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Stepping back in time with a season of classics

Choristers' 2007/08 program begins next Saturday at Knox

The Milton Choristers are ready to burst out into song with a brand new season of entertainment, featuring a historical journey with choral favourites from the past and the present.

The season will begin with Choral Classics Saturday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church. This commemoration of the Town of Milton's 150th anniversary will include inspiring and memorable works such as the Battle Hymn of the Republic and the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah. A special presentation by the Milton Historical Society will depict a visual chronological evolution of Milton, paired with a reading by local poet Jenny Panda. The Milton Historical Society will also promote its newest book, Milton Streets, with copies available for sale, signed by authors Jim Dills and John Challinor II.

Classics of the Romantic Era will take place on March 29 at 7 p.m. at Grace Anglican Church. Presenting Fauré's Requiem and Schubert's Mass in G, with local talent showcasing the solos in these master works, this concert will capture the wide spectrum of emotion of that period in time with extreme dynamics. The season will wrap up with Classic Rock June 14 at 8 p.m. at Milton District High School where concert-goers can relive their musical memories from the '50s through to the '80s while they get re-acquainted with their dancing shoes. Back by popular demand, the Choristers will be accompanied by the Festival City Big Band from Stratford, Ont.

Artistic Director Sonja van de Hoef is back for her sixth season with the Choristers. She's also director of music at Knox Presbyterian Church, is founder and director of the Adoramus Children's Choir and is a chorister and soloist of the professional ensemble Arcady.

After a recent highly competitive selection process, the Canadian Chamber Choir (CCC) selected van de Hoef as the CCC Conducting Fellow for a recently-completed October tour in Ontario, which included



SOULFUL SOUNDS: The Milton Choristers eagerly await a new season, which will include a wide variety of classics.

FILE PHOTO BY GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

performances in London, Hamilton, Oakville and Elmira. The fellowship is intended to provide intensive exposure for a working conductor to hone her skills through study, rehearsal and performance in the field with a professional ensemble of 17 singers.

"My experience with the Canadian Chamber Choir has taken my musical passion to a whole new level," said van de Hoef. "The Milton Choristers are now experiencing being in front of a transformed conduc-

tor and I am thrilled to be passing my renewed excitement on to them."

Accomplished pianist, composer and arranger Norman Reintamm returns for his second season as accompanist. Born in Hamilton, Reintamm studied in Toronto as well as London, England.

He has guest conducted with many Canadian orchestras, served as assistant conductor for the National Ballet of Canada and was recently appointed principal conductor for the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony

Orchestra in Scarborough.

Subscription series savings are in effect until November 17 and will include a complimentary ticket to the Classics of the Romantic Era concert in March for the first 50 series' purchasers. Series tickets can be purchased on-line at www.miltonchoristers.com.

The season brochure is available on the aforementioned website and more information on the concert series can be obtained by

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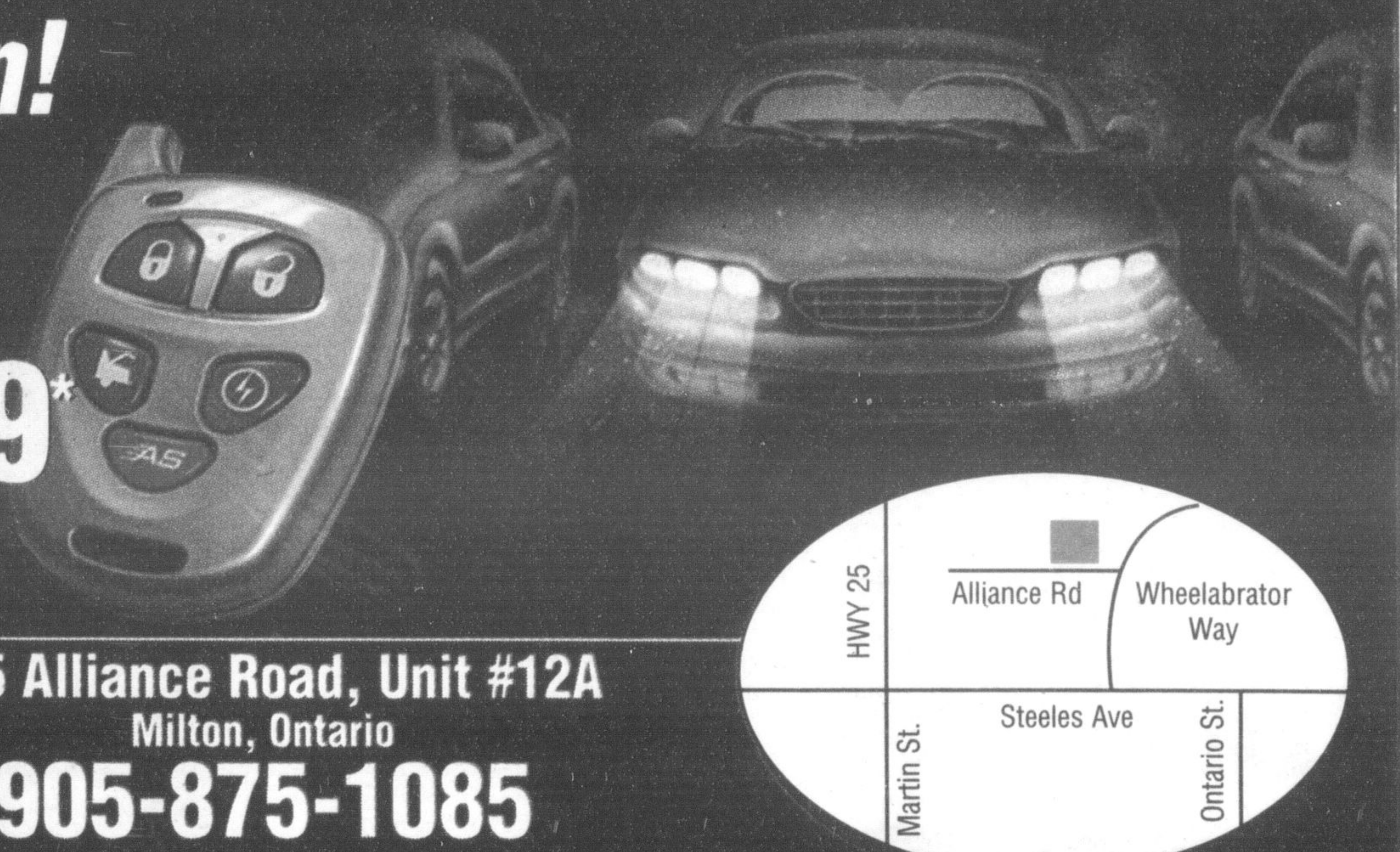
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