

Town, Chamber make formal deal for farmers' market

The Town and Milton Chamber of Commerce have entered into an agreement that preserves the location of the Milton Farmers' Market in the downtown core.

The deal was announced by Town staff at the community services committee meeting last week.

Although the Chamber's outdoor market has been running since 1972 and been on Main Street since 1990, a formal agreement hadn't been signed with the Town until now. The agreement gives permanence to the Main Street location for at least five years.

"The partnership between the chamber and the Town is important because it means we can continue to provide a unique downtown experience for Milton residents and tourists for years to come," said Sandy Martin, the chamber's executive director.

"It gives both parties a sense of ownership in hosting the market."

The agreement will also allow the chamber to continue operating the Bacon on a Bun cart at the market that's staffed by students and a volunteer

board director. Proceeds from sales support student wages for the summer and fund six scholarships of \$1,000 each for Milton students beginning post-secondary programs.

"The farmers' market is a symbol of the longevity and sense of community so evident in our town," said Mayor

Gord Krantz. "We're proud to partner with the chamber to provide this valuable service to residents."

There are usually between 30 and 40 market vendors each week at the market, in addition to crafters and displays from non-profit organizations.


The market attracts between 1,000

and 1,500 visitors weekly and generates approximately \$1.5 million in sales for vendors. It also provides a \$4 million boost to the local economy in spin-off benefits.

The market will operate Saturday mornings from 7 a.m. to noon from May 27 to October 21.

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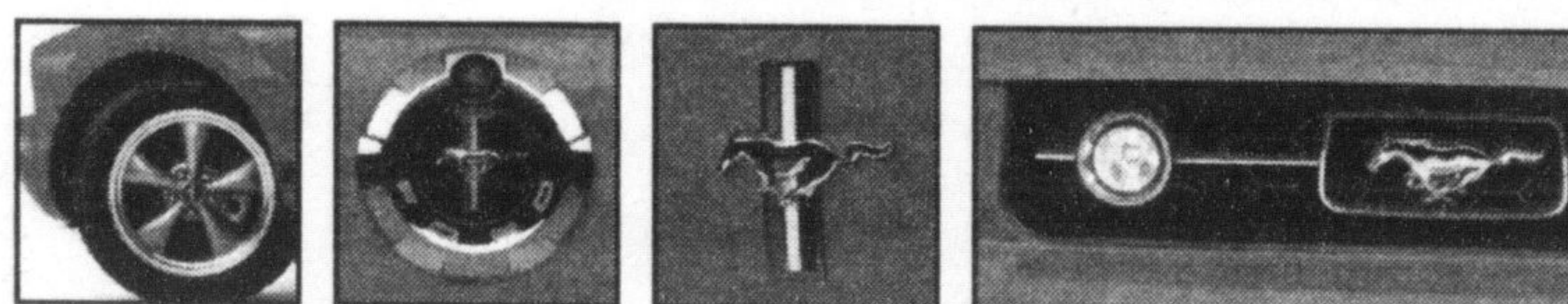
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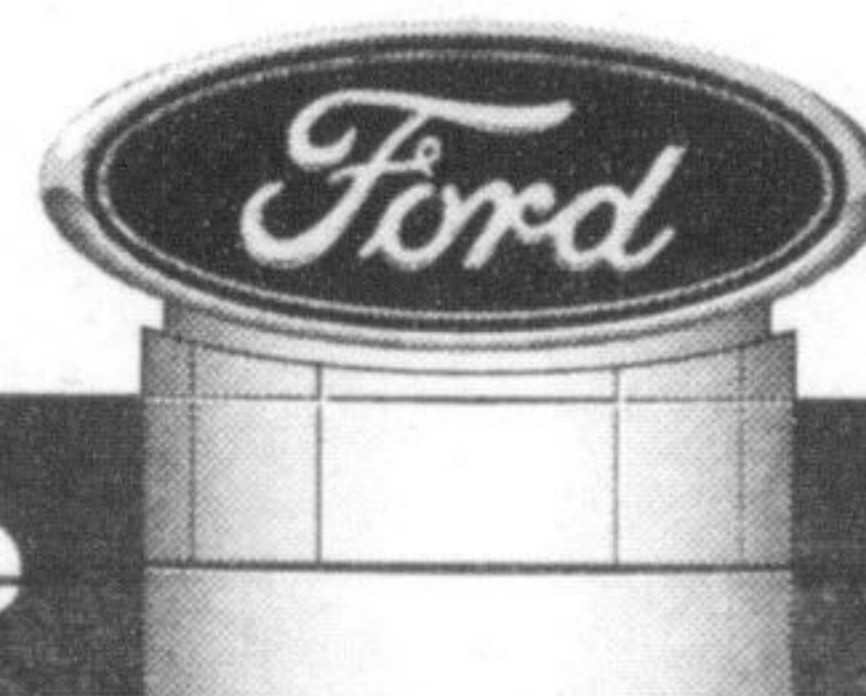
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