

Most want . . . a new life

Abused women continue use of Milton home

Halton Women's Place, a shelter in Milton, housed 169 women aged 15 to 63 last year. With them came 194 children. Although the number of women seeking shelter in 1985 dropped slightly, 4.5% from the previous year, the number of children went up 47% from 132 in 1983. The children ranged in ages from a few weeks to adult daughters in their 20s accompanying their mothers. The shelter's crisis line answered 700 calls, 372 relating to either physical or emotional abuse. Of those coming to the shelter, 87% arrived under emergency conditions.

Half of the intakes were a result of both physical and emotional abuse, and about 20% suffered only emotional abuse. "The abuser is usually a man, either a husband or lover, but in 6% of the residents, the abuser was another person such as a mother, stepfather, mother-in-law or landlord. During 1985, shelter was also given to some victims of rape. When space is available, women who are unable to find affordable housing are given a temporary roof over their heads.

The average occupancy level last year was 69%, almost 6% higher than 1984. Almost half of the residents were not working when they came to Halton Women's Place, and 43% were between the ages of 21 and 30. Others had worked part time or at low-paying jobs earning \$10,000 annually or less, and 10% had never held a job. Another 31% were supported through UIC, and family benefits, welfare, support payments and maternity benefits (2% only). Only 32% of the women reported having any money in the bank, and 27% had less than \$500. Family incomes ranged up to \$30,000 annually.

Among the residents, 58% were married to their abuser, 23% had common-law spouses, and the remainder were hurt by their friends and ex-husbands. These relations varied in length from one month to 45 years — the average length was just under nine years. Statistics also show 61% of the women and 67% of the men had no previous relationships. Over one-third of the women had left an earlier abusive situation, and 36% of the men had ruined a previous marriage through violence.

9% RETURNED HOME
Of those who returned to their abusive situations — just 9% of all the residents — 33% believe "he promised to change," 13% went back "for the sake of the children," and a "sad 7% said they had no alternative," states the annual report for Halton Women's Place. "Some of the other reasons given for returning

are chilling: 'My lawyer advised it, or 'He threatened to kill me' if I didn't come back."

With respect to the incidence of abuse, 22% were abused prior to marriage, 54% during pregnancy, 80% were abused in front of the children, and 64% in front of witnesses. The report states: "Sixty-eight per cent of these women had called the police at one time or another, 21% of them more than four times. About 46% of the abusive men had been charged with assault at one time or another — one-third of the charges laid by the woman, and half of them by the police. Where charges were laid, 27% were still pending (at the end of 1985), but 51% were convicted, a 19% increase compared to 1984's number of 32%.

"Over half of the victims (52%) have received medical treatment at one time or another for their injuries, inflicted most commonly by pushing and shoving (80%), hitting (74%), being thrown around (74%), slapped (69%) or punched (66%). Other indignities are as varied as the mind of man — one-third are forced into sexual activity, others are burned with cigarettes, bitten, or scalded with boiling water. Over one-third of these victims are attacked 'whenever he feels like it.' About 56% of the residents came from the Halton area, with 29% coming from Peel — overflow from Mississauga's Interim Place.

Upon entering Halton Women's Place, 71% of the women said they wished to reorganize their lives without their spouses, 17% were unsure, and "2% had the goal of making their marriages work." The departure statistics show 24% moved in with family or friends, 16% found their own accommodation, 14% moved to another hostel or group home, 9% returned home to their spouse, and 3% made other arrangements.

Dateline

Dateline is a free listing of coming events only, available to local community groups to assist in promoting their future events. Only charitable or non-profit community groups may use this service. We can only guarantee one issue of publicity closest to the date of the occurrence although more insertions are possible if other demand is low.

Notices for Dateline should be written and handed in at the office of The Champion, 191 Main St. E. or mailed to us at Box 248, Milton L7T 4N8. The final deadline is Friday at 3 p.m. for Wednesday's edition and Tuesday at 5 p.m. for Friday's edition. No items for Dateline will be accepted by telephone.

Wednesday June 4

THE BLOCK PARENT annual general meeting will be held for Sam Sherratt School for the election of the executive of the steering committee. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. For more information, call Debby Rennie at 878-5438.

THE KELSO TRIO (Judy Hunter, Elaine Rusk and David Dunn) and the **HOLLIER STRING QUARTET** with vocalists Kathleen West and Judy Hunter will present a concert at Milton Public Library at 7:30 p.m. The concert is a fund-raiser for the purchase of a piano to be placed by Milton Music Teachers Association at the library. Tickets are \$4 for adults, and \$3 for students and seniors. For tickets, call Elaine Rusk at 878-4276 or Judy Hunter at 878-6691.

