

The Canadian Cham

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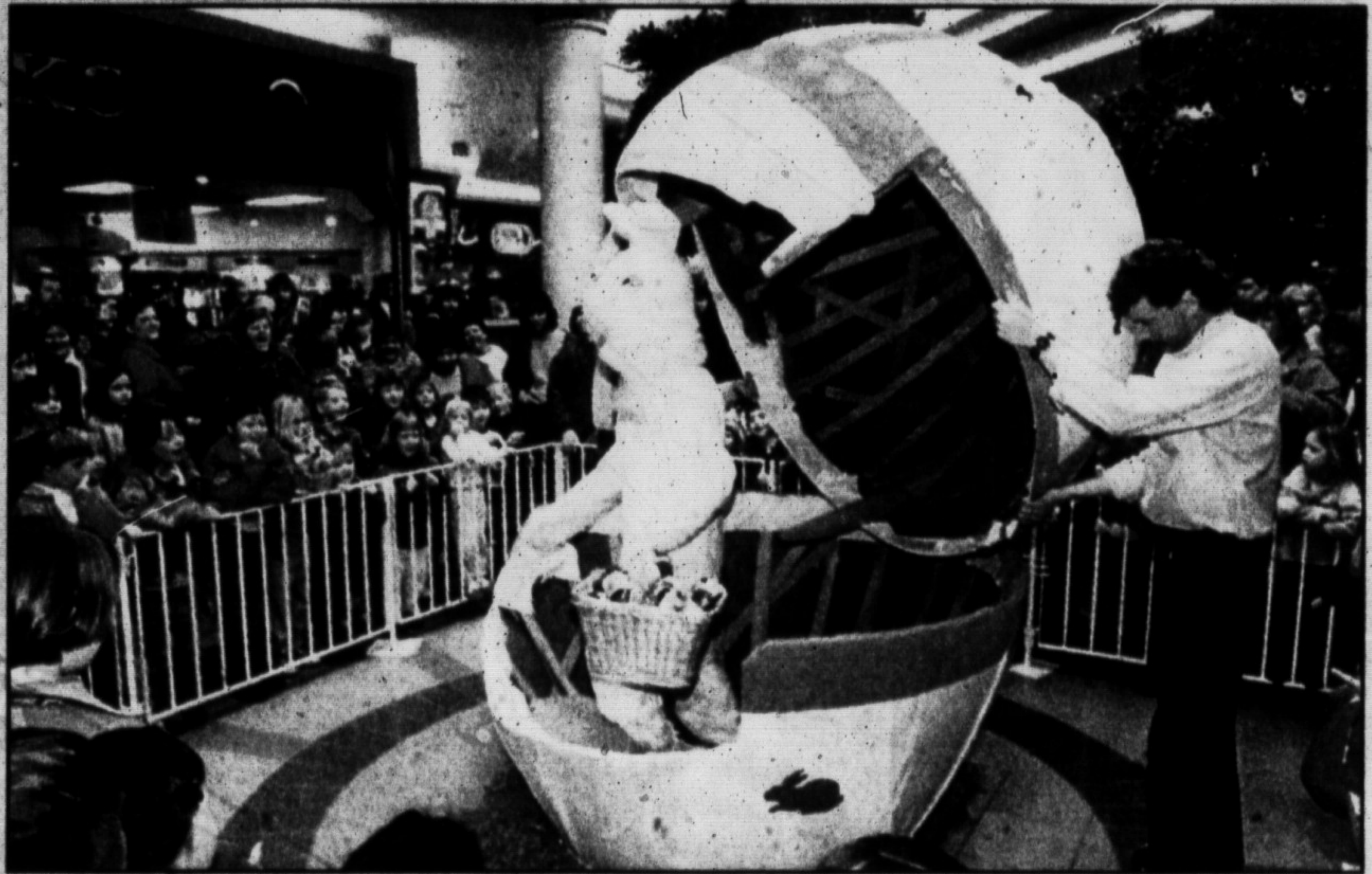
A Metroland Community Newspaper

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36 Pages

75¢ (GST included)



Guest of honour

Emerging from a giant egg at Milton Mall Saturday, the Easter Bunny arrived in town early. He handed out small stuffed bunnies to about 75 youngsters who gathered to get a close up look. At left, three-year-old Yvonne Medeiros took a little while to get used to the oversized rabbit, but she eventually warmed up.

Photos by Graham Paine

NEWSLINES

VON needs volunteers

The Victorian Order of Nurses' Hospice Program will start its 10-week orientation session for new volunteers this month.

Those who can spare two to three hours per week to visit a terminally ill person in his or her home, or who would like further information about the program/orientation, are asked to call Linda Shaver at 827-8800.

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Krantz warns:

Today a tax freeze, but tomorrow a heavy hike

By BRAD REAUME

The Champion

With a pledge to keep property taxes frozen for 1997, Milton councillors slogged through two nights of budget debate last week. But bad news may be just around the corner.

When the freeze was achieved, Milton Mayor Gord Krantz warned property taxpayers could face a 25 per cent increase in taxes in 1998. He blamed funding shifts by the provincial government for programs such as welfare, education, and highways.

