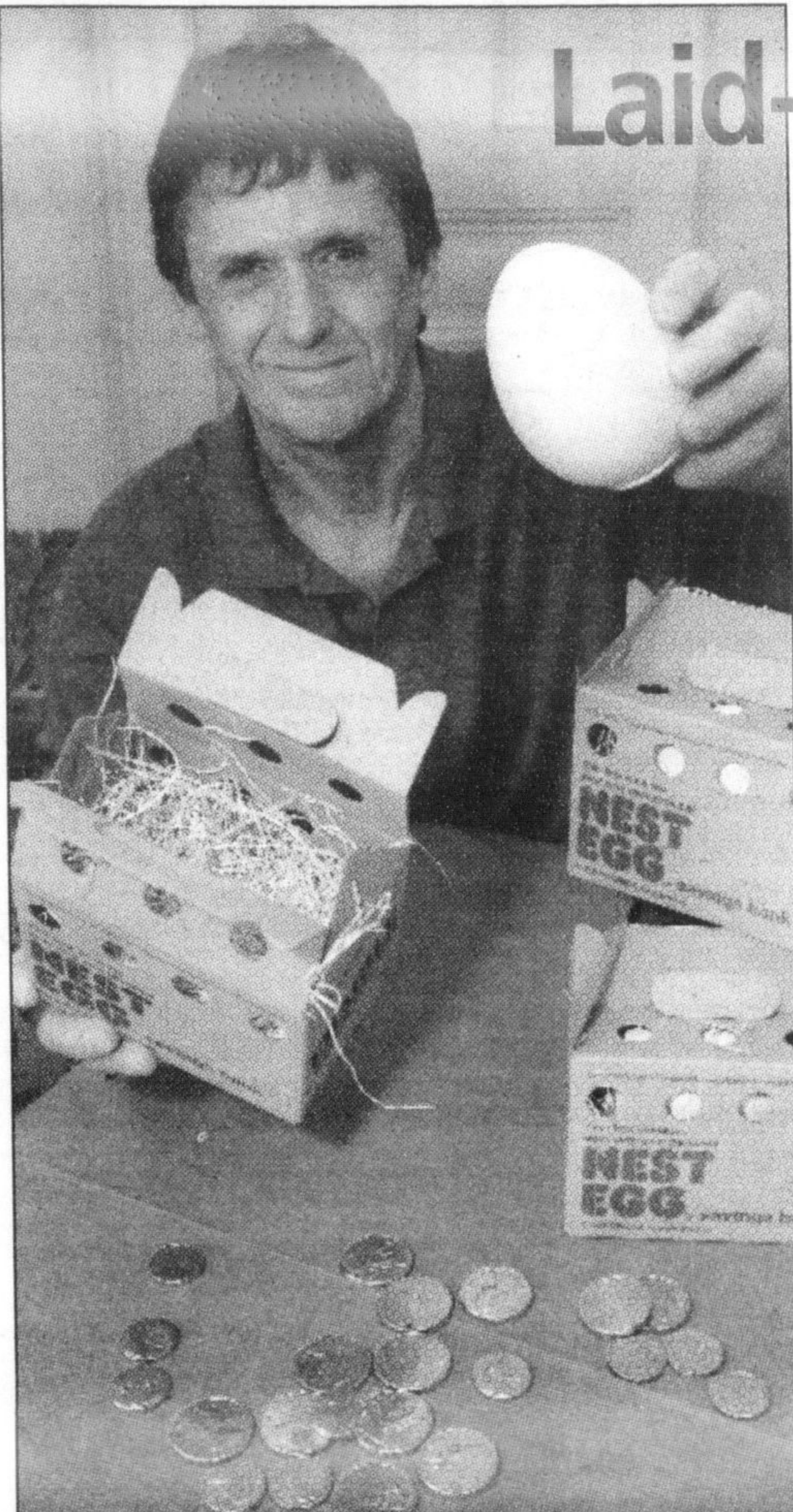


Laid-off construction worker has nest egg after all

By Stephanie Hounsell
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF



EGG-CELLENT IDEA: Derek Ash shows one of his Nest Eggs.