Saturday June 7

A bazaar will be held at the senior citizens' Bruce Street Apartments, 40 Ontario St. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. White elephant table, craft table, baking table, tea table.

The fourth annual **NASSAGAWEYA FAIR** will be held at Brookville Public School from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. A day of fun, food and fitness is planned for all ages. There will be displays of aerobics, crafts, and dancing; sports tournaments; community information booths; prizes and draws. The theme for the fair is Fitness '86.

NASSAGAWEYA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH celebrates its 150th anniversary with a Homecomin' Chicken Fry at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 for half a chicken; \$4 for a quarter chicken. Includes salad, etc. Advance sale of tickets would be appreciated. Call 878-6424 for tickets.

Sunday June 8

REV. JAMES SUTHERLAND will

speak at the 150th anniversary service at Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m. A light lunch will follow. At 1 p.m., Rev. Charles Henderson will lead a memorial service. At 7 p.m., there will be a program of music and reminiscing.

Wednesday June 11

JOHN MILTON CHAPTER I.O.O.F. celebrates its 75th anniversary in community service with an appreciation tea for all its supporters at the Sunday School room of Knox Presbyterian Church from 1:30-4 p.m. Everyone welcome.

LA LECHE LEAGUE of Milton meets today for women interested in information about breastfeeding. For further information, call 878-4803 or 878-1387.

Past and present participants in the **YMCA's FITNESS PROGRAM** are invited to attend a Fitness Luncheon. Call Sue at 878-0739 for those who would like to attend.

THE GEORGETOWN & DISTRICT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL is offering an open invitation to a Christian education workshop and open house from 1:30-3 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. Children welcomed. For more information, call the school at 877-4221.

Saturday June 14

PALERMO UNITED CHURCH presents a chicken barbecue at 5, 6 and 7 p.m. at the church (corner highways 5 and 25). Sit-down or take-out. Adults full dinner \$7, children's (under 12) full dinner \$4.50. For tickets, call 827-1469, 827-1963 or 878-4001.

Wednesday June 18

The **YMCA** will operate **SUMMER FITNESS CLASSES** Wednesday mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. First class June 18. Babysitting available. Call YMCA at 878-8711 to register.

Wednesday June 25

Members and friends of the **MILTON and DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY** who are interested in going on a bus trip today to Peterborough are asked to call Lois Parker at 854-2588 or Florence Hall at 878-9564 to reserve a seat.

Strip without the Grind



It's easy as 1, 2, 3.

- 1 Simply brush on Cuprinol Paint and Stain Remover to remove most paints or stains from wood, metal and masonry.
- 2 Wait. Allow the product to work.
- 3 Now, just wash off the old paint or stain with your garden hose and brush. It's that easy. And it's safe to use around plants and lawns.

For outdoor use only.

CUPRINOL® does it right.

The name Cuprinol stands for higher quality Wood Stains, Coatings, Preservers and Paint and Stain Remover

Copeland Lumber
700 Main Street E.

Available at your nearest participating St. Clair Paint and Paper People dealer

Available at your nearest participating Home Hardware dealer

IT'S A GOOD TIME FOR THE GREAT TASTE



WEIGHT WATCHERS

Former meeting held at HOLY ROSARY PARISH HALL has been changed to

NEW LOCATION!

MILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
45 BRUCE ST.

NEW DAY

For Further Information call 1-800-268-3915

POOL SALE



HUGH HAND

WHERE QUALITY COMES FIRST

18X30% KIDNEY

\$8495 NOTHING DOWN *180/m

HAND POOLS
OAKVILLE 848-4200

"You've just found the simple and affordable way to computerize"

\$999

save \$600 Monitor sold separately. Regular price \$1599

Time is money. And the time is now to make a business decision you can afford. Tandy 1000 — a 128K one-drive micro with DeskMate™ integrated software that lets you start computing today. Clearly, the "1000" is the bottom line. For value, ultimate performance, and a bonus — an unbeatable sale price! 25-1000

Tandy 1000HD with 10-meg hard disk. 25-1001*
Clearance. Was 3299.00 now 1999.00

Choose a monitor to complete your "1000"

CM-4 colour. 25-1021 469.00
CM-10 high-res colour. 25-1022* 699.00
VM-4 monochrome. 25-1020 229.95

*May require special order and may not be available in all stores.

TANDY/Radio Shack

Available at all Radio Shack stores, Computer Centres, Plus Computer Centres and Authorized Sales Centres.
Sale expires July 31, 1986