

ON THE WEB



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THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

WEEKEND EDITION

WEATHER

High: -3 Low: -12
Periods of heavy, blowing snow till midnight.
Details: A2



SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2008 ♦ THE SPEC.COM ♦ THE VOICE OF OUR COMMUNITIES SINCE 1846



Democratic duel
A look at the race that could last until the summer
Weekend Reader

TV's new landscape
Expensive shows have networks shuffling the deck
A&E

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

THE STATE OF WOMEN

- **MPs in Canada who are women**
21% (64 out of 308)
- **MPPs in Ontario who are women**
27% (29 out of 107)
- **MPPs in Canada who are women**
22% (153 out of 691)
- **Women Facebook users in Canada**
66% (4.4 million out of 6.6 million)
- **Single women parents in Canada**
80%
- **Percentage of married women who own their homes**
80%
- **Percentage of single-parent women who own their homes**
45%
- **Average income for women (national)**
\$24,400
- **Average income for women (Ontario)**
\$26,100
- **Average income for men (national)**
\$39,300

International Women's Day began nearly a century ago, when 15,000 female garment workers marched the streets of Manhattan demanding better working conditions and equal pay.

Today, March 8 is known as International Women's Day, marked by thousands of events around the world.

In some cases these are celebrations of achievements past and present. In others, they are an opportunity to shed light on the many issues left to be resolved.

This year more than 600 events will take place in 52 countries, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. While Canadians might measure the progress of women's lives in terms of female MPs or equal pay, internationally the context can be quite different, and the struggles can be ones of life and death.

Coverage in today's Weekend Reader, **WR5** and **WR7**.

Library, market upgrades set for '09

BY ERIC MCGUINNESS

The long-awaited facelift of the Hamilton Farmers' Market — and the first two floors of Central Library above it — is to start early next year.

The man in charge says he wants to make both more visible and inviting, but is just starting to figure out how. Architect David Premi, who moved his practice from Toronto to Hamilton hoping to play a role in downtown renewal, has been named lead consultant for the \$7-million library-market job.

"It's exactly the kind of project I was hoping to get involved in," Premi said after the city announced his selection yesterday.

"I'm very interested in the future of Hamilton and the core in particular. I can't think of a more exciting opportunity.

"One of the biggest issues we have in the market and library, more so the market, is that they are removed from the street because of the change in elevation, like the art gallery used to be. We want to re-establish a connection with pedestrians and the street. That's a primary objective here."

The city expects to call for tenders late this year, start construction early next year and complete the work by summer 2010. Central Library will remain open, but officials are looking for a place to relocate the market.

Staff say Central Library, which opened in 1980, needs updates to better serve more than one million people a year. Ideas include putting a quick-pick collection on the ground floor, creating more social space, enlarging the children's department and making visitors more aware of what's upstairs.

Market shortcomings include lack of sufficient electrical and water service and an awkward two-level layout with ramps and escalators.

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How The Oracle helped cops catch Red Pickup

BY SUSAN CLAIRMONT

They call him The Oracle. He is wise. And prophetic. And he fights crime. No cape, but he does have a badge and gun. Constable Art Quinn is a crime analyst with Hamilton police. His job is to somehow take statistics

and trends and maps and evidence and intuition and, in a mysterious way that is as much art as it is science, solve crimes. Or, at the very least, point front-line officers in the right direction. He starts doing that at 4 a.m. Before he even takes his coat off, Art stops into the report room at

the Mountain police station where officers on nights are doing their paperwork. He wants a quick run-down of what's going on, and he wants it straight from the cops who were out there. A lot of detail can be lost in the written version.

ORACLE: continued on A6

Drivers, beware of the 'triple threat'

BY KATIE MERCER

Winter weather, March break and daylight saving time make this weekend a "triple threat," says the Ontario Provincial Police. "Historically, accidents have gone up by 7 to 8 per cent following the first few days after daylight saving time," said OPP Sergeant

Cam Woolley. "This is a trend we have seen year after year. It's not an urban myth. You just can't run short on sleep," he said. At 2 a.m. tomorrow clocks move one hour ahead with daylight saving time three weeks earlier than normal.

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Time flies tomorrow



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Sat. 9:30 - 5:30 PM
Sun. 12:00 - 5 PM

SHOPPERS DRUG MART
Mon.-Fri. 9:00 to 9:00 PM
Sat. 9:00 to 5:30 PM,
Sun 12:00 to 5:00 PM

WAL-MART
Mon.-Sat. 8-9 PM
Sun. 8-8 PM