

# Dream exchange: A Danish student's story

BY JAMIE HARRISON  
The Georgetown Gemini

For the first time in 15 years the Rotary Club of Georgetown is hosting an exchange student and Tamira Snell couldn't be happier.

The 17-year-old high school student from Hellerup, Denmark arrived last week to find that a barbecue had been planned in her honour, something which surprised and delighted her.

"I think this all started when I was about 12, I started dreaming about being an exchange student. Canada was my first choice, Australia was second and Mexico was my third choice.

During her time in Georgetown Tamira will be staying with four different families including that of Bob and Lorraine Kitchen, whose son Mike is currently on a one

year exchange is Queensland, Australia.

After a 15 year absence, members of the Georgetown Rotary are once again participating in the exchange program, designed to promote greater understanding of the differences between nations and cultures, as well as providing students with opportunities that can change their lives.

The decision to return to the international exchange program in the Georgetown chapter came about as a result of a number of events. Former Rotary president Sarah Cornett, who grew up in a Rotary family that hosted exchange students, expressed an interest in having the Georgetown club rejoin the program.

"It really is a tremendous commitment on the part of a

club to do this," said John Hill, International Service Director for the Georgetown club.

"As our club enrollment increased over the years from about 10 to 20 members, we felt we had enough people to do this."

During her year-long exchange, Tamira will be a student at Georgetown District High School where she will take classes with regular day students. And while her English is very good, she might find some difficulties in understanding some lessons.

Leaving her home to fly half way around the world for a year has been a bitter-sweet experience for Tamira, who admitted to some anxieties. But so far she has been impressed by everyone she's met and all that she has seen.



**HEARTH AND HOME!** Tamira Snell, a Danish exchange student, is an instant fit with the Kitchen family. From left: Bob Kitchen, Lorraine Kitchen, Tamira Snell, and Renee Kitchen. Absent are Dave Kitchen and fellow exchange student, Mike Kitchen who is in Australia. (Jamie Harrison photo)

"Right now, it's the best. I think I've got the perfect families. They're just great," Tamira said.

The International Youth Exchange program of Rotary

International includes over 7,000 students from more than 50 countries, yearly. Rotary has been sponsoring international exchanges for more than 30 years between

young people and new communities. The program is open to children of members and non-members, who will be at least 15 years of ages, but not yet 18 as of Sept. 1.

## ART in the Afternoon

August  
23 & 24  
1pm - 6 pm

### Artists Groups Exhibiting

Re:Vision  
The Halton Hills Camera Club  
The Credit Valley Artisans including:  
The Potters Guild  
Stained Glass Crafters  
Heritage Hand Weavers and Spinners  
and celebrating their 30th Anniversary  
The Palette and Pencil Club

### Children's Art Competition

Theme: Fall Fair 150th Anniversary and RCMP Musical Ride - Judging Friday 4:30 pm

### Adult Juried Exhibition

Judging Saturday, 4:30 pm

### Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Georgetown

2 pm daily, Esqueusing Historical Society

### International Wine Tasting at the McGibbon Hotel

Victorian Afternoon Tea at Cakes of Elegance

This downtown tent event kindly sponsored by Canadian Tire, Georgetown  
For more details please call: Emma Rock at (905) 873-4970

## Law office rezoning approved

Subject to site plan approval, the Town will allow rezoning for a law office and residence on the northwest corner of Main Street and Park Avenue.

The property at 134 Main Street was the former law office of now-Judge John Belleghem and the current owner, Fred Leitch, QC, applied for the zoning change to legalize the existing use.

Although the property is designated as "commercial-residential" the rezoning is required for the office component on the site, which is zoned as third density residential.

Two neighbours complained that the rezoning will cause traffic congestion in the residential neighbourhood but staff said the two parking spaces on-site and

the 15 available parking spaces in the area are adequate. One neighbour's concern that the site did not meet the Town's bylaw for "home occupation" use because no lawyer lives there as required, was dealt with by making the rezoning site-specific.

Use of a third floor loft for anything other than storage and possibly a library will not be allowed.

## Sign up for Scouts Canada Sept. 9

Registration for North Halton District Scouting has been set for Sept. 9, at St. John's United Church Hall from 7 to 9 pm., for all Georgetown groups.

The scouting movement is a program for youths from the age of five to 26, offering life

skills and fellowship. The Beaver program is for boys from five to seven-years-old, Cubs is for boys from eight to 10 years of age, Scouts for youths from 11 to 13-years-old, Venturers from age 14 to 17, and Rovers from 17 to 26-years of age.



**HOURS**  
Tues. - Fri.  
9:00 - 6:00  
Saturday  
9:00 - 5:00

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