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Region recognized for energy management

The accolades are flowing in for the Region's energy conservation efforts when it comes to water and wastewater services.

Halton is one of the five municipalities that has been identified by the Municipal Benchmarking

Initiative (OMBI) expert panel for superior energy management practices leading to substantial energy and cost savings in the provision of its water and wastewater services.

The acknowledgment comes for the Region's energy management through

water loss control within ongoing leak detection studies of its municipal water distribution systems.

"This recognition by OMBI is one example of how Halton Region is embracing the important issue of energy management," said Regional Chair

Gary Carr. "Through this program we have been able to realize significant savings for the single taxpayer through efficiency and by being proactive."

The greatest benefit experienced through Halton's district metering area leak detection and repair program is the recovery of lost water through reclaiming significant water volumes leaving the distribution system in the form of unknown water main breaks or cracks.

From 2003 to 2005, the estimated savings in water loss attributed to Halton's leak detection program has equated to a volume of approximately 2,163 cubic metres a day.

Based on Halton design estimates, the reclaimed water volume would create the equivalent water resources required to service 2,370 potential single family homes. The estimated savings are \$675,923 over the three years based on savings in operation and maintenance costs, the value of the unbilled water and the deferral of capital costs required to construct the equivalent capacity of reclaimed water.

"Halton Region is pleased to be a participant in OMBI as it is a progressive tool for municipalities to measure and report on their programs and their successes," said Halton acting CAO Jane MacCaskill. "OMBI adds to accountability in the public sector."

To access the six best practices recognized by the OMBI, visit www.ombi.ca or the Web site for the Ontario Centre for Municipal Best Practices at www.ocmbp.ca.

Nia event for Holly this week

A fundraising event for Milton baby Holly Taylor — who suffers from schizencephaly, a developmental birth defect — will coincide with her first birthday.

The Spirit of the Season nia fundraiser will take place Thursday at Studio Harmonia, 410 Bronte St. S., suite 201 (south entrance).

From 6:30 to 9 p.m., residents are invited to browse through the offerings of holiday vendors who'll be selling their products, with a portion of the proceeds going toward Holly.

And from 7 to 8:30 p.m., a nia demonstration will take place with certified instructors from Studio Harmonia and Georgetown's Studio Soleil.

There's a suggested donation of \$20 for the event.

To register for the fundraiser, call (905) 875-0075 or e-mail info@studioharmonia.ca.

Holly fundraiser brings in \$2,700

Almost \$3,000 was raised for a local family facing some difficult times, at an event organized by the Kinette Club of Milton recently.

A Halloween dance was held at the end of October at the Milton legion to raise money for baby Holly Taylor, who's suffering from schizencephaly, a rare developmental birth defect.

The event raised \$2,700 for a fundraising account that's been set up for Holly at CIBC.

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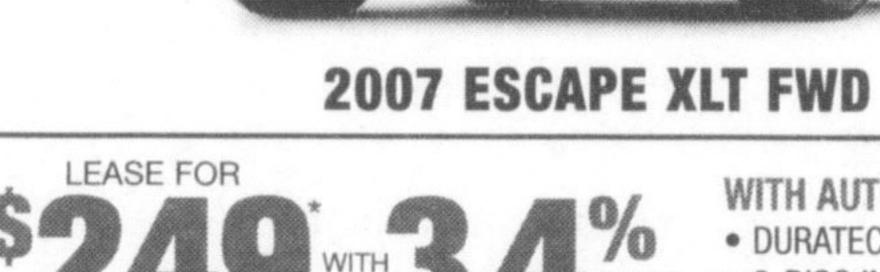
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