

OPINION

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Town's turning point

There are turning points in the life of every municipality and it's fair to say that decisions made this month will go a long way towards shaping the future of Halton Hills.

To that end, residents are encouraged to share their views on Sustainable Halton's five growth concept plans that were released in June. The public's first opportunity to comment on the proposals comes Monday when the Town hosts a public information centre from 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by a facilitated workshop from 6:30-9 p.m., at the Gellert Community Centre.

While workshop participants were required to register before today, other opportunities are still available for you to have your say on the growth options which will bring approximately 120,000 new residents to Halton Hills (Georgetown only) and Milton between 2021 and 2031.

Halton Region will host an information centre Sept. 16 from 6-9 p.m. in the cafeteria at Georgetown District High School and is also accepting public feedback (contact Mary Lou Tanner, Halton's Director of Planning and Transportation Services) anytime before Sept. 30.

Town council will also hold a special meeting Sept. 24 where councillors will vote on a Town position regarding the options.

To learn more about the Sustainable Halton concept plans go to Halton Region's website, www.halton.ca or contact Town of Halton Hills planners John Linhardt, manager of Planning Policy, 905-873-2601, ext. 2294, johnl@haltonhills.ca or Steve Burke, senior planner-policy, 905-873-2601, ext. 2254 or stevebu@haltonhills.ca

Copies of the discussion papers are available from the planning department, on the website, www.haltonhills.ca or at both branches of the Halton Hills Library.

New neighbourhoods and industrial areas are not built overnight—they take years of planning. NOW is the time for you to have your say in how Georgetown will look in two decades' time. Raising concerns two years, 10 years or 20 years from now will be too late.

What do you think?

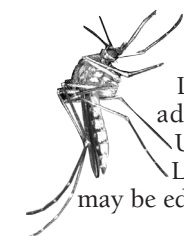
**Below are the results of our most recent online poll.
For the current poll go to www.independentfreepress.com**

The Town is seeking residents' views on the five Sustainable Halton growth options. Are you likely to voice your opinion before the Sept. 30 deadline?

- Yes (33%)
- No (67%)

Something bugging you?

Send us a letter!



Letters to the editor must include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited for content and/or length.

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Steve Nease



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parkinson's fundraising walk set for Sept. 13

Dear editor,

I am writing in regards to the walk on Saturday, September 13 in aid of people who have developed Parkinson's. I would like to thank *The Independent & Free Press* for its previous support for this cause.

Parkinson's is a disease that attacks the nervous system of people of many ages. It develops at different rates for each individual. At the moment there is no cure, but over the past few years,

Perhaps dairy farmer could supply milk to local consumers

Dear editor,

Regarding Debbie McClure's letter (August 22) about the plight of local dairy farmers, I wonder if she would consider some means of being able to supply milk locally.

If I could buy fresh milk locally at the farm gate, I would happily pay more than the supermarket rate, and I would pay it directly to the farmer herself. Supermarket milk rarely tastes fresh these days, and it would be nice to have this alternative.

Related initiatives like the Whole Circle Farm CSA in Acton suggest that this can work—that some people are willing to pay more for local food from a known, trusted source whose quality they can consistently rely on.

Matthew Buckley-Golder,
Georgetown

drugs have been found to slow the symptoms.

I have become very familiar with this disease because two people close to me have developed it.

It is hard to watch normally healthy and strong individuals fight the various symptoms of this affliction. It is difficult for we, who are healthy, to imagine what it is like to slowly lose the use of muscles and joints, while the power to think and plan remains strong.

It is hard for people who have loved to work, to play, to hold their children or their grandchildren to have to slowly curtail these activities. Their minds continue to function well and all individuals try to be contributing members to society as long as is physically possible.

Others who are affected by this disease are the caregivers. They must always be there to aid sufferers of Parkinson's. They must help feed,

Town should be ashamed of Dominion Gardens work

Dear editor,

Am I the only resident of 500 homes in the Dominion Gardens complex that has an issue with the construction, or lack of it, for the park and splash pad?

The Town should be ashamed that they have had the park and grounds under such disruption to the residents. The ragweed is now a wall running the length of the park and, at seven feet high, is good to keep you from seeing the lack of progress,

support, hold up, and guide their loved ones. Help is constantly required to walk, to get dressed, use walkers or wheelchairs, and the hardest of all, to watch as skills and abilities decline.

We are holding a Parkinson's Superwalk at the Gellert Centre on Main St. N. in Georgetown Sept. 13. Registration is at 9 a.m. The 5km Run starts at 9:50 a.m. followed by the 2km Family Friendly Walk at 10 a.m. Many Parkinson's sufferers are able to join in the latter. There are lots of draw prizes to reward participation and funds raised.

All donations go to the Parkinson Society to help in the fight against this debilitating disease. For more information, to join in the walk, or to make a financial contribution go to www.superwalk.com. The telephone contact is Diane at 289-891-9097. I hope to see you Sept. 13.

David MacFarlane, Georgetown

but when this goes to seed and spreads into all of the residents' yards, I guess I won't be the only one complaining then.

I would encourage all of the residents of this beautiful complex to take a walk, and see if the sights don't warrant your call to either Kevin Okimi or Warren Harris of the Town at 905-873-2601. Please do your part and put some pressure on our town to fix this mess.

M. Paisley, Georgetown

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