

**ANOTHER
GREAT TRADE!**

1991 Cadillac Fleetwood
Grey on grey, leather, all the
Cadillac luxury features incl.
Gold Package. Only 52,000 km.

Wallace
Pontiac • Buick • Cadillac
409 Main St. E. 878-2355

The Canadian Champion Weekend

**KAREN'S
FLOWER SHOP**
487 Laurier Ave., Milton
Complete Floral
Service
878-2881

Volume 12, Number 26

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1, 1996

Serving Milton, Ontario 75¢

No bail for teenaged bank robbery suspect

Ex-Milton woman faces five charges

An 18-year-old woman accused of robbing four Milton banks was told to stay in jail while awaiting trial.

Justice of the Peace William Phipps denied bail to bank heist suspect Lorraine Chicoine of Brampton in Ontario Court (provincial division) in Milton Tuesday.

The weary-looking former Milton woman - arrested Monday following a robbery at the Toronto-Dominion Bank on Main Street - sat with her head slumped down for most of the afternoon bail hearing.

She wore jeans and a t-shirt and her thick, dark, curly hair was tinted slightly purple.

Testimony at the bail hearing cannot be published under a ban requested by Ms Chicoine's duty counsel lawyer - normal

procedure for bail hearings to prevent prejudicing a future trial.

Ms Chicoine is charged with five counts of robbery in connection with four bank hold-ups in Milton and one in Mississauga last month.

The Milton robberies included heists at the Toronto-Dominion Bank Monday, the Bank of Montreal at Milton Mall Oct. 4 and the Royal Bank, also at the mall, Oct. 15. The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce on Main Street was also robbed Oct. 17 and a Royal Bank branch in Mississauga was held up Oct. 25.

An August stick-up by a woman at the National Trust at Milton Mall isn't believed to be part of the robber's spree.

The woman is scheduled to return to court November 4 to set a trial date.

Vandalism angers cops

By **KAREN SMITH**
The Champion

Police say Devil's Night was relatively quiet, although youngsters didn't all behave themselves.

An annoyed Staff Sgt. Jackie Gordon said police received numerous reports of windows being smashed on the eve of Halloween, with most of the damage at town schools.

"There is no excuse for this. It is pure vandalism, not just pranks," she said. "We will be pursuing the persons responsible to make sure they're held accountable."

Windows were reportedly smashed at Milton District and E.C. Drury high schools Wednesday night. Twelve windows were destroyed at Milton District after 10:15 p.m. while eight were targeted at E.C. Drury at 11:30 p.m., police said.

A car parked at Arc Industries on Main Street and one at a nearby doctor's office fell to the hands of window smashers, as did a vehicle parked at the E.C. Drury campus.

A 15-year-old Milton youth was arrested

• see **WINDOWS** on page 5



Photo by **GRAHAM PAINE**

Cecil Patterson, a member of the Percy W. Merry school council, is opposed to the facility's recommended closure.

School community rallies to fight Halton board ruling

By **BRAD REAUME**
The Champion

PARENTS AND TEACHERS at Percy Merry Public School are gearing up to fight a recommendation to close the 38-year-old institution.

Recommendations to close several Halton public schools in an attempt to shave \$2 million from the operating budget were handed down at a recent meeting of the Halton Board of Education.

Local groups will have an opportunity to plead their cases before trustees at a November 19 meeting to be held at E.C. Drury High School.

Local farmer Cecil Patterson attended Percy Merry School more than 35 years ago and his children are there today. In addition, Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield went there. Mr. Patterson said the school, located on Britannia Road just west of Trafalgar Road, functions as a community centre for the rural neighbourhood.

According to board documents Percy Merry, which supports students in kindergarten to grade six, currently has about 116 students, well below its capacity of 220. In addition the board estimates nearly \$200,000 in repairs are required to the building over the next 10 years.

Mr. Patterson, a member of the school council, said parents will attempt to convince the board that a more modest repair schedule can help keep costs down. In addition they will suggest Percy Merry carry grade seven and eight classes to help alleviate the strain of excess students at Sam Sherratt School on Laurier Avenue. They will also use the substantial population growth expected in Milton in the near future as a reason to keep the school open.

"It makes no sense to close a school today and sell off the property only to have to build another school in a few years at a substantial cost," said Kim Pickering, another member of the school council.

The school council is sponsoring another public meeting on Monday, Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. in the gym at Percy Merry. At a previous meeting local parents were apprised of the situation and committees were struck to gather background for their presentation to trustees on November 19.

Bob Williams, the current director of education for the Halton board, said when the closure announcements were made that parents merely being upset would not change the board's position. He said it would be necessary to make a convincing and reasoned argument in order for recommendations to be altered.

• see **HORNBY** on page 5

NEWSLINES

Rural home burns

A Campbellville home burned to the ground last Friday while the tenants were on vacation.

The house on No. 25 Sideroad, west of Guelph Line, was engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived shortly after 6:30 a.m.

Occupants watching the house escaped without injury, said Deputy Chief Dave Krantz of the Milton Fire Department. A damage estimate wasn't available.

The cause of the fire is being investigated by the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office.

**MOUNTAINVIEW
VETERINARY SERVICES**

327 Bronte St. S. Milton L9T 4A4

New
Location

Dr. Jo-Ann McKinnon
875-1322

MILLSIDE RESTAURANT



LOUIS

8oz. Hand Cut
NEW YORK STEAK



TOM

RIBS &
WING COMBO

All specials include
choice of rice, vegetables,
potato, soup or
salad &
garlic bread.

ONLY