

NEWSLINES

Museum hosts kids fun day

The Halton Region Museum is inviting kids to join in on fun and excitement this summer.

The museum at Kelso Conservation Area is hosting the Kids' Summer Carnival. A whole roster of carnival games, shows, and activities are scheduled to take place Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

Admission to the event is free and most activities are complimentary as well. Also, no pre-registration is required.

Highlights of the carnival include pony rides, games of skill and chance, fortune telling by the mysterious Madame Zelda, the famous "Man Eating Chicken" Show, face painting, and homemade ice cream cranking.

The Kids' Summer Carnival is one of the many free activities featured as part of the Kidsummer '92 calendar of events.

INSIDE



Among the novel and antique cars on display Saturday at the farmers' market was a Messerschmitt — that's right, the same as the airplane.

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Impaired charge after 401 accident

A 33-year-old Brampton woman has been charged with impaired driving causing bodily harm following a single car accident on Highway 401 Tuesday night.

A 1979 Plymouth Horizon went out of control while travelling westbound on Hwy. 401 near the Trafalgar Road exit at 10:15 p.m.

The car swerved into the north ditch and travelled 55 metres before striking a pole, said Milton OPP.

Cst. Vince Ariemma and an off-duty Peel Regional Police officer, who were first to arrive at the scene, used a crowbar to pry open the car doors.

The driver was trapped in her seat, and the sole passenger, a 40-year-old Caledon East woman, was unconscious on the floor of the car, police said.

The driver suffered a fractured skull and ankle while the passenger received broken ribs, a fractured ankle, and multiple cuts. Both occupants were taken to Milton District Hospital.

The Brampton woman also faces charges of impaired driving and refusing a breathalyser test. She is scheduled to appear in Milton provincial court October 5.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Demonstration sport

J.M. Denyes summer day camp gets into the spirit of the Olympics with a mini version of their own Wednesday morning. Camp Olympics includes wheelbarrow racing, here with leader Vanessa Box, who is being pushed across the finish line by Candice Meloche and David Uhrig.

Climber's condition serious

By KAREN SMITH
The Champion

A rock climber injured when he fell 50 feet at Rattlesnake Point Tuesday was listed in serious condition in hospital yesterday.

Jim Rose, 45, of London, England fell to the bottom of a large cliff at the conservation area after he lost his balance and slipped, Halton police said.

The man's two children, who were watching their parents climb, stood by helplessly as their father dropped to the ground, landing head first.

The accident is being blamed on lack of climbing experience. While Mr. Rose is a five-year veteran of the challenging pastime, his wife was just learning.

The 12:30 p.m. fall occurred when Mr. Rose's belay line, which serves as a life line if a climber slips, wasn't handled correctly, said Halton Regional Police constable Clive Hubbard.

When Mr. Rose slipped, police said his wife, who was holding the rope, lacked the experience needed to react to the situation.

"It was inexperience on the part of the person holding the belay line," said constable Hubbard.

Firefighters and ambulance attendants stabilized the injured climber and carried him up a rugged path in

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Purple loosestrife, proving to be a problem as it takes over Ontario wetlands, grows up to 2 metres. Here, nine-year-old Laura Williams studies the plant with counsellor Corine Kollman as part of pond studies at Mountsberg Wildlife Centre. The European weed can be found in abundance at the Campbellville conservation area.

Purple plague invading marshes

By KAREN SMITH
The Champion

A problem weed nicknamed the "purple plague" is slowly creeping up on Ontario wetlands.

Halton isn't immune to the originally European plant — purple loosestrife — which experts say is threatening native vegetation in shallow-water marshes.

Rugged yet attractive when in bloom, the plant is growing in abundance across the region, locally at Mountsberg Conservation Area.

"It's limited what you can do about it," said Brenda Axon, manager of resource planning for the Halton Region Conservation Authority. "It can stand flooding and it can also tolerate drought."

While the plant — a perennial — prefers marshes, it can grow in any wet area. "You'll also see it in a roadside ditch," added Ms Axon.

The "purple plague" has no natural enemies in North America to help restrict its growth rate. "One plant can produce up to 2.7 million seeds each year," she said.

The weed has now invaded half the wetlands in

southern Ontario and grows north from Sault Ste. Marie to Kirkland Lake. In the United States, the most recent study estimates that 1,900 square kilometres of wetland habitat are lost annually to purple loosestrife.

The impact of the plant on native vegetation has been "disastrous," according to a report released by the provincial Ministry of Natural Resources.

The weed easily out-competes other plant life and then forms thick woody roots. Unlike many other invading plants, purple loosestrife regenerates annually with no apparent loss of vigour.

It has also been known to reduce wildlife populations because the plant doesn't provide suitable food, nesting habitat, or shelter for animals, said Ms Axon.

The weed was accidentally introduced into rivers in northeastern North America in the early 1800s, likely in the ballast water dumped by ocean-going ships from Europe.

Purple loosestrife was also imported for use by gardeners and as a honey plant for beekeepers.

In Canada, the plant caused few problems until

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SPECIALS OF THE WEEK



| ALL SEASON SIZE & TYPE | M.S.L. | 2ND TIRE | PAIR | ALL SEASON SIZE & TYPE | M.S.L. | 2ND TIRE | PAIR |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|--------|-------------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| P155/80R13 NW ARRIVA | 76." | 19." | 95.60 | P215/75R15 NW S4S | 97." | 19." | 116.45 |
| P175/80R13 NW INVICTA GL | 109." | 19." | 128.90 | P205/75R15 B/W WRANGLER | 138." | 19." | 157.50 |
| P185/70R14 NW ARRIVA | 104." | 19." | 123.70 | P215/75R15 B/W WRANGLER | 139." | 19." | 158.05 |
| P205/75R14 NW ARRIVA | 111." | 19." | 130.10 | P215/80R16 EAGLE GA | 166." | 19." | 185.80 |
| P205/75R15 NW S4S | 95." | 19." | 114.40 | | | | |

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