lington were targeted by thieves one night last month.

Halton Regional Police and Crime Stoppers would appreciate hearing from anyone who thinks they may have information that could lead to an arrest in the

Three businesses were broken into and entries were attempted at three other stores in the downtown core area of James and John streets.

The culprits were looking for cash. They damaged several doors and cabinets during their search for it.

Investigators feel it's likely these places were hit sometime between 10 p.m. June 8 and 7:30 the following morning.

If you have any information that leads to an arrest in this or any other case you may be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000. You need not give your name and your information will be treated with complete anonymity.

Call 1-800-668-5151 or 825-TIPS(8477).

OMAGH

Teacher retires

Members of the Home and School Association of Percy Merry gathered recently at a local restaurant for a noon luncheon and to present the retiring president leleen Vanderdeen with a gift.

In the past year, association members have raised money in many ways — charity bingo games, sales, fairs, barbecues, and have purchased several pieces of play equipment and computers for the school.

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The Academy of Music district competition was held Sunday, July 11 at the Heritage Hotel in Rexdale. The Milton branch had about 100 students competing in the various 'classes and most were prize winners.

Congratulations to Heather Arbuckle, Katie Patterson and Robert Moses on placing first, second and third in Grade 2 piano solo and to their teacher Joanne Parker. Each received a medallion.

Students from many other districts competed.

Mr. and Mrs. Rick Rowan of Calgary have been visiting relatives and friends in this area for two weeks.

She's made an event out of self-employment

New six-week program teaches how to be your own boss

By KAREN SMITH

The Champion

With the help of a new program, Jackie Patrick has become her own boss in the field of event planning.

The 29-year-old Milton woman took advantage of the Self Employment Assistance Program, which was recently held for the first time in Halton.

Sponsored by the Canada Employment Centre and Sheridan College, the program shows people collecting unemployment insurance benefits who are interested in becoming their own bosses how to go about it.

The program helps participants decide if they have what it takes to operate their own businesses and guides them along the way.

Ms Patrick, a wife and mother of a two-year-old, says she believes her business venture is a unique idea in this area. "There's nobody in Milton that does what I do."

Through Patrick Event Planning, the outgoing woman

plans special events such as trade shows, sales meetings, seminars and social functions for companies as well as individuals.

She will organize everything from start to finish, and charge a fee of about 10 per cent of the event's budget.

A graduate of the University of Toronto's fine arts program, her background is in marketing and advertising. In the Self Employment Assistance Program, Ms Patrick will receive unemployment insurance benefits for 52 weeks while her business gets off the ground.

A Milton resident for the last five years, she's currently planning an event for a ski club — her first job in the new business.

Through the program, she can also use the services and resources available at Sheridan College's Oakville Enterprise Centre.

Held at the college, the program runs for six weeks and starts about every two months.

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Jackie Patrick

BRIAN F. AGNEW

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