West Nile plans already in works for '07

The Region has finished its West Nile virus surveillance program for the season.

The health department reports it citizen contracted the virus. wrapped up monitoring last month and is already focusing on surveillance plans for 2007. Lisa Fortuna, Halton's acting supervisor of environmental health, said 2006 saw one human case

of West Nile in a Burlington woman. This is down from last year, when four Burlington residents and one Oakville

A major part of the Region's surveillance program comes through dead birds the public reports, with 1,383 being called in this year. This is up from last year's 1,277.

Of those found this season, four crows — three found in Burlington and one in Halton Hills — tested positive for West Nile, along with two blue jays discovered in Oakville.

And last year, nine crows — five in Burlington, two in Oakville and one each in Halton Hills and Milton — were found to have the virus and 11 blue jays, with five of them from Burlington, four in Oakville and two in Halton

Seventeen mosquito pools also tested positive for West Nile this year. Three of those were in Burlington, nine in Oakville, two in Halton Hills and three in Milton. This is slightly down from last year, when 24 positive pools were found — nine in Burlington and 15 in Oakville.

In addition to dead bird surveillance, the Region's West Nile program includes monitoring human cases and standing water sites, setting up mosquito traps, larviciding catch basins and educating the public.

For more information visit www.halton.ca.

CH applauds Clean Water Act passage

Conservation Halton (CH) is applauding the recent passage of Bill 43, the Clean Water Act, by the Ontario legislature and looks forward to its imminent proclamation into law, the environmental agency reported late last month.

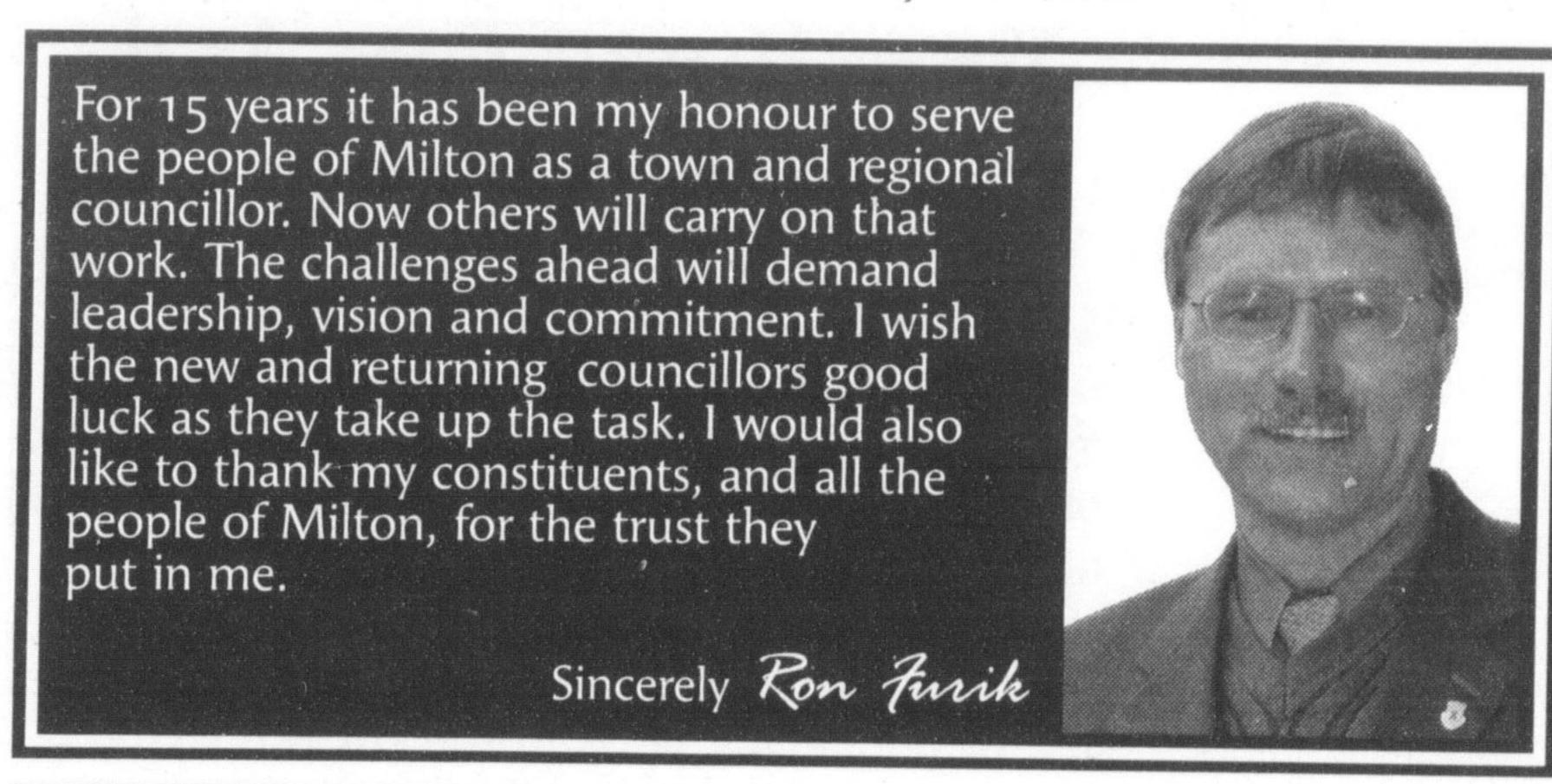
"The Clean Water Act is essential to protecting Ontario's drinking water sources," said Brian Penman, a Milton councillor and CH chair.

