

The Canadian Champion

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NEWSLINES

Murdered woman's boyfriend charged

A Georgetown woman was found shot to death in her home on Eighth Line, north of Milton, Friday. Her common-law husband has been charged in the murder.

The body of Kimberly Lynn Thompson, 30, was discovered by another resident of the rural Halton Hills home just north of Steeles Avenue at about 3 p.m.

An autopsy performed Saturday revealed Miss Thompson died from a single shot in the left eye, said Halton police Detective Keith Woudstra.

Keith Bettridge, 35, Miss Thompson's common-law husband, was arrested at 7:41 a.m. by Belleville OPP Saturday at a cottage on Dewy's Island in Rosedale. He faces a first degree murder charge.

The pair had been living together since January, said Detective Doug McMillan. They moved to the Eighth Line farmhouse in June.

Miss Thompson was from the Toronto-Brampton area, he said.

Mr. Bettridge remains in custody after appearing in provincial court in Milton for a bail hearing Monday. He is scheduled to make a second court appearance July 6.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Happy birthday to us

Canadians of all ages will celebrate a birthday today as the country marks its 125th year. Students and staff at Safe and Sound and Primary Colours Pre-school dressed in red and white and made special hats for the birthday party they held. Milton's community party is at Rotary Park this afternoon and evening.

INSIDE



We're celebrating Canada's birthday today with a special section which includes a flag for your window.

See Special Section

Features

- Police 4
- Dateline 8
- Sports 13-17
- Classified 18-20

Miltowne Enterprises

- SUPPLIERS OF QUALITY
- Topsoil
 - Limestone Gravel
 - Bark Mulch
 - Rockery Stone
 - Beach Pebbles
 - Sand

876-2888

Council doesn't buy trade centre plan

Lawyer for "giant flea market" promises to press ahead

By ROB KELLY
The Champion

Town council will press ahead with a legal attack on a proposed \$4 million complex that its backers like to call a trade centre and its opponents like to call a giant flea market.

The 100,000 square foot building — which is planned to eventually double in size — would be located on the west side of Highway 25 north of

urban Milton in the town's Highway 401 industrial park area. According to plans, approximately 600 vendors would attract between 10,000 and 20,000 patrons a week, operating only on Saturdays and Sundays.

After a half-hour closed door session that capped almost two hours of debate, council voted 7-4 not to pull in their horns and abandon the legal challenge. Lawyer Howard Mott, who represented the developers, called the decision

"tragic" and indicated he's prepared to fight it out before a hearing board, if that's council's wish.

The dispute between council and the Milton St.

• see CLOSE VOTE on page 2

Public teachers settle contract

By ANGELA BLACKBURN
Special to The Champion

The Halton Board of Education has reached an agreement with its high school teachers calling for 1 per cent and 2 per cent increases during the life of the two-year contract.

The secondary school teacher agreement was one of three contracts ratified by public school trustees Thursday night.

"We believe this settlement responsibly addresses the current economic situation in Halton," said Sally Rewbotham, president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation, Halton District 9.

"At the same time, the contract protects the jobs of teachers, and therefore the interests of the students. Any staffing changes will be made through attrition."

• see TEACHERS on page 2

Food bank shelves empty

The Salvation Army is relying on Milton Mall's annual food drive to restock its shelves which are currently empty.

The food bank is "absolutely depleted," said Betty Zelinsky, family services worker for the organization.

More than 185 Milton families approached the Salvation Army for assistance last month, according to Mrs. Zelinsky. Before the recession, the average was about 60 families a month.

"It just keeps going up and up," she said

noting a 300 per cent increase in clients over 18 months.

A food drive to feed Milton's hungry is being held by Milton Mall starting Saturday. "It has come at a good time," said Mrs. Zelinsky.

The Salvation Army is hoping to receive donations of non-perishable food items in the drive which continues until Thursday, July 9. Food most needed is peanut butter, pasta, and stews. Donations can be dropped off in the Centre Court at the mall.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Crying over you

Ralph Wilding, a crier since 1983, reads the proclamation of Canada Day activities planned at Rotary Park. He was visiting the Milton Farmers' Market Saturday to promote local national birthday celebrations.