



**TUNE UPTIME:** Acton kids had their bikes tuned up for free at Bethel Church on Friday – a serviced offered as part of the Acton BIA's Random Act of Kindness Week. On hand to help were, from left: Richard Van Der Wal, Michelle Paisley and Walter Kroezen. – Ted Tyler photo

## Town Digest

### Complete streets

Regional/Ward two Councillor Jane Fogal thinks if the Town is going to encourage people to get out of their cars be active, they should offer "complete streets" which are roads safe for kids and riders.

At last Monday's meeting, Fogal put her council colleagues on notice that at this Monday's meeting she will introduce a motion supporting a cycling lobby "Share the Road," Green Paper, which asks Queen's Park for policies and funding for cycling initiatives because it will "take some money" to get people out of their cars.

### Massive distribution centre approved

The prospect of millions of dollars in Development Charges, \$35-million a year in taxes, and approximately 500 jobs convinced Town Council to approve zoning changes to allow First Gulf Corporation to build a massive distribution centre, warehouse and trucking facility between the Fifth and Sixth Lines, on Steeles Avenue.

The 1.4-million-square-foot facility required a zoning change to permit 650 trailer-waiting spaces – not the 38 allowed in the Town's Official Plan. The facility includes 188 loading docks and 24 tractor waiting spaces, prompting

area resident Vick Hendrickson to predict that will mean 376 trucks going through Hornby every hour.

Unanimous council support for the development was led by Mayor Rick Bonnette, who said Hendrickson's very valid traffic concerns would be resolved with scheduled improvements to Steeles Avenue and Trafalgar Road, but it wasn't every day they had an opportunity like this one.

For Ward two Councillor Joan Robson, say the benefits and the bottom line in approving the rezoning. "We really need the money..." Robson said.

# Catholic Board excels in Grade 10 testing

Grade 10 students with the Halton Catholic District School Board (HDSB) had the highest Grade 10 literacy test results in Ontario, with 91 per cent of students passing the test, which is mandatory for graduation. Across the province, 83 per cent of students passed the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) test.

At Christ the King Secondary School in Georgetown, the high school for many Acton Catholic students, 91 per cent of students passed, a drop from 94 per cent last year, but still reason to be happy, according to Principal David DeSantis.

"We always temper our success with a dose of reality, and the mark of a successful school doesn't just include the EQAO results, and while we're proud of ourselves... we don't place our total

value in the Grade nine and 10 scores," DeSantis said on Friday. He said they have a lot invested in their teaching, learning and assessment practices towards the math and literacy tests.

"Our results have varied. We've been as low as 88 per cent and as high as 95... but at the end of the day, we don't write the test, so we hope and pray that the kids are prepared," DeSantis said, adding they will now analyze the EQAO data of individual students to isolate where the needs are.

### Halton Public Board

Eighty-two per cent of Grade 10 students at Acton District High School passed the literacy test – results below the Board average of 88 per cent, and the Ontario average of 83 per cent. This year, 3,821 HDSB students wrote the test.

"Obtaining this literacy

standard is a prerequisite for a student to receive a diploma," said David Euale, the public Board's Director of Education. "The