

\$155,658 — wow!

Miltonians have once again shown their generosity. With a surge of donations over the final few days before Christmas, the Milton Salvation Army's holiday fundraising drive topped out at \$155,658.68.

Although it was the first time in at least five years the fund fell short of its target, the late flood of donations pushed the total much closer to its \$170,000 goal than organizers could have expected a couple of weeks ago.

Kettle contributions were up significantly from 2006, which helped offset the drastic drop of walk-in donations.

"At the end of the day, Milton is a very generous community, so we're grateful for that," said Salvation Army, Khi Community captain Debra Blackman, who oversaw the holiday fundraising drive. "So many people

come together to raise support for us, whether through toy and food drives, volunteering on the Christmas kettles or the hundreds of individuals and organizations that donate to the campaign. Thank you for showing your concern and care for those in need in so many ways through your partnership with us."

Blackman offered a special thanks to the donated time and services of Gallinger Ford, Discount Car and Truck Rental and the Storage Spot, as well as to the Fifth Wheel for its annual charity turkey dinner.

Along with helping ensure all local families have a nice holiday, complete with dinner and presents for the kids, money raised will go toward keeping the food bank and family services operating in 2008.



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

OFFICIALLY OPEN: Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh and his wife Sandy cut the ribbon to officially open the MPP's new constituency office on Mill Street. Joining them are Halton Regional Police Supt. Signy Pittman, who commands 12 Division in Milton, Mayor Gord Krantz, Rosa Martins of the Milton Chamber of Commerce and Halton Deputy Police Chief Andrew Fletcher.

Samurai sword case put over as accused obtaining lawyer

A Milton woman accused of going on a recent rampage with a samurai sword will return to court via video connection Thursday.

Steeles Avenue resident Richele MacDonald, 21, appeared at Ontario Court of Justice in Milton Thursday morning by way of video, when the new date was set.

MacDonald told the court

from the Vanier women's correctional centre, where she's being held, that she's in the process of obtaining a lawyer.

MacDonald has been charged with two counts each of assault with a weapon, aggravated assault and mischief to property as well as possession of a weapon.

The charges are in connection with an incident December

2 in which a 26-year-old man was slashed by his sword-wielding girlfriend.

Moments later, part-time firefighter Steve Reynolds, 42, was seriously injured with the sword when he tried to restrain a woman at the Petro Canada station at Steeles Avenue and Martin Street.

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Manchisi Joins Power Team Leaders on Expert Panel at NAR Expo

Written by Pam Ivey

Top Producing Milton agent Domenic Manchisi uses the team approach to his booming Milton based real estate business and sees the results.

Manchisi, a broker from Prudential Town Centre Realty in Milton, Ontario recently joined other industry leaders in Las Vegas at the National Real Estate Conference and Expo speaking to approximately 600 Realtors about forming and managing championship power teams. In attendance on the panel with Manchisi were Brandon Fairbanks of Montecino and Associates Real Estate in California, Chip Neumann, featured in Pat Zaby's real estate book, Profiles of Top Producers and Partner of Neumann Real Estate, and Wayne Turner who's real estate company, Turner Real Estate Company, will close 200 sides in 2007.

Assembled and moderated by RIS Media Publisher of Real Estate Magazine, this panel's aim was to walk Realtors through the process of creating a team and included topics such as: identifying and mastering the art of delegating, providing the training and technologies that team members need to be successful and compensating team members to keep them on track.



Each Fall, over 25,000 real estate professionals and guests gather at the annual REALTORS® Conference & Expo to learn about industry trends, new technology and innovative products and services. Special seminars and education sessions provide REALTORS® with the know-how they need to better serve their community.

Manchisi's theory is that by allowing people to work within their strengths you build a team of specialists that provides the ultimate in customer service. Also with great systems in place you can relieve the pressures of buying and selling by keeping your clients informed with the process.

According to the National Association of realtors the average realtor sold 10 transactions in 2006. "This is why I felt the need to provide input in the upcoming Power Teams book", Domenic said. The book should hit the stores in February of 2008. Manchisi feels by helping and sharing with realtors at a great conference like

this one, it can make buying and selling a better experience for the consumer. Domenic and his team are currently ranked number two in Ontario with Prudential Real Estate and number 3 in Canada.

This report is courtesy of Domenic Manchisi, Broker, Prudential Town Centre Realty Brokerage. Not intended to solicit properties currently listed for sale. Copyright©2007.

Local residents invited to comment on Town's community services plan

Miltonians wishing to have their say on the Town's Community Services Master Plan still have time to do so.

Comments on the plan — one of seven under the Destiny Milton 2 umbrella — can be submitted on-line until January 15.

Developed after a variety of consultation sessions over the past year, the plan will serve as a long-range planning tool to guide the Community Services Department's annual priorities and objectives.

"The community services plan is a collective vision for parks, facilities, recreation and culture in the town of Milton," said Director of Community Services Jennifer Reynolds. "We will base our long-range work plans on delivering the services and programs looked for by the community, as outlined in the plan."

The master plan will provide direction for decision making, policy development and capital investment for Milton's future.

Added Mayor Gord Krantz, "Hearing feedback from residents on master plans is an important part of the Destiny Milton 2 process. Community input will ensure the Town continues to provide the right services at the right time and in the right way."

The draft Community Services Master Plan is available on the Town's website at www.milton.ca, and can also be made available in hardcopy form, upon request, by contacting Recreation Services Senior Manager Joy Anderson at (905) 878-7252, ext. 2604.

Feedback can be made via the comment form on the aforementioned website or by fax, mail or e-mail as noted in the document materials.