Children will have a chance to attend class in a one-room schoolhouse and play with old-fashioned toys. Families will be able to make butter and see how the milk industry has progressed.

And for those into quilts, the Canada Packers National Quilt Collection will be

on display.

Families can also visit the steam-powered shingle mill, and of course there will be many tractors on display. Country Heritage Park is located on Tremaine Rd.

For more information, call (905) 878-8151.

"The business that considers itself immune to the necessity for advertising sooner or later finds itself immune to business."

Derby Brown

Down on the farm

Two-and-a-half year old Erica McCracken (left) and older sister Shannon, 4, don't seem to share the same interest in the farm animals grazing at Country Heritage Park on the weekend. The two were out with their family visiting the park for the first time, taking in the Farm Animal Days attraction, which featured cows and sheep.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

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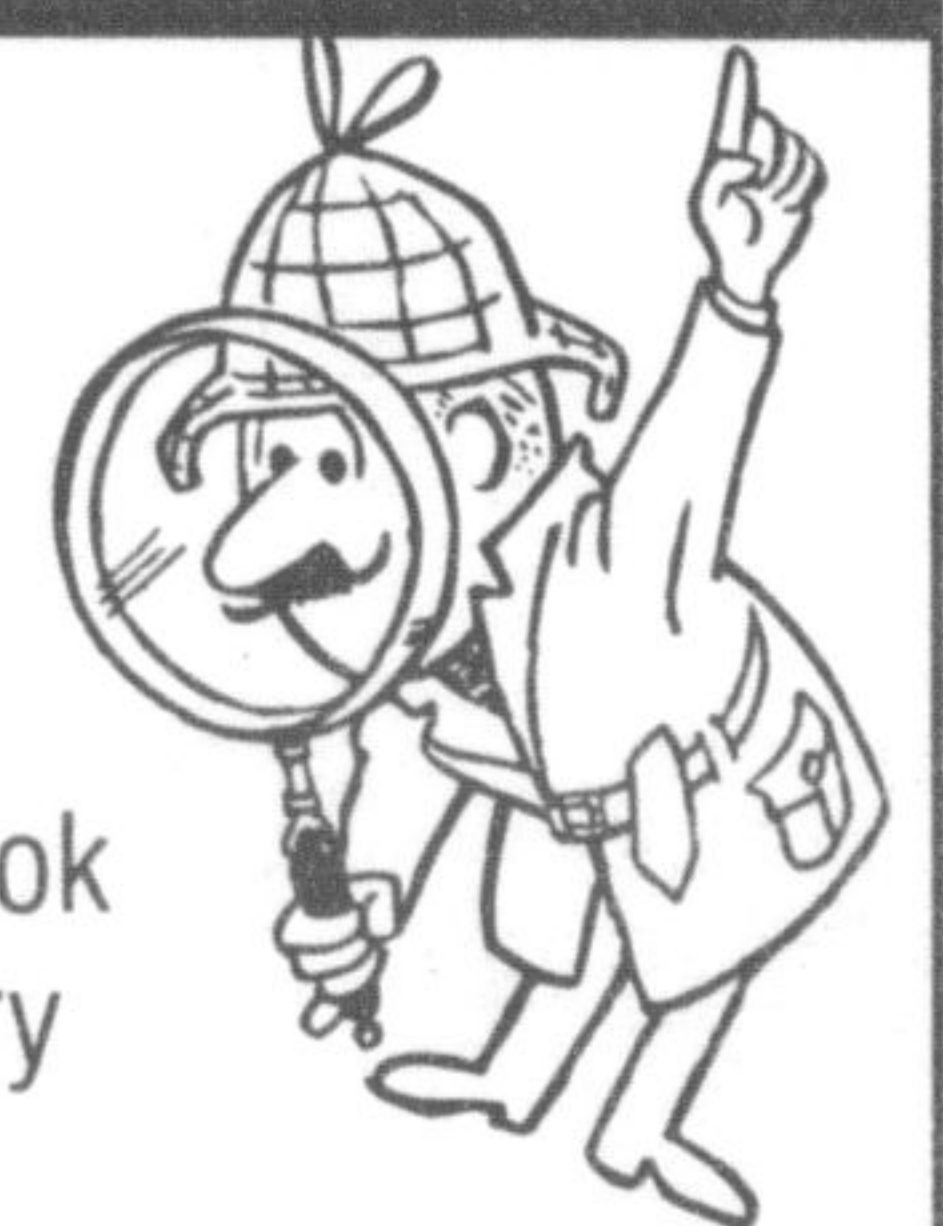


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