  
 Canadian Mental Health Association Halton Region Branch  
 cordially invites you to its  
**Eighteenth Annual  
 Charity Auction**  
 Sunday, November 17, 1996  
 at  
 The Oakville Club  
 56 Water Street  
 Oakville  
 Preview: 1:00 p.m. • Auction: 2:00 p.m.  
 For more information, to donate, or to order tickets,  
 please call 905-845-5044  
 Tickets: \$20.00 each

**All privately funded**

**Santa parade needs money**

A consortium of Milton service clubs is taking the lead role in producing this year's Santa Claus Parade, but money to fund the enterprise is an annual concern.

Parade treasurer and Rotarian Thomas Dusmet is trying to secure the ongoing financial health of the parade, which he says is one of the few major community events that help define Milton. He is urging those who want to donate to help out now and build money into their budgets early in the year for the 1998 parade.

"Everyone's heart is with the parade but there is no money, except what we are able to raise," said Mr. Dusmet. "The parade is entirely funded by the community, with no financial support from government."

There is an envelope in today's issue of *The Champion* for parade donations. Those wishing to help with the cause are asked to put their cash or cheques in the envelope and bring them to the parade. Service club representatives will collect the envelopes along the route.

Mr. Dusmet said he actually prefers government to stay out of the funding of the event, in fact he is lend-

ing his efforts to the cause precisely because there is no municipal funding.

"If people want to see the parade in the future they are going to have to help with the costs," he said, adding it costs about \$10,000 a year to stage.


People have suggested to him that donations are difficult to provide late in the year and a reminder earlier could help. Mr. Dusmet said each mailing costs more than \$700, which is expensive given the total parade budget.

According to Bonnie Ward, Milton's co-ordinator of community programs, the municipality provides administrative support to the parade and helps to co-ordinate the volunteers.


Seven service groups including the Legion, Kinsmen, Jaycees, Lions and members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) are involved in various roles.

Interested individuals and groups can call Mr. Dusmet at 876-1530 to arrange for a donation. This year, the Santa Claus Parade is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 17.


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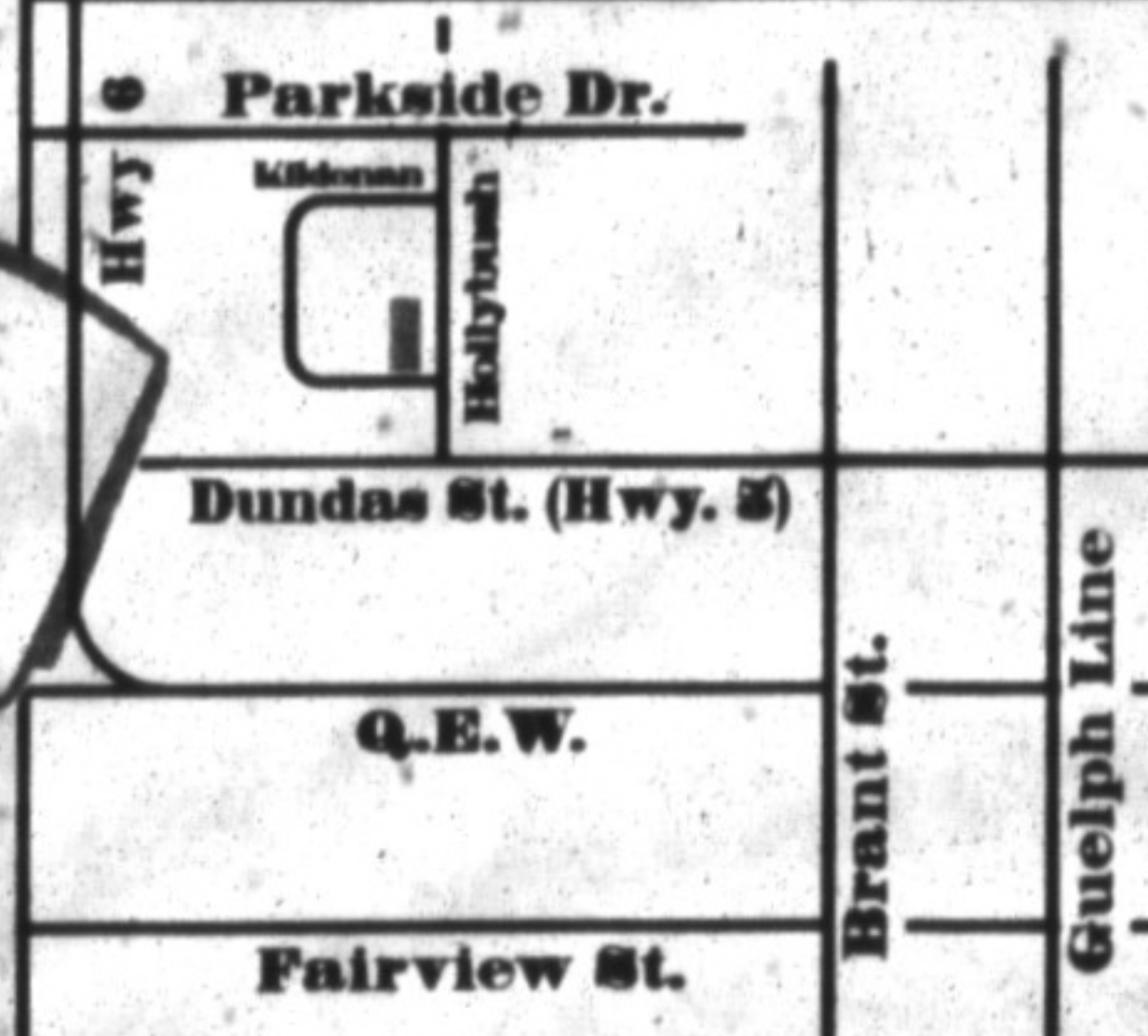


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