

**Best Homes**

**Real Estate**  
See what's on the market inside

**SPORTS**  
Minor midget 'Canes squeak by Welland  
Page A15

**COMMUNITY**  
Hadfield students part of space program project  
Page A8

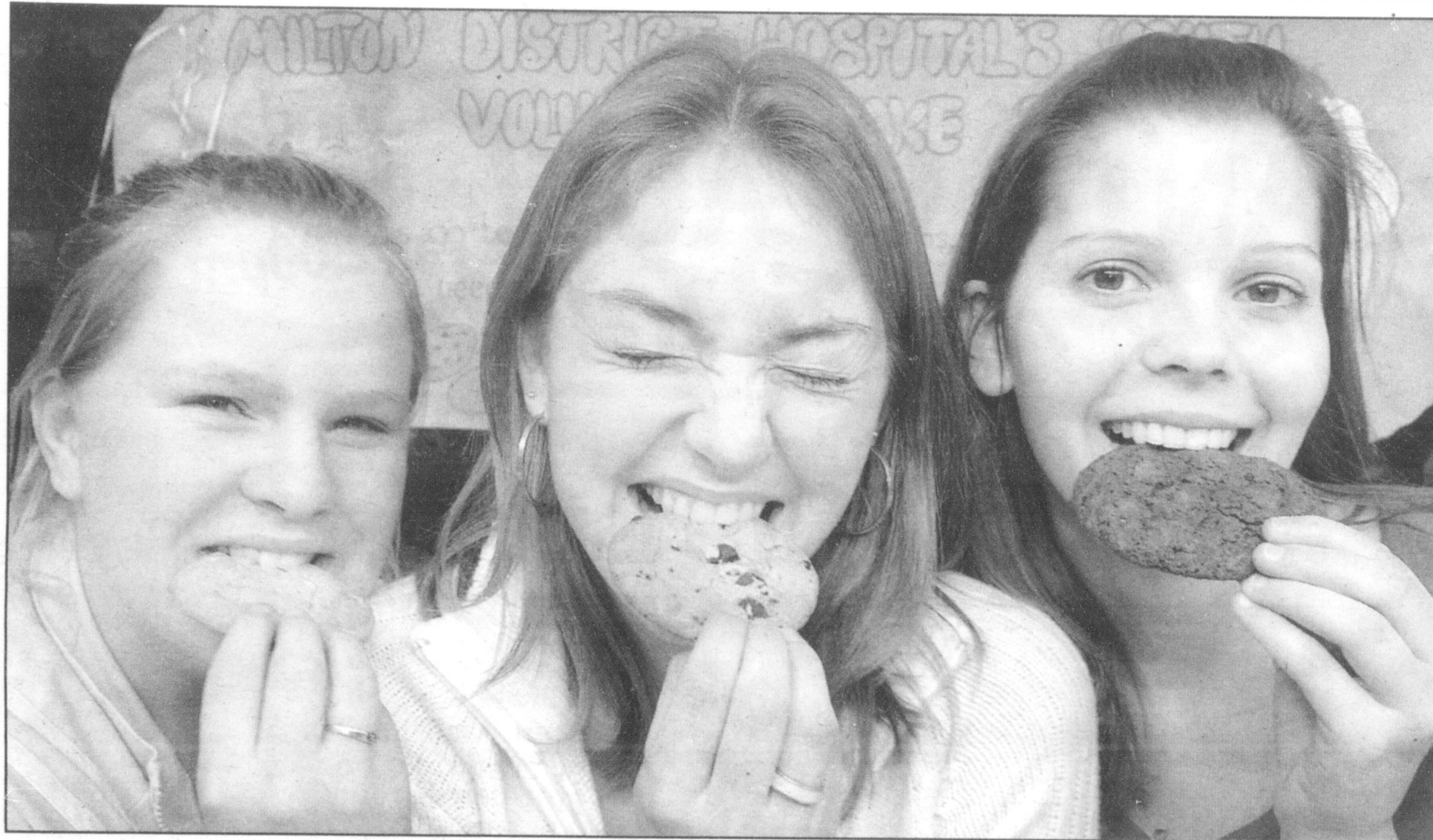


**GARY THOMAS**  
Associate Broker  
Selling homes in Milton area since 1970  
Call to list today!  
RE/MAX REAL ESTATE CENTRE  
905-878-7777

The Canadian  
**Champion**

**LIBERTY CASH**  
CASH ADVANCES  
ASSISTING YOU WITH YOUR SHORT-TERM FINANCIAL NEEDS  
905.693.0413  
327 Bronte St. S., Milton

A METROLAND COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER VOL. 146 NO. 73 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2005 \$1.00 (GST included) 44 PAGES "Using Communication to Build Better Communities"



**Tasty treats**

Katie Wilson (centre) takes a bite into a crunchy cookie while friends Ashlee Jamieson (left) and Kate Murzin try their favourites during the Community Bazaar at Milton Mall November 12. The trio sold cookies and other baked goods at the Milton District Hospital youth volunteers' booth to raise funds.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

**Country Heritage Park destined to lose crucial revenue following NEC decision**

By MELANIE HENNESSEY

The Champion

A decision made by the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) Thursday has thrown the future of Country Heritage Park into jeopardy.

In a close 6-5 vote, the commission turned down the park's application to allow thousands of cars awaiting sale at the Toronto Auto Auction to be stored on its rural property during the off-season — a money-making initiative it has come to rely on for up to \$60,000 of crucial revenue.

The park has actually been doing this for years

between December 1 and May 1 on about 11 acres of its Tremaine Road property, but it recently came to the NEC's attention after a public complaint was made.

"It's disappointing," Country Heritage Park general manager Reg Cressman said of the decision after the meeting.

He added, "The solution was there and they ignored it," referring to the suggestion made by one member of the commission to allow the park to accommodate auction vehicles for one more season, giving it a chance to find a funding alternative.

Before the NEC made its decision, Mr. Cressman made a last-minute plea for it to approve

the application.

"Your pending decision today is critical to us," he emphasized. "We have a treasure here that we cannot afford to lose."

He told the commission that the revenue from the auction cars is critical to the future of the park and without it the tourist destination could be turned back over to the Province, which reportedly isn't interested in operating it.

"I don't know what the future of the park is," he said.

He pointed out the money from the Toronto Auto Auction helps cover about 45 per cent of the park's costs in the first three months of each year.

• see SITUATION on page A10

**Inside**

Comment .....A6  
Dateline .....A7  
Champion Country . . .A9-A12  
Classified .....A18-A22  
Business .....B1-B2

**MILTON TOYOTA**  
www.milontoyota.com

**GORRUD'S AUTO**  
GROUP  
www.gorrudsautogroup.com

**National Car Rental**

**National Car Rental**  
Owned and Operated by MILTON TOYOTA

FEATURING TOYOTA VEHICLES

- Competitive daily, weekly and monthly rates.
- 24 Hour Roadside Assistance anywhere in Canada or the U.S.A.
- Customer pick-up and return.

"RECOMMENDED BY INSURANCE COMPANIES"

**WEEKEND SPECIAL**  
Starting at  
**\$19.99** per day plus insurance  
WITH 900KM FREE PLUS 25 AIR MILES PER RENTAL

410 Steeles Ave. Milton (Inside Milton Toyota) 905-875-3771

**Christmas Memories**

1/5 ct \$349  
1/4 ct \$299  
18Kt Pd 1.00ct \$2,799 Engagement Ring

**Brancier**  
JEWELLER - GEMOLOGIST

Milton Mall • 876-4367  
Open Sundays in December