"I want to go on record that in 1998-99 there will be tax increases, and substantial tax increases. If you pay \$3,000 now you might be paying \$4,000," Mr. Krantz said. "The (Halton) Board of Education is also talking about a 5 to 7 per cent increase this year as well."

"If you pay \$3,000 now you might be paying \$4,000 in 1998-99."

GORD KRANTZ



There was some questioning of the method councillors used to achieve the 1997 tax freeze.

Whittling down various programs during the debate, councillors were about \$17,000 short of their reduction target before agreeing to simply

• see TAX HIKE on page 9

Better deal for subscribers

It's no secret we have changed some things at *The Canadian Champion* over the past few weeks in an effort to make the product more attractive and even stronger in the marketplace.

Publication dates have been altered in order to attract new advertisers, the look of the paper has been revamped and community features have gained a higher profile.

There are more changes coming, as well.

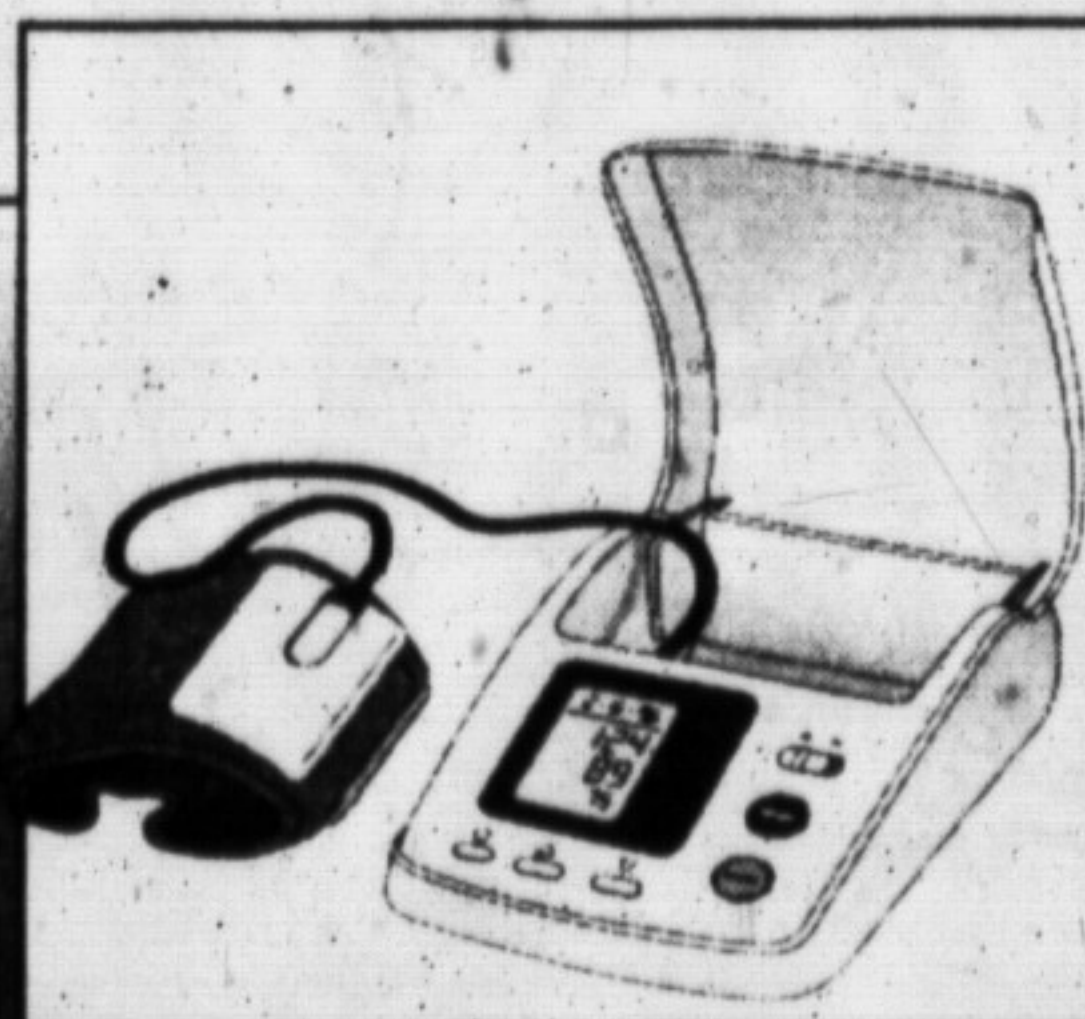
To date we have largely addressed editorial and advertising activities, but new approaches are being implemented in circulation, too. The circulation people are the ones who oversee delivery of the paper, and billing for it.

They're implementing new systems with regard to paying for the paper, and in order to be fair to the people who subscribe, those who don't won't get the same product anymore.

As of Tuesday, April 22, non-subscribers will see what are called 'starbursts' on the front and main sports pages of their paper. The 'starbursts' will obscure significant portions of the pages. Subscribers, of course, will have access to the complete product. There's a comprehensive outline of subscription methods on page 4 of today's April Fool's Day humour supplement. I urge you to look it over.

If you have any questions, please call Karen or Bonnie in the circulation department at 878-2341. Thanks for your support.

Rob Kelly, Editor



Come have your blood pressure checked or ask that health question you have been wanting to ask.

MILTON MALL

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