It still takes a community to raise a family, dear aunt

When I told an elderly aunt of mine that I was a parenting educator, she guffawed.

"We didn't need parenting experts in my day" she laughed. "We just did what came naturally and made the best of it and somehow we were able to raise huge families without any help."

I can certainly understand where she was coming from, but I had to drive home a couple of points:

• I certainly don't consider myself an 'expert' (just ask my kids). But as parenting educators we have access to a staggering array of resources. From books to videos, kits to pamphlets, referrals to workshops and of course the privilege of hearing what has worked for many different parents.

• The world is a very different place now. Parents used to be surrounded by extended family in smaller community settings. Many, if not most, parents of young children today live away from their own families. Some also don't know many people in their cities or neighbourhoods.

 Many families have two adults working outside the home with many of their friends and peers in the workplace. Upon becoming parents, it is easy to become isolated from social groups, especially if most of the old gang doesn't have kids.

We're so lucky to have places like the Milton Community and Resource Centre where parents can go and meet their peers in the community.



The simple act of gathering to talk about the joys and challenges of parenting today is a welcome respite for anyone.

Some things have changed.

Just think about how careful we have to be when packing our children's lunches

these days... and I won't even get into cars

But some things stay the same.

It still takes a community to raise a fami-

Danielle and Sue are now accepting quesfrom the public Daniellel@mcrc.on.ca.

Danielle Lalonde, E.C.E., B.A., is the mother of two and a parenting educator with the Ontario Early Years Centre, North Halton (www.mcrc.on.ca). She, with her colleague Sue Brathwaite, provide support and resources to assist parents and caregivers in their roles. The centre also provides early learning experiences for children up to six years of age.

Sore Feet? Chiropody If you are suffering from any of the following, we can help you. s for more than you Dry Cracked Heels Warts think. Surgery Callous Ingrown Nail Crooked Toes Custom Orthotics • Flat Feet Diabetic Foot Care • Corn Heel Spurs FOOT CLINIC Hibbert & Associates

NO REFERRALS NECESSARY

SATURDAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

3006 Derry Road West, Milton 905.876.1132

Design new Arts Milton logo and win

Milton's young artists will want to start flexing their creative muscles.

That's because Arts Milton is inviting anyone 19 years and under to come up with a design for its new logo.

The contest not only carries a \$750 bursary, but the chance to

work with Milton-based Clarion Sign, Display and Advertising partners in the project — to fine tune and produce the logo.

"This is a great opportunity for young artists. We're ready to upgrade our logo to one that's more reflective of the local arts scene moving forward," said

Arts Milton president Nancy Cuttle.

Submissions can be made in format logodesign@artsmilton.com. The deadline for entry is Wednesday, Apr. 30, with the winner announced at Arts Milton's street party on June 7.

For local arts events WWW. ATTSMILLON. COM



LISA HAYASHI

ELISABETH HIBBERT

Tish Wilson 201 - 1580 Derry Rd E corner of Derry and Trudeau 2nd floor

Please welcome your new Co-operators agent right here in your community. With over 17 years experience, you can count on Tish for solid advice. Call today for a free no obligation needs analysis.



Largest 100% Canadian multi-product insurer.

Home Auto Life Investments Group Business Farm Travel

C&C

Tish Wilson, Agent 201 - 1580 Derry Rd E, Milton ON L9T 6R2 (905) 864-6900



Human Resources and Social Development Canada

Invest in our future

When you talk and tell stories with your child, you are not just having

fun, you are investing in the future — theirs and ours. Children who

communicate well when they start kindergarten are kids who are

putting their best foot forward. And research shows that success at

For fresh ideas on making story-telling fun,

call Our Kids-Milton at 905-876-1306

We can help you make a lasting investment in your child's future.

school leads to success and happiness throughout life.

Ressources humaines et Développement social Canada Thousands of

Canadians are touched by breast cancer every year. It impacts the people living with the disease, their families, friends and loved ones. Learn more about this disease by visiting www.cbcf.org