

## Tree remembers lost loved ones

Although Christmas is often lauded as 'the most wonderful time of the year,' that isn't the case for everyone. In fact, Christmas can sometimes be the most painful time, particularly if it's the first after the loss of a loved one.

The new owners of Scott Early Funeral Home, 21 James St., have come up with a way to mark the many emotional facets of the holiday, while giving something back to the community with its Memorial Tree.

Residents who've suffered a loss are invited to come into the funeral home and take a white dove from the tree to include in their holiday décor as a memorial tribute.

In exchange for the dove, participants fill out a memory card with the name of their loved one, which is then hung on the Memorial Tree.

"We wanted to do something to mark the Christmas season, knowing how difficult it is for people who've had a loss," said Rebecca Hunter, president of Scott Early Funeral Home. "It gives them something to incorporate into their own decorations at home to symbolize the person that's not there."

The funeral home will also be holding an open house December 18 from noon to 3 p.m. with refreshments.

## There's still time to buy a bulb in annual hospital fundraiser

Over the past 25 years, Milton District Hospital has come face to face with angels in the form of generous donors.

For the third year in a row, the hospital is continuing its We Believe in Angels — Buy-a-Bulb campaign in which donors receive a limited-edition keepsake angel ornament.

Also in exchange for a donation, lights will be lit on the Tree of Caring either in the donor's name or in honour of a loved one.

A second tree, the Tree of Memories, will be lit with white lights to honour loved ones who've passed away.

A lighting ceremony for the Tree of Caring will take place Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the lobby and on the front lawn of Milton District Hospital.

The ceremony will celebrate health and hope in Milton. Entertainment will be provided by the Milton Choristers, and refreshments will be served. Parking is free.

Since the Buy-a-Bulb program began 14 years ago, \$820,000 has been raised. Funds raised this year will go toward the purchase of a colonoscope for the hospital.

This year's final angel in the series is the Angel of Celebration, a seagull pewter

ornament, and is given to anyone who donates \$250 or more. These donors will also have a large string of lights lit on the Tree of Caring.

Those who donate between \$150 and \$249 will receive a glass angel shaped ornament, and have a small string of lights lit, and those giving \$50 to \$149 will receive a Milton District Hospital Foundation personalized keepsake ornament. They'll have a single bulb lit on the tree.

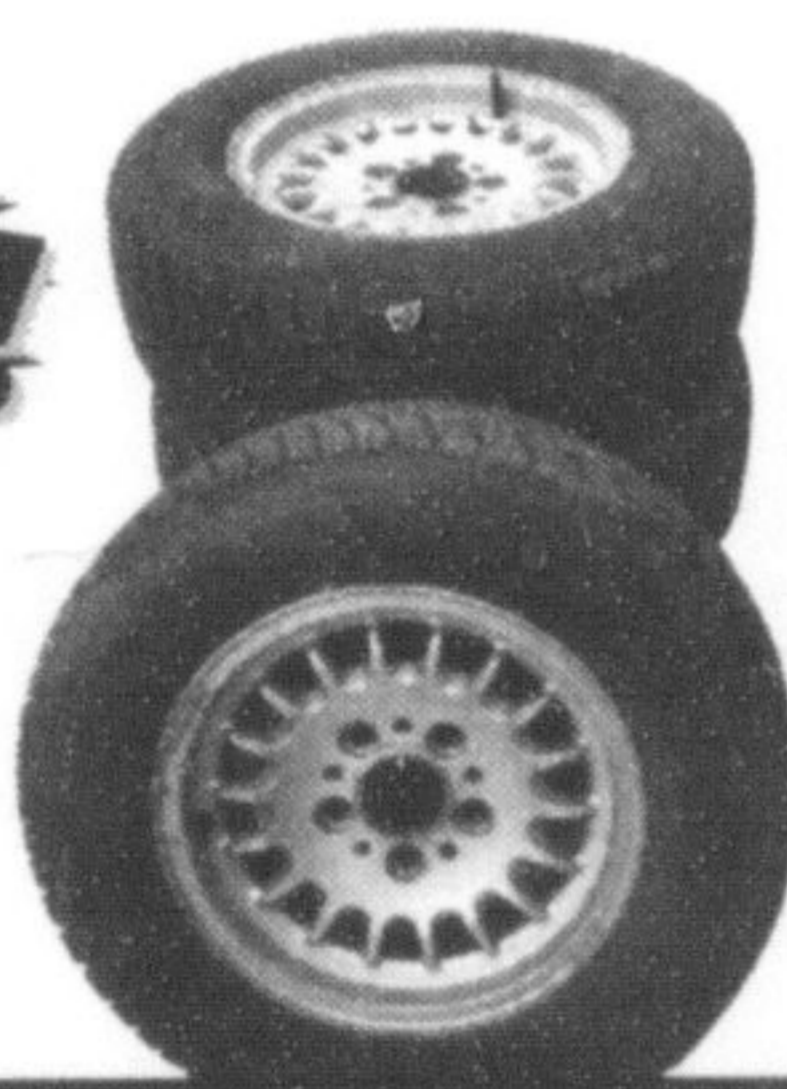
For more information or to make a donation, call the hospital foundation at (905) 876-7014 or visit haltonhealthcare.on.ca.

