

The Canadian Champion

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Weekend

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NEWSLINES

Great big pumpkin contest

Only students need apply for prizes in the third annual Big Pumpkin weigh-off at Andrews Scenic Acres on Monday, Oct. 12.

The biggest pumpkin will be determined at 2:30 p.m. The growers of the largest pumpkin in each of the two divisions win a share of \$800 in prize money. Categories include regular jack-o-lantern pumpkins and the Atlantic giant variety.

Of the \$800 in prize money, \$400 is directed by the winners to a charity in Halton. Additional prizes will also be awarded.

The pumpkin contest is the main event on a day at Andrews when there'll be pumpkin carving, a haunted forest, wagon rides, pony rides and a creative playground and animal coral.

INSIDE



Staff at Canadian Meter have cooked up a big donation to the local Branch of the Cancer Society.

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'No' vote outcome unclear: Turner

By KAREN SMITH
The Champion

Local students voiced concern over how the Charlottetown Accord will affect the future of Canada Thursday morning during a talk on the proposed constitutional amendments.

"There seems to be a lot of confusion," Grade 12 student Jason Windsor told *The Champion* in the midst of a presentation by Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner at E.C. Drury High School.

Mr. Turner discussed the referendum debate with senior students — many who are of voting age — but couldn't predict the outcome of a "no" vote.

"If we vote yes we'll get this," he said pointing to a report on the proposed amendments. "If we vote no, I don't know what will happen."

He said Quebec would be guaranteed 25 per cent of the seats in the House of Commons if citizens vote "yes" on Oct. 26. The move is geared at making French-speaking Canadians feel more a part of the country. "We have to choose if we will accept Quebec as being different," he said.

• see TURNER on page 3

Food drive

The Milton Fire Department is accepting bags full of food at Central Station on Steeles Avenue.

Paper bags to be filled with non-perishable food items are being inserted in daily newspapers as part of a Thanksgiving drive.

All donations will go to the local Salvation Army food bank.

Mary Long gets 3-year licence suspension, probation

By KAREN SMITH
The Champion

A former town councillor who led police on a high-speed chase in Brampton has been prohibited from driving for three years.

Judge Elliot Allen also sentenced Mary Long, 46, of Britannia Road to three years probation and ordered her to perform 250 hours of community service work.

Ms Long, who pleaded guilty last month to

dangerous driving, gasped when she heard the judge's decision in Brampton provincial court Wednesday.

The former Ward 2 councillor was charged March 15 last year after trying to outrun a Peel Regional Police officer who was attempting to stop her for speeding on McLaughlin Road.

She led police on a three-minute chase with speeds reaching 120 kilometres in a 60-km zone at about 2 p.m.

Ms Long, who driver's licence at the time was

under suspension for unpaid fines, came dangerously close to three children playing in the street, said Crown Attorney Mike Cantlon.

Mr. Cantlon requested Ms Long be sentenced to a "short, sharp" jail term or a heavy fine and a driving prohibition.

But considering Ms Long's "excellent character," said Judge Allen, he ruled a jail term wasn't "appropriate" in the case.

The judge said he received 13 letters of reference. • see SUSPENSION on page 3

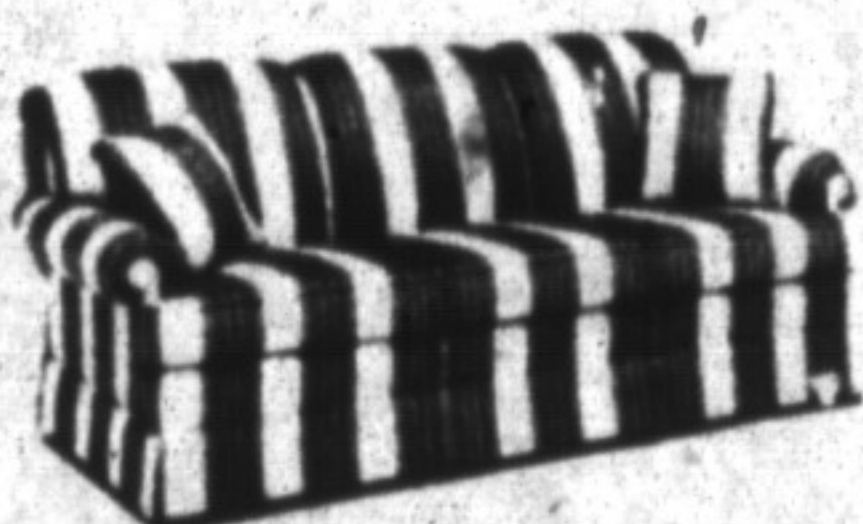


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Playing it safe

Three-year-old Alex Gomes became a firefighter, at least for a little while, at Milton Mall Wednesday. As part of Fire Prevention Week, the Milton Fire Department held displays at the mall from Monday to Thursday. Tonight, Central Station on Steeles Avenue and Station No. 3 on Derry Road are holding open houses from 7 to 9 p.m.

Premier Sofas from \$749



HOURS: Tues. & Wed. 10-5, Thurs. & Fri. 10-9, Saturday 10-5



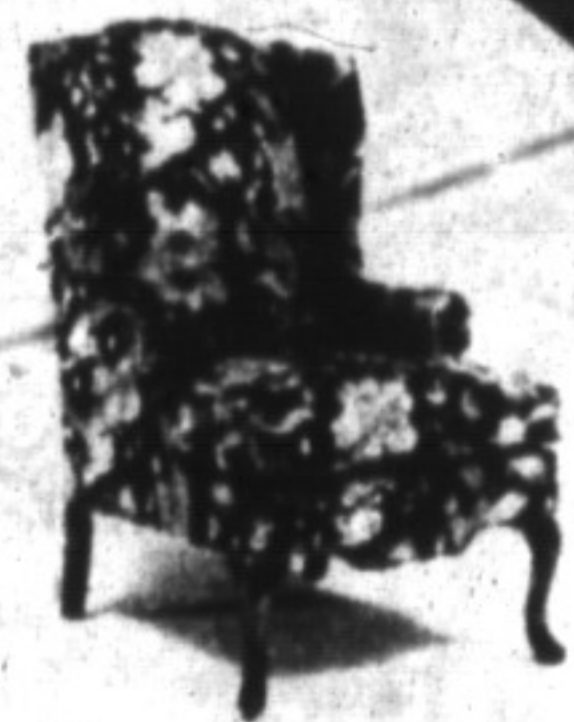
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