

# Friendly 'neighbourhood cat' shot with pellet gun

A7 • MILTON CHAMPION Wednesday, September 16, 2009

*Cat has to be euthenized after being found in distress*

By Stephanie Hounsell  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Chester the orange tabby didn't get nine lives.

Thursday evening the cat was shot by an unknown person with a pellet gun and, at the age of just 10 months, had to be put down.

"The whole neighbourhood is mourning this little cat, especially the children," said owner Susan Henderson, a Victoria Street resident. "He was really just a big kitten and very, very friendly."

He was a neighbourhood cat who went in and out as he pleased, and it wasn't unusual for residents to invite the affable feline in for a visit. Everyone kept an eye on him, Henderson said, and a neighbour had a key to her house so Chester could be let back in if she was out.

Susan and her husband, Barny, went out

Thursday, leaving Chester outside.

When they returned home later that night, they had a phone message from the Oakville and District Humane Society saying Chester had been picked up and taken to a vet in Mississauga.

X-rays confirmed a pellet was lodged in his stomach, and the next day Chester was euthanized for humane reasons.

Susan later found out a woman had discovered Chester in distress a few doors down, likely between 5 and 6 p.m. Thursday, and called the humane society. She's hoping the woman who called for help will contact her in hopes of finding out more information.

In a letter to the editor to the *Champion*, the Hendersons called the shooter a "loser."

"We know he's a loser because by shooting and killing our cat with a pellet gun only he can think he's a winner," they wrote.

"While we and our neighbours are hurting from such senseless violence we hope

someone who knows the loser will convince him to get help."

Halton Regional Police are investigating, but at press time had no leads on a motive or suspects.

"There's no way to tell if it was intentional or not," said Det. Sgt. Murray Drinkwater.

He said he's never before seen anything like this, but commented on the large number of pellet guns in town.

Chester certainly made his mark in the three short months he lived with the Hendersons. He was originally a stray taken in by a friend of Susan's. Susan convinced her to part with Chester and gave him to Barny for Father's Day.

Since Chester was used to being both indoors and outdoors, he kept that routine with the Hendersons, whose house backs on to a wooded area. Susan said nobody seemed to have a problem with Chester's wanderlust, despite it being against Milton's Animal Control Bylaw to allow cats to be at large.

If Chester had any problems, it was that he was too friendly, said Susan, wondering if that was his fatal flaw. "He just didn't have street smarts, I guess."

Anyone with information is asked to call police at (905) 825-4777, ext. 2410, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Stephanie Hounsell can be reached at [sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

## The Milton Farm CRAFT SHOW

September 19 & 20

★ Over 120 juried crafts people in the Great Gambrel Barn, The Aberfoyle Town Hall and Individual Exhibitor Tents

★ Handmade Quality

★ Great Food

★ Live Entertainment, Featuring Enriquez Lopez

Saturday & Sunday  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Adults \$6.00  
Children Under 12 FREE  
Parking FREE

AT  
**COUNTRY HERITAGE PARK**  
8560 Tremaine Road, Milton, ON  
Call 905-878-8151

Steeles Ave. W. to Tremaine Rd. & follow the signs.