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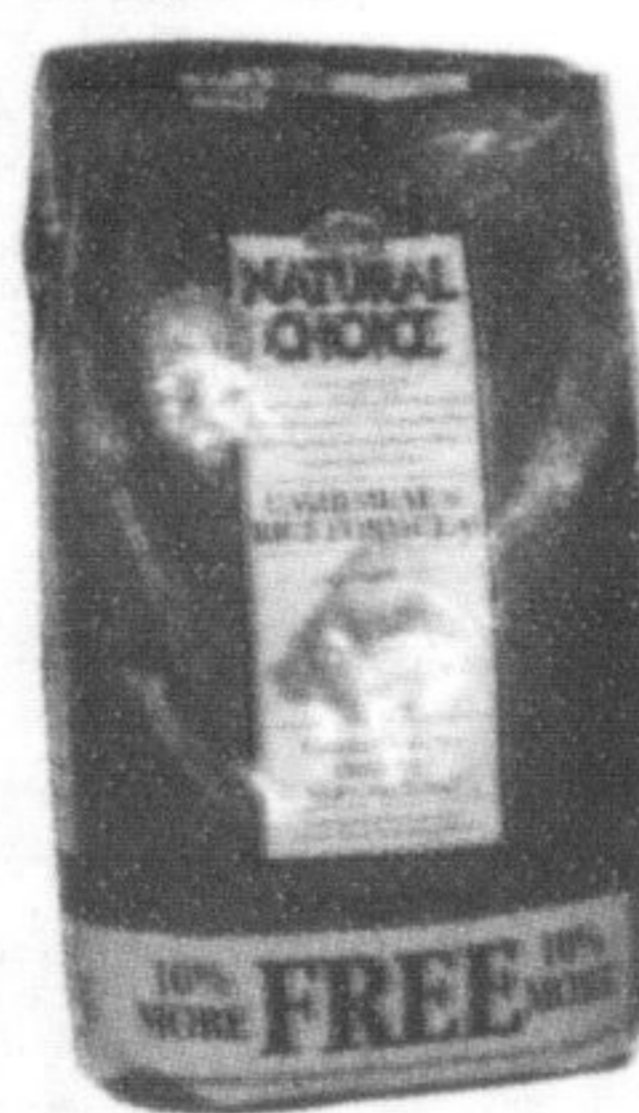
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## Season's Greetings

The Management and Staff of Terra Greenhouses would like to thank their customers for their patronage. We look forward to assisting you with all your gardening needs in the New Year.

*May one and all have a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!*

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