Like many people, Derek Ash didn't put much thought into saving for a rainy day. He didn't have much of a nest egg, because he didn't think he needed it.

And then it didn't just rain, it poured. In February, Ash was laid off from his job in construction where he'd worked for 13 years. He had a little bit saved, but it didn't last long.

"Nobody knew this was going to happen — that the economy was going to take a hit as much as it did," Ash said, explaining why he hadn't put more in the bank. "Not a lot of people have enough set aside in case of an emergency."

One night while lying in bed, he came up with an idea he thought could earn him some much-needed money while conveying a message about the importance of saving — something he learned the hard way.

The product he visualized was a piggy bank in the shape of an egg sitting in, you guessed it, a nest. A Nest Egg.

With Easter around the corner, Ash said he realized it would make a cute gift idea. He developed his entrepreneurial skills, getting in touch with the necessary people to bring

his idea to fruition. Now, he has 500 Nest Eggs sitting in his house.

From tomorrow until Saturday, Apr. 11, Ash will sell his creations for \$9.99 at Milton Mall.

"It's getting the message out there that you have to save something rather than nothing, because life turns on a dime."

The banks are ceramic bisque, which resembles the texture of an eggshell. The

components are made in the GTA, keeping the product local.

Ultimately, Ash is hoping to licence his product to a manufacturer/distributor and have the eggs sold in gift stores across Canada and the United States.

"It's creating an opportunity from an unfortunate circumstance," he said.

Stephanie Hounsell can be reached at sthiesse@miltoncanadianchampion.com.



The Regional
Municipality of Halton
www.halton.ca

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Sustainable Halton, Official Plan Review Directions and Proposed Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 37 ("An Amendment to Incorporate the Basic Requirements of the Places to Grow Plan")

The Regional Municipality of Halton has been undertaking a series of studies through a Sustainable Halton process to identify the preferred land use option and associated policies that will not only meet the requirements of the Provincial Places to Grow Plan but also represent the five-year review of the Region's Official Plan under Section 26 of The Planning Act. You are invited to drop in to one of the following Public Open House sessions:

- DATE:** Tuesday, April 21st, 2009
- TIME:** 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm (presentation at 7:00 pm)
- LOCATION:** Milton Sports Centre, Banquet Room, 605 Santa Maria Blvd., Milton

- DATE:** Tuesday, April 28th, 2009
- TIME:** 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm (presentation at 7:00 pm)
- LOCATION:** Rotary Youth Centre, 560 Guelph Line, Burlington

- DATE:** Wednesday, April 29th, 2009
- TIME:** 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm (presentation at 7:00 pm)
- LOCATION:** Halton Regional Centre, Auditorium, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville

- DATE:** Thursday, April 30th, 2009
- TIME:** 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm (presentation at 7:00 pm)
- LOCATION:** Mold-Masters Sportsplex & Park, The Hall, 221 Guelph Street (Hwy #7), Halton Hills

The purpose of this Public Open House is to give the public an opportunity to review materials and ask questions about the latest findings from the Sustainable Halton studies and proposed directions for changing the Regional Official Plan. It is also the open house to provide the public with information on Proposed Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 37 under Section 17(16) of the Planning Act. This Amendment is intended to update the Regional Official Plan incorporating basic requirements of the Places to Grow Plan by June 16, 2009, as mandated by The Places to Grow Act, 2005.

More information about Sustainable Halton is located on the Region's website at www.halton.ca/sustainablehalton. There will be opportunities for you to provide comments prior to, during and after the Public Open House sessions. You may direct your comments to Anita Fabac at (905) 825-6000 ext. 7187, or toll free at 1-866-442-5866; or by e-mail to anita.fabac@halton.ca.

Please note that the Public Open Houses are information sessions only and do not constitute the statutory public meeting of Council under Section 17(15)(d) or Section 26(3)(b) of The Planning Act, for which there will be separate notice.

Dated at the Town of Oakville April 3 2009.

1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario L6M 3L1
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