



Car slams into retaining wall

A Georgetown man received minor injuries Tuesday afternoon when his 1993 Mercury Grand Marquis struck a retaining wall on Main St. S. at Park Ave. Police say the man, who was heading northbound on Main St., reported the accident occurred when he had to take evasive action after a vehicle pulled out in front of him from Park Ave. The man, the lone occupant of the vehicle, was taken to Georgetown Hospital by ambulance. The Mercury was destroyed and the retaining wall received extensive damage. A light standard was also damaged. Police are investigating the accident.

Photo by Ted Brown

Halton riding to be split

Tories to meet Monday to form new association

The founding meeting of the new provincial Progressive Conservative Association of Wellington Halton Hills will be held Monday (April 10) in Rockwood.

The meeting at the Rockmosa Community Centre, 74 Christie St., will begin at 7:30 p.m., with registration at 7 p.m.

The new association is being formed to coincide with the new provincial riding boundaries, which will mirror the current federal riding boundaries. The next provincial election in October 2007 will be contested on these new riding boundaries.

Longtime provincial MPP Ted Arnott, currently representing Waterloo-Wellington, announced last October that he will run as a PC candidate in the Wellington-Halton Hills riding.

Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh, whose current riding will be split under the new boundary, said Monday he was "saddened at the break up of the current riding."

"Although due to population growth, it is becoming difficult for one person to manage," said Chudleigh.

"I will be making a formal announcement regarding my electoral intentions in the near future," said Chudleigh.



TED CHUDLEIGH

Local students aiding Ugandan peers

EAMONN MAHER
Staff Writer

Halton Hills residents are being asked to donate any used youth soccer uniforms and equipment to a group that wants to help disadvantaged children in a small town in the African nation of Uganda.

The Canada-Africa Soccer Friendship Association (CASFA) has struck up a partnership with Georgetown District High School and students were introduced to details of the campaign at an assembly last week.

Anthony Atine, a native of Uganda who now resides in Brampton, spoke to GDHS students about the impoverished conditions in his native country and how he hoped the sport of soccer could help African youths improve their way of life.

"We're not asking for your money," said Atine, president of CASFA and a former professional footballer in Africa and later Canada with the Toronto Blizzard. "We're using youth soccer as an instrument for human and social development, health, peace and education. We want to link Canadians with Africa and help them enjoy what we do over here. It's all about the soccer first and then we'll talk about the other issues later. Georgetown is the flagship com-

munity in Canada for our campaign."

Atine, a 45-year-old mechanical engineer with Air Canada and the Nova Tube company of Halton Hills, met local resident Phil Evans on one of their frequent trans-Atlantic flights and the two soccer fanatics talked about how they might be able to collaborate their humanitarian efforts.

Evans, a metallurgical engineering consultant who went to Uganda with Atine to drop off the first shipment of Georgetown Minor Soccer Club uniforms four months ago, contacted GDHS principal Ron Maruya about enlisting student support for CASFA, linking it with Ireda Primary School in Uganda.

The student parliament at the school has jumped on board as well.

"When I first met Anthony he told me about the school over there and how you could see 10-or-so children crowding around one book," said Grade 12 student Daani Surma, prime minister of the GDHS student parliament. "I thought Georgetown could do something about this. If everyone in the school brought in one book, that would be 1,300 books and it wouldn't be that hard to do. So, we're asking people to donate books to the cause, too."

During the next couple of weeks, the public is urged to drop off any unused uniforms or equipment such as

shoes or shin pads in the school's library. A container filled with goods will then be shipped to Uganda in May.

Atine explained that the intent of CASFA drive for the Ireda school is not to provide charity to the youths there; through soccer, the hope is that the students will develop self-reliance through their involvement in a team sport and take pride in their community and country.

"Through little projects, we can develop things in the community so that the kids have something to do and are helping their parents instead of destroying what's there," he added. "We have to teach them how to love their country like we do here in Canada so they're not asking us to send them money."

A film crew has also accompanied Atine recently, accumulating footage for a future documentary about the CASFA campaign. Atine, who emigrated to Canada in 1987 has coached youth soccer in the Toronto area for the past few years, said that CASFA is looking for support from sponsors to help defray the costs of transporting the containers to Africa.

For more info, his e-mail address is atine@rogers.com.

(Eamonn Maher can be reached at emaher@independentfreepress.com)



Anthony Atine, president of the Canada-Africa Soccer Friendship Association, chats with Georgetown District High School student parliament prime minister Daani Surma at an assembly last week.

Photo by Eamonn Maher



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