**\$1.00 OFF ONE ADMISSION WITH THIS AD** MC

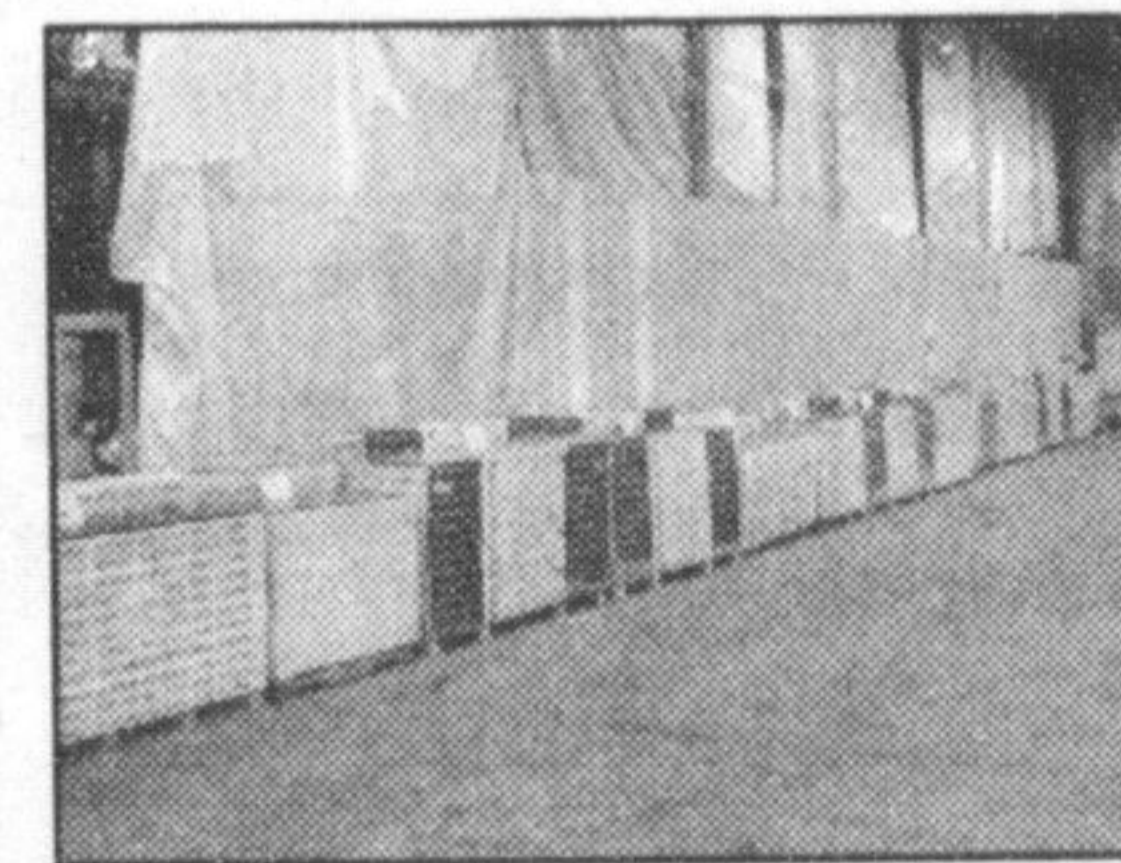
## PUBLIC AUCTION

**HARDWOOD AND LAMINATE FLOORING**

LOCATION: 3620B LAIRD ROAD UNIT #6, MISSISSAUGA ON  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19<sup>th</sup> 2009 at 11:00 AM**

**PREVIEW: Fri. Sept. 18-Noon to 5 PM • Day of Sale-From 9:00 AM**

**UNRESERVED AUCTION, NO MINIMUM BIDS • OVER 50,000 SQ FT**



You loved the last one so top quality Hardwood Flooring for less is back. This Auction will feature Top Quality 3/4" Pre Finished nail down hardwood flooring and will be sold regardless of Cost or Loss.

You can expect to see beautiful Oaks, Maples, Cherries, Black Walnut, Japanese Exotics, Bamboo, Birch, Golden Oaks in a large variety of Finishes including Hand Scraped and Wide Planks up to 5" wide.

There will also be a nice selection of Laminates and Engineered hardwood that can be laid right over Concrete. Both Feature an easy click together installation. The Engineered hardwood has a solid hardwood top that can be refinished up to 3 times.

Buy from the original Flooring Auction and the biggest and the best. We have sold over 2 Million square feet of flooring in the past 3 years. Our buyers return time and time again for excellent products and value.

BRING YOUR TRUCK, TRAILER OR CAR AND LOAD AND GO. All items must be removed the day of the sale! All flooring will be sold by the square foot to the highest bidder; BUY ONLY WHAT YOU NEED!

**CASH, VISA, MASTERCARD & DEBIT • STANDARD 15% BUYERS PREMIUM/APPLIES**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT ONLINE AT [WWW.FLOORAUCTION.CA](http://WWW.FLOORAUCTION.CA)



**905-820-0555**

**BABY'S OUTLET**  
FOR ALL YOUR BABY PRODUCTS  
537 Main St. E. • 905-636-8552

GRAND OPENING SAT. SEPT 18 **SALE UP TO 60% OFF**

**Mr. Big & Tall**  
MENSWEAR

**NOW OPEN**  
MILTON CROSSROADS

JOIN US FOR OUR  
**GRAND OPENING EVENT**

**25% OFF ENTIRE STORE**

**MILTON CROSSROADS**  
1180 STEELES AVENUE EAST, 905 636-8800

Offer limited to this location only. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers or promotions. Not redeemable for cash. Terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Offer expires September 27, 2009.