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Volume 10, Number 10 FRIDAY JULY 8, 1994 Serving Milton, Ontario 75¢

NEWSLINES

Cops want answers

Police are asking for assistance from the public after a seven-year-old Milton girl reported that a stranger told her to get in his car Wednesday.

The girl was walking along Kingsleigh Court near Glenn Crescent at about noon when a man in a small red vehicle stopped and said, "Please, get into my car," the girl told Halton Regional Police.

A six-year-old girl standing nearby saw the seven-year-old run away from the car and obtained a partial plate number — 369, which could either be the first three numbers or the last three, said Det. Sgt. Ron Welsh.

The driver of the car is described as male, white, in his 20s, with short, dark hair. He was wearing glasses. The front end of the car was black.

Det. Sgt. Welsh said the incident could be either serious or a misunderstanding and "totally innocent," and is asking for the public's help in getting to the bottom of it.

Anyone with any information is asked to contact Milton investigators at 878-5511, ext. 2116.

Fish at Kelso

Fishing Kids Canada's Ron Whittick will be at the Kelso Conservation Area this weekend, July 9 and 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. as part of the Ontario Family Fishing Weekend.

Mr. Whittick invites everyone to join him for a fishing equipment display, a catch and release fishing demonstration and games to teach about fishing and fish management.

The event is part of the Ontario Family Fishing Weekend, July 8 to 10, sponsored by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the one weekend during which you can fish in Ontario without a licence.

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\$700 million plan backed by councillors

By ANGELA BLACKBURN
The Champion

The Halton Urban Structure Plan (HUSP) is ready to move ahead another step as 20 recommendations setting the stage for negotiations for the total \$700 million plan - \$550 million for water and sewage, another \$150 million for other regional services, such as roads — received regional committee approval Wednesday.

A 132-page HUSP financing report was presented at a joint planning and public works/administration and finance committee. It held three financial scenarios — conventional public sector growth funding, private-public sector partnership or HUSP rejection.

Conventional financing would create high builder development charges and mean an initial \$200 million funding gap. HUSP rejection was similarly undesirable after eight years' work and the steady march of growth in Halton.

Regional staff recommended HUSP financing involve partnerships among the region, benefitting landowners, a private sector consortium and the province.

If approved by regional council next week, staff will have authority to test the waters and seek out those partnerships.

The HUSP is a comprehensive planning document that, Burlington Mayor Walter Mulkeewich said, "would allow Halton to manage future growth as opposed to being victimized by it."

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz moved Wednesday's recommendations, saying it would be "folly" not to forge ahead now.

"Simply saying no to growth will not make the problem go away," said Mr. Krantz.

He referred to the "hard lessons" in Oakville and Burlington in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) and

•See PLAN page 8



Graduation day

Several local kids recently graduated from Safe and Sound Children's Centre on Third Line in style. Caps, gowns and a stretch limousine were all part of the festivities. Clockwise from centre front are Graham Sharp, Philip Ismond, Katie White, Jeremy Brown and Aaron Hall.

Strawberry fun fair for United Way this weekend

The annual Springridge Farm Strawberry Festival is expected to be even bigger and better this year.

This weekend's fundraiser for the United Way of Milton will include more volunteers manning more activities for families, especially for youngsters, say organizers.

The event this Saturday and Sunday will feature family fun and entertainment from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Among the highlights will be a craft show with 34 vendors, music by Spiritual Posse, and singer Annalise Noronha.

Children's activities will include face painting, trampolines, a fish pond, prizes and photos with 'Barney.' Wagon rides, a barbecue lunch and strawberry picking will also be available.

The farm is located on Bell School Line, north of Derry Road and south of Steeles Avenue. For further details or information please call 878-4908.

Admission is free.

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