

Info to help people with special needs prepare for emergency

The Region is helping those with special needs and disabilities prepare for emergencies and their consequences.

The municipality officially unveiled its new emergency preparedness public education resources Tuesday.

The materials include a topic-focused pamphlet series, an audio CD on emergency preparedness and a closed-captioned personal emergency preparedness DVD.

"Everyone needs a plan," said Regional Chair Gary Carr.

"People with special needs should talk about their individual requirements with family, friends and caregivers. We hope these resources will be helpful as they discuss emergency preparedness plans with the people in their support network."

The pamphlet series addresses physical, visual, auditory and non-visible disabilities, as well as special needs considerations for seniors, travelers and people living or working in high-rise buildings.

Tips include how others can best assist a

person with a disability and additional suggested survival kit items.

The materials were prepared by the Community Management Co-ordinators Committee, which includes representation from the Region, City of Burlington, towns of Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville and the Halton Regional Police Service.

The Canadian Red Cross was on hand to help launch the resources Tuesday. Karen Charles, the Red Cross' regional manager for disaster management, commended the


Region for taking on the initiative, noting the materials are "all of great value."

The seven pamphlets are also available in audio format while the pamphlet focusing on vision can be obtained in Braille.

These materials supplement the information found in the Region's Personal Emergency Preparedness Guide available at www.halton.ca or by calling (905) 825-6000. Individual copies of the resources can also be ordered at www.halton.ca/beprepared.

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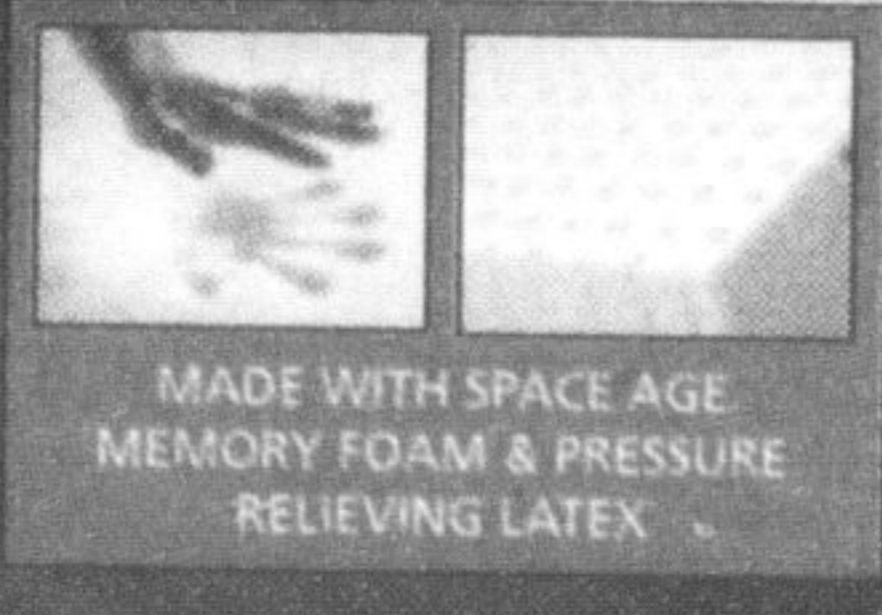
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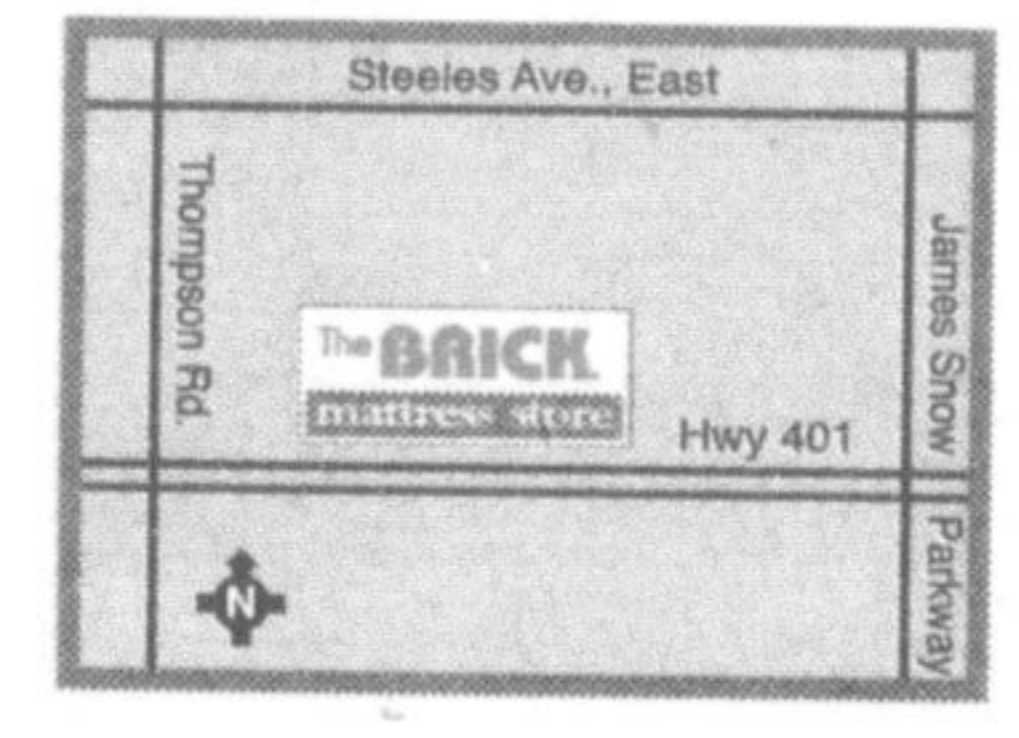


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