

# Semi-mall surpasses . . .



**Hard decision.** Faced with a sea of balloons to choose from, 2-year-old Georgia Hamilton had to get a close look. She and her parents moved to Milton just two weeks ago and came downtown Saturday to help celebrate the opening of Milton Centre.



**It's official.** Noon hour marked the official opening of Milton Centre Saturday. Barney Henderson (left), MPP Jim Snow, Mayor Gord Krantz raise the flags while Art Melanson looks on.

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Not only were children entertained but some did a bit of entertaining themselves. Not many could resist watching the dance routines and numerous other acts on stage in front of the Food Station which was the scene of the talent show.

Friday night entertainment for the Graffiti dance was provided by Duke and the Desotos who got the celebration off to a roaring start. Stores stayed open until midnight and special sidewalk sales were featured by Main St. merchants.

Milton Springs Gymnastic Club began the scheduled events Saturday with a morning performance followed by a rough and tumble time with the Ju-jitsu Club's demonstration. These events attracted crowds to the day's main event, the official opening of Milton Centre conducted at the flag poles across from Knox Presbyterian Church.

Mayor Gord Krantz, Downtown Business Improvement Area president Barney Henderson and MPP Jim Snow, Minister of Transportation and Communication took part in the flag raising and dedication ceremony officiated by Art Melanson.

Mr. Henderson told the crowd which included several members of council, "We've waited three years for this."

"It is not just in the interest of the merchants but all Milton residents that the downtown survive as a viable and intricate part of this town."

Congratulations were offered by Mr. Snow on the Main St. revitalization project which received a hefty loan of \$150,000 from the provincial government at a nominal interest rate.

Tables filled with antiques and collectables dotted the path of the wide sidewalks, a barbershop quartet roamed the street serenading shoppers along the way and Oscar the owl from Mounsbury eyed passersby from his perch in the H.R.C.A. van.

Halton Regional Police van was also parked on the street featuring crime prevention and safety displays.

There were free movies at the Roxy and free swimming at Rotary Park Pool.

Those who missed Friday night and Saturday on Main St. didn't miss just any event, they missed a community celebration which would make them wish for more summer days spent on a traffic free Main St.



Photos by  
Jane Muller



**Wee artist.** Sarah Johnston just couldn't wait to get her brush into the bright colored paints at Harris Stationery's poster contest where every child participating received a prize. The 3-year-old said her painting was of the sun which incidentally shone all day long making Milton Centre's opening all the better.



**Glassware unlimited.** Sealers, glass bowls and antique bottles dominated this table, one of many along Main St. Saturday. Brent Tasker, 11 was helping his father at this display.



**Main St. match.** Local Ju-jitsu club members put on an impressive show for the crowd Saturday doing their part for the street's official opening. Even in the heat of the day these youngsters made all the moves necessary to capture their audience's attention.



**Get your pancakes.** These Banvil Peewee baseball players put down the balls and bats Saturday to help the Milton Baseball Auxiliary serve pancakes. Team

members included from left Stuart Thorne, Dan Langlois, Tim Blackadar, Darren Widdis and Rich Brodie.



**Double talk.** Chester gives ventriloquist Mark Crocker of Hamilton some double talk to the enjoyment of Michelle, 2 and Danielle Miljour her 4-year-old sister.

Mark performed along side magician Tom Kubinek, also of Hamilton on Main St. Saturday as part of the Milton Centre opening celebration.