"With the act in place, conservation authorities, municipalities, landowners and other stakeholders will work together to ensure municipal sources of drinking water are properly protected."

Since the tragedy in Walkerton in May 2000, Conservation Ontario and its member authorities including CH — have worked with the province and other stakeholders to provide expertise in developing the best approach to source water protection.

Source water protection builds on past science and studies and links directly to the water management programs conservation authorities and their partner municipalities have been doing for years.

"There are strong economic, public health and environmental benefits to ensuring clean and plentiful sources of drinking water," Penman said. "Conservation Halton... (is) eager to get to work under this important new act."





Thank You Milton!

I am thrilled and honoured to be elected Milton's Public School Trustee. My heartfelt Thanks to my family, friends and supporters. I couldn't have done it without you.



Putting the Kids First

Man wins \$82,679 in NFL football pool

A Milton resident is more than \$80,000 richer after he correctly predicted the outcomes of 15 out of 16 NFL games.

Triven Persaud won \$82,679 after playing Pro Picks Pools. At first, though, he wasn't sure if luck was in his court.

"I wasn't sure if all 16 events had to be correct, so I called the OLG (Ontario Lottery and Gaming) hotline," he said.

As it turns out, Persaud was one of six winners.

"I'm just very excited," the 33-year-old lab technician told

prize centre staff in Toronto when he claimed his windfall.

Persaud and his wife, Nadine, have one child. With the money, he plans to pay down his mortgage and maybe take a vacation. The winning ticket was bought in Brampton.

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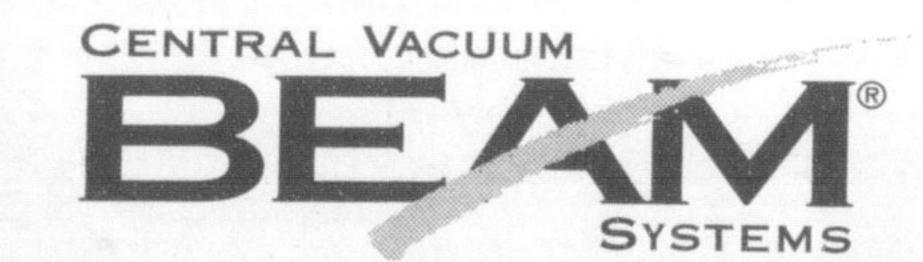
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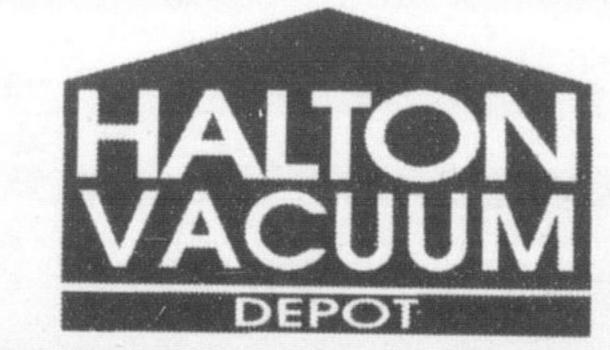
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