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Pg. 3



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Apple crop rebounds

By **TED BROWN**
Staff Writer

Last year, local orchard owners were hit with one of the most devastating crops in history, recording yields of 20 per cent their normal average. At some locations, the apple crop was next to non-existent.

However, it would appear Mother Nature has made amends, as the 2013 crop is spectacular, according to local orchard owner Brad Fraser.

See **APPLE**, pg. 16



Paul and Marion Ivany pick some apples at Wheelbarrow Orchard on 10 Sideroad, east of Hwy. 25. Orchard owner Brad Fraser says this year's crop has been outstanding after last year's was devastated by a warm spring.

Photo by Ted Brown

New 'vision' meeting draws good crowd

By **CYNTHIA GAMBLE**
Staff Writer

Approximately 100 residents wanted to be part of the new "vision" for Georgetown, attending an information meeting on the next major expansion of the community last week.

Town planners and consultants wanted public opinion on developing the newest urban area of Halton Hills, a rectangular block of 1,000 acres bounded by 15 Sideroad, Eighth Line, 10 Sideroad and Trafalgar Rd.

The area will house up to 20,000 people, plus schools, parks, community institutions and commercial facilities generating about 2,000 jobs, between 2021 and 2031.

Vision-Georgetown is the branding name for the planning process and the Town has set up a special project website, www.visiongeorgetown.ca. There, residents can sign up for regular updates, fill in a survey and get background information.

Chair of the steering committee is Councillor Moya Johnson and she told the audience that filled John Elliott Theatre that this process will take over three years in six phases. The preferred land use will be released in 2015.

"I can't stress enough the importance of this project and it's critical that both existing and residents who may come, participate," said Johnson.

Primary consultant Nick McDonald of Meridian Planning Consultants said, "It's not a simple exercise because we're talking about a large area of land with lots of things happening on that land."

The consultants will look at such things as fiscal impact, retail development, environmental and agricultural impacts, parks and woodlots, transpor-

See **'BIG'**, pg. 3

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