

# Biz club is looking for new members

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Also speaking at the high schools this week were a number of experienced J.A. members, including Bishop Reding's Rebecca Nevins, who will be participating for a fifth year. "Our first year, with desk-top organizers and candy in a jar, was an absolute flunk but year two was extremely profitable with various kitchen table products like tooth pick holders, candle holders and salt and pepper shakers," said Rebecca, who has also sold ski carriers, CD clocks, and decorative light switch and electric plate covers during her J.A. experience.

"I'm hoping to start my own business down the road. I've learned a lot from my

J.A. experience, particularly that it's okay to make a mistake and that risks are a good thing."

The Junior Achievement program is now being run at 44 Main Street, above Halton Community Credit Union, with weekly meetings held Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Students have a choice of which night they will meet, with sessions lasting two-and-a-half hours. The first meeting will be held this coming Tuesday.

"Through J.A., students go through every step of the business process, from initial creation of a product to its sale and even the publication of a shareholders report," said Mr. Shepherd, who said the Milton chapter

included 160 students last year. He's hoping to double that this year.

A public accounting expert, he is one of several business supervisors for the program. "As supervisors, we get to see first hand the difference J.A. makes in experience and leadership skills, because the students do all the primary decision making for a real company with real products and real profits."

The J.A. Milton Chapter is looking for both new recruits and new volunteer supervisors. To register, or for more information, call Mike Shepherd at 878-8105 (Halton Community Credit Union) or Pam Preston at 878-4601.

# Your tax dollars could end up in the stock market

By BRAD REAUME  
The Champion

Municipal councils could soon be able to play the stock market with your tax dollars.

Possible changes to municipal administration rules would allow town councils to buy a wider range of securities, members of Halton's administration and finance committee heard Wednesday. Legislation regulating municipalities is expected to become less restrictive beginning later this fall.

"We shouldn't be playing the stock market," said Oakville Councillor Keith Bird. "Do we want people lining up wanting us to buy stocks in their companies with taxpayers' money?"

Mr. Bird also questioned why Halton Region is holding a foreign currency such as Dutch guilders in its investment portfolio.

According to acting chief administrative officer Joe

Rinaldo legislation will probably require a direct decision by council to engage in specific investments. He told the committee the impact of the changes will likely be minimal, although they "may provide some additional opportunities in terms of increased investment powers and borrowing flexibility."

Committee chair and Burlington Councillor Rob MacIssac said diversification is the best investment policy for growth and asset protection.

"If we limit our investments to Canada then we are playing with only a tiny fraction of the world market," said Mr. MacIssac.

The issue is likely to resurface at regional council next week when provisions for possible legislative changes to municipalities are debated before local comments are passed on to the provincial government.

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