

Thrilled firefighters recover wedding ring from fire



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and Prevention Services. "They really have lost everything."

But the salvage crew was able to recover something that's very near and dear to Lynda's heart — her wedding ring, which she leaves at home for safe keeping when taking part in activities at the cottage or the Milton Ladies Softball League, which she's the president of.

"It was so amazing to get that back," said Lynda. "It's a bit charred, but I can get it cleaned."

The family stopped by their fire-ravaged home again yesterday to survey the damage for themselves.

"Looking from afar is not so bad," said Lynda. "But once we go inside and see our things and say, 'Oh, remember that?' That will be the hard part."

Pratt said the Ontario Fire Marshal was called in to investigate along with the Halton Regional Police fraud unit, which looks into suspicious fires.

The cause of the blaze is currently undetermined.

Pratt explained the drywall and structural membrane of the house had been burned away, leaving no evidence of burn patterns to help identify the origin of the fire.

He also said no appliances had been left on.

The fire marshal took some samples

from the home in an effort to determine how it started.

The Wallers are now working with their insurance company to get into a new home.

In the meantime, the community is stepping up to help out the family.

Friend and neighbour Sheri Klutt has established a trust fund for the Wallers and has also been busy contacting people in the Pineview Public School community — the school the families' children attend.

So far, some donations of clothing and toys have come in, said Klutt.

"It's so hard to see a four-year-old bawling because his toys are gone," she said.

Lynda said she lost the charger for her cell phone — her only phone these days — in the fire as well, but the local Rogers Wireless store was kind enough to give her a new one.

"Everyone has been amazing," she said.

Those wishing to make a donation to the family can do so through the trust fund at the Scotiabank branch in the plaza at the corner of Laurier Avenue and Ontario Street.

The account number is 684520405825.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessey@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

SURVEYING THE DAMAGE: An investigator from the fire marshal's office returns to check out the scene Monday.

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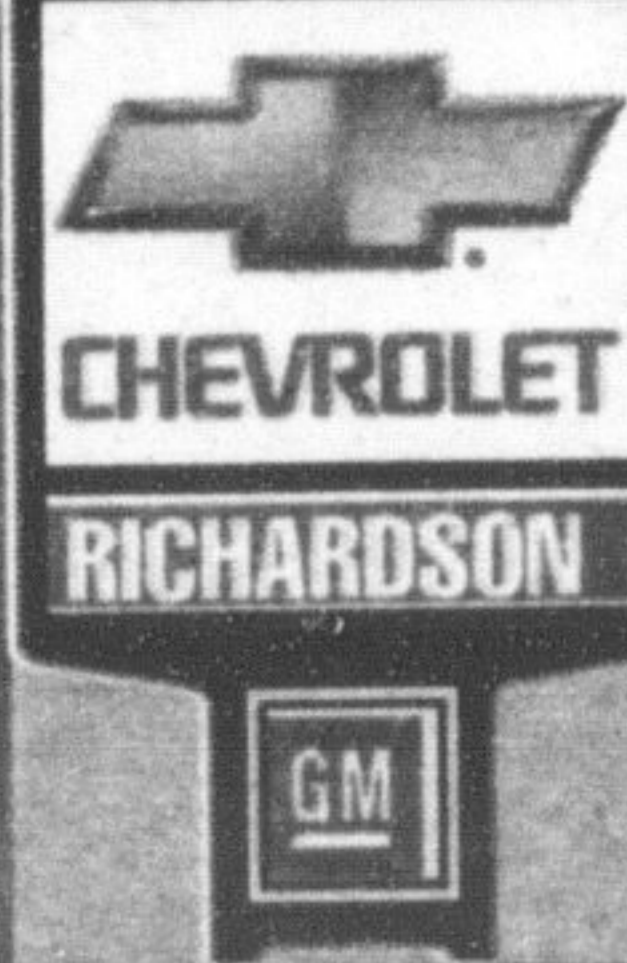


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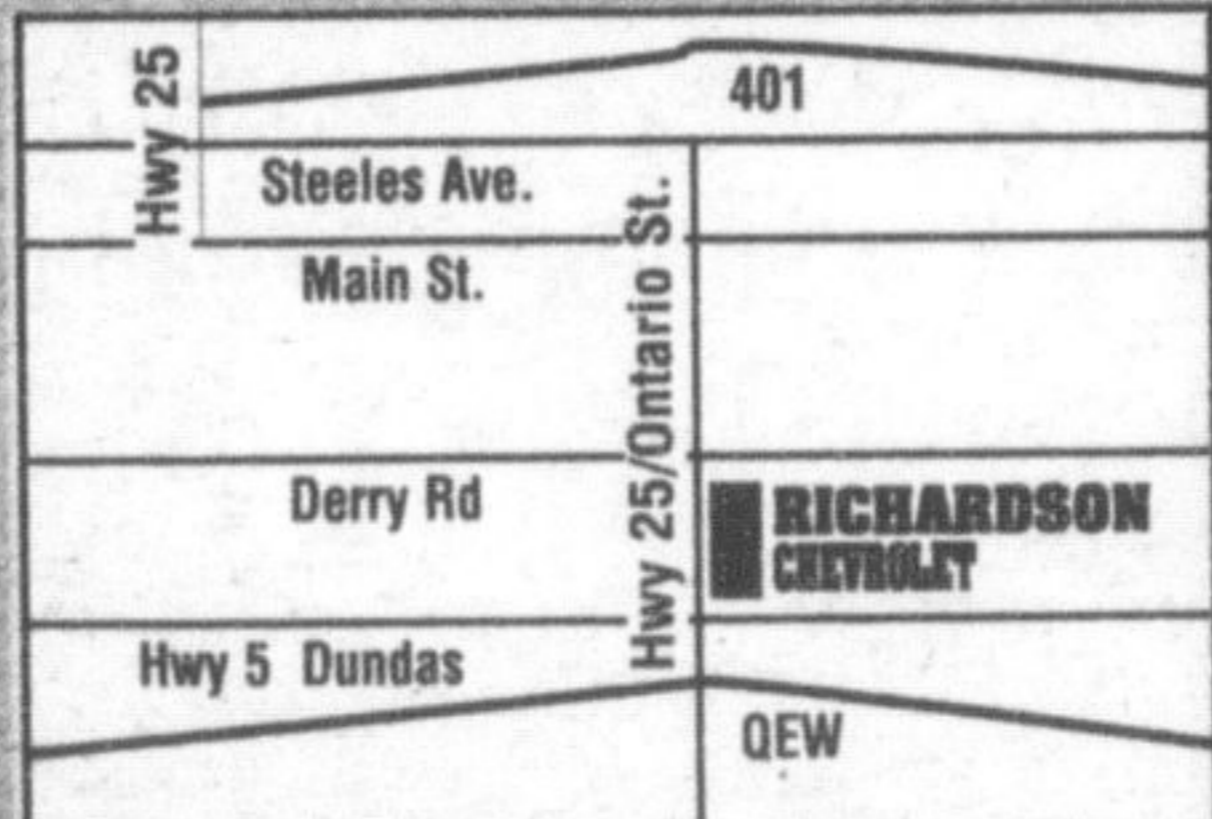
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