

Some abusing garbage disposal system says angry rural councillor

By NORMAN NELSON

Milton's rural residents should no longer get a "free ride" at the garbage depot on Steeles Avenue in Milton, contends Milton regional councillor Bill Johnson.

"In some cases, persons who do not pay for garbage disposal are using this facility, which of course means they are having a "free ride" at the expense of those who do pay for this service," he said, in a report to be considered by regional council today (Wednesday).

"With the exorbitant cost of disposing of our garbage this cannot go on."

Under Milton's two-tier tax system, rural residents pay less municipal taxes and get fewer services — such as no home garbage pick up — than urban residents.

A recent town of Milton survey confirmed that the majority of rural residents would like to keep it that way. They oppose rural garbage pick up and the subsequent increase in taxes it would bring.

This doesn't surprise Mr. Johnson. "Obviously those who dispose of their garbage free of charge at the depot will respond to the negative."

Also abusing the free service, he said, are people from outside the region.

"Other municipalities charge for disposing of garbage at their depots, meaning that a short trip to Milton means a saving, especially if the load is large," he stated.

Another abuse occurring at the depot, he said, is the amount of material not being recycled.

He proposed that bagged residential garbage only be accepted if "recyclables were disposed of at the same time." There would be no charge for the recyclable goods, he added.

The Region's planning and public work's committee last week directed staff to come back with a report. Mr. Johnson is in Vancouver attending a waste management conference and could not be reached for further comment.

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Jasper Martin Day Saturday

The annual Jasper Martin Day will be celebrated downtown Saturday.

Sponsored by the Milton Downtown Business Improvement Area, the Main Street event from 7 a.m. to noon will highlight historical walking tours and other family activities.

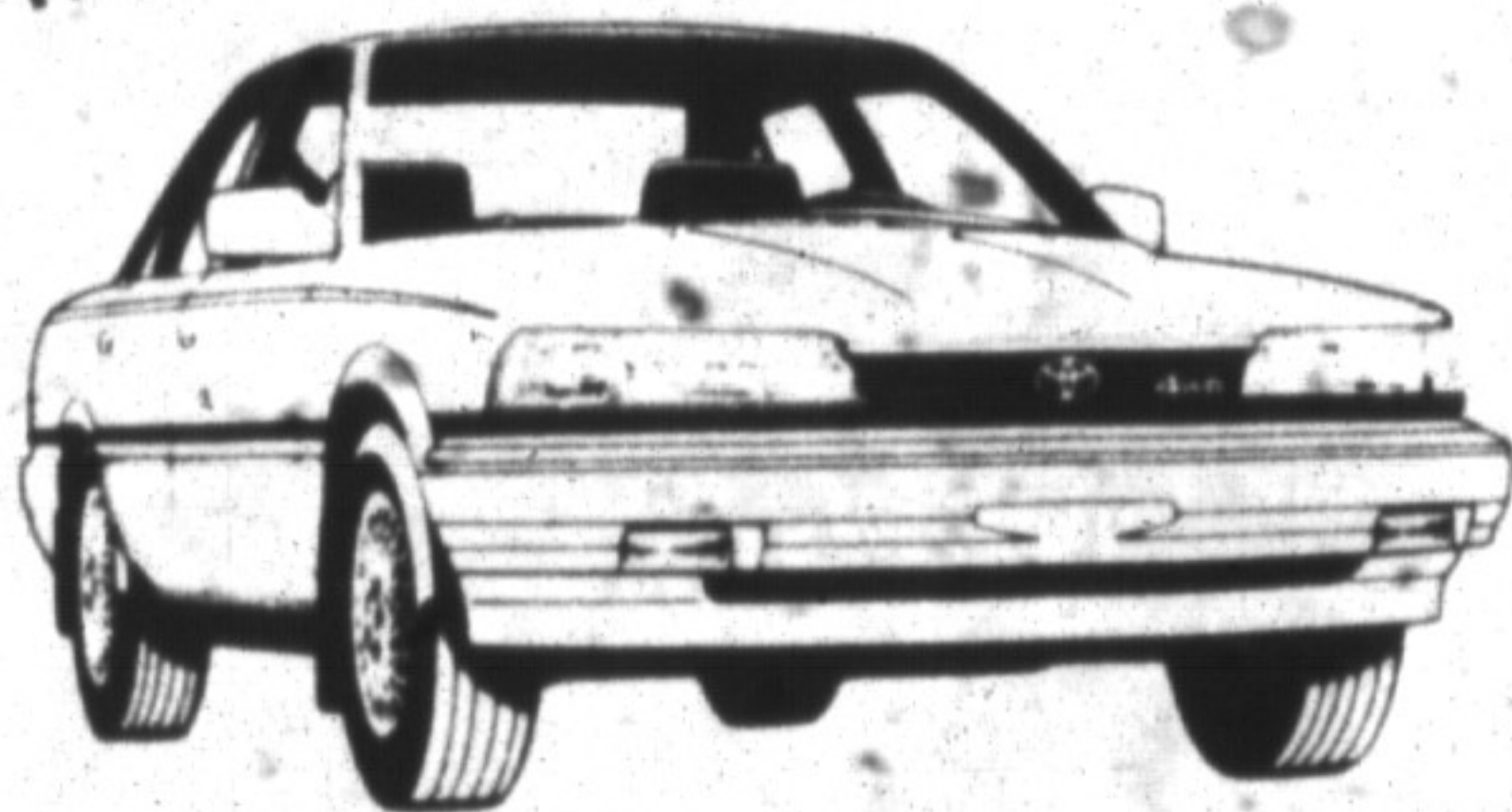
The Milton Jaycees will offer breakfast for \$2.50 at its Pancake Poll until 11 a.m. Choose the pancake topping which represents your favourite political party.

As usual, the Farmer's Market will display fresh produce.

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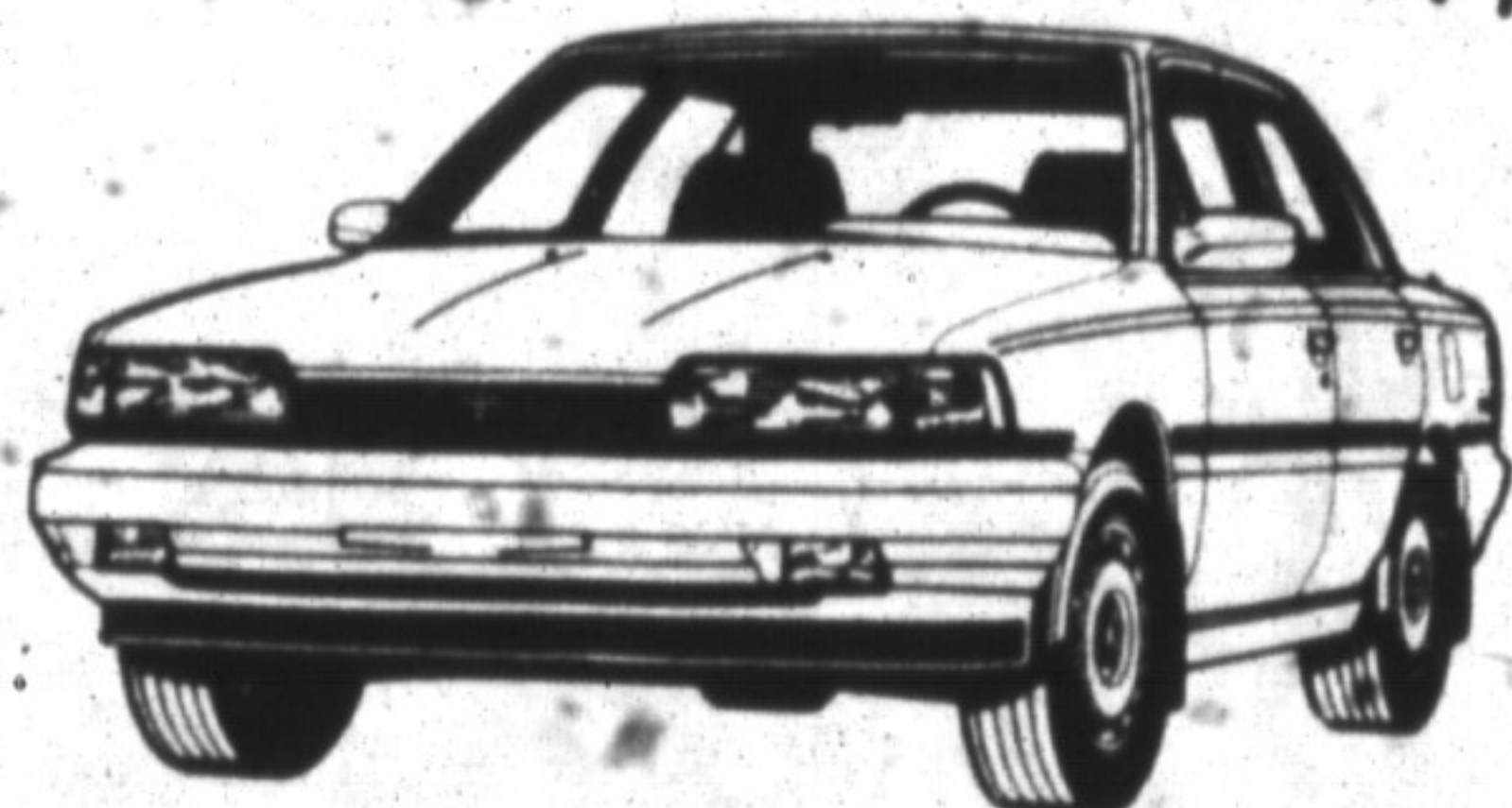
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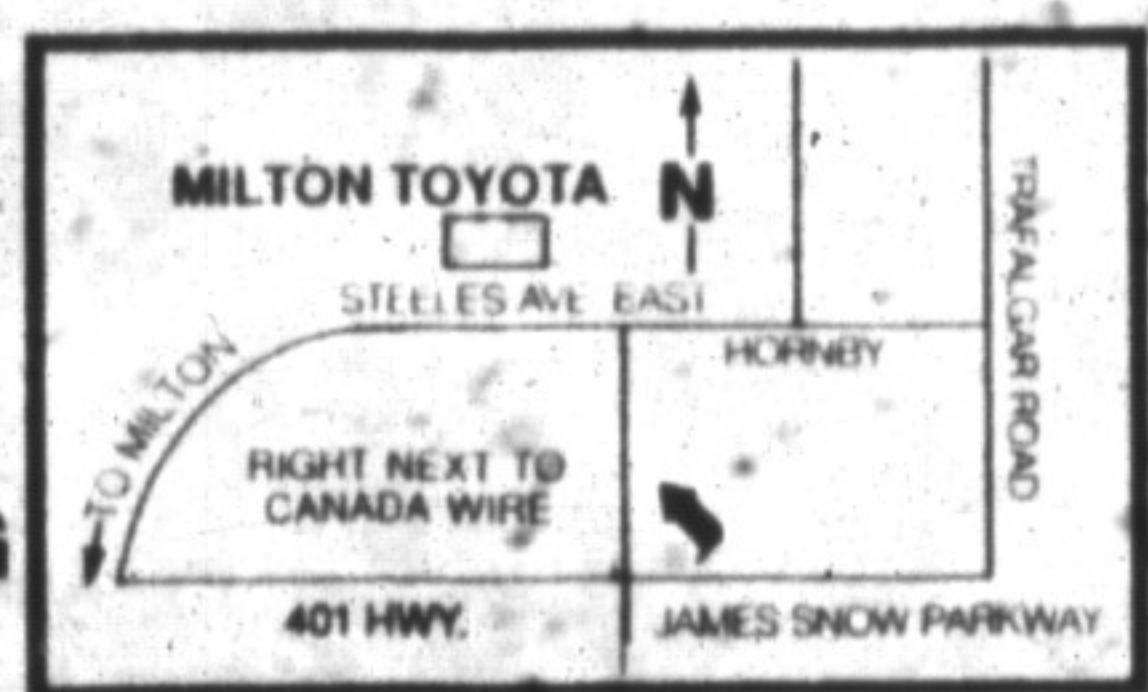
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