

THE OAKVILLE BEAVER

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"Canada's Best Community Newspaper" CCNA Better Newspapers Competition 1993

A Metroland Community Newspaper Vol. 31 No. 129

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1993

48 Pages

75 Cents (GST included)

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HAPPY HALLOWE'EN



St. Joseph's Separate School student Christie Holmes wishes everyone a very spooky Hallowe'en on Sunday. In order to get into the spirit of Hallowe'en the Grade 7 student was one of several St. Joseph's students who took part and enjoyed the school's elaborate Haunted House display.

(Photo by Peter McCusker)



Time to fall back

In keeping with the tradition of moving the clocks back for the winter months, Canadians will be getting an extra hour of sleep Sunday morning.

The official hour to revert to standard time is 2 a.m., Sunday, Oct. 31st.

Before going to bed Saturday night, don't forget to move back all your clocks and watches one hour.

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Mardi Gras



Taste of Louisiana in Oakville

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Pamper Yourself

Hutton's offers everything from shoestyles to hairstyles



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Study fails to sniff out link between refinery and health problems

By BARB JOY
Oakville Beaver Staff

A \$29,500 regional/provincial study was unable to determine a direct link between odors from the Petro-Canada Bronte refinery.

The best the study could determine was that those who notice odors from the refinery are more likely to experience health problems than those who don't notice the odors — no matter how far away they live from the refinery.

"A cross-section type of study such as this can't answer conclusively if the refinery causes health effects," said Dr. Doug Sider of the Institute for Social Research, the group conducting the study. "What this can do is tell us if there is an association between people's reporting of their exposure and the health effects."

While the results may have been inconclusive for Sider, they were enough for Cathy Matsumoto, president of ICARE, a group that has been probing Petro-Canada's emissions for the past three years.

Following the presentation, she

said the study shows "there is a definite link" between the perception of odors and reporting them.

"It's a scientific study so I knew it wouldn't be black and white," she added. "I'd like to have seen a study done three years ago when

we first started that involved doctors and health care professionals, but the money just wasn't there."

Halton's medical officer of health, Dr. Robert Nosal, concluded that the study "supplies evidence that low level pollution can be a cause of short term health effects such as breathing problems and headaches."

No matter how low the incidence may be, he said the stress people suffer from symptoms is a concern to the health department.

He told members of the region's health and social services committee Tuesday that the region will continue to support the Environmental Advisory Committee-Petro-Canada (EAC) in its role of monitoring the odor abatement Action Plan that Petro-Canada has set up to reduce the odors it emits.

(See 'Region' page 9)

Mercy gives hope to Bosnian child

A life-saving operation sponsored by the Oakville-based humanitarian group Mercy International Canada at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Wednesday has given a 5-year-old boy from Bosnia-Herzegovina a new chance at life.

Marco Primorac, from Ljubuski, Bosnia-Herzegovina, is recovering well after doctors in Philadelphia repaired a swollen blood vessel in the boy's brain which, had it been left untreated, would have burst, causing certain death.

The doctors donated their services for free while Mercy International Canada guaranteed the \$15,000 needed for the operation.

"All of the arrangements had been made for the surgery, but there were costs which had to be covered," said Michael Campbell, presi-

(See 'Medical' page 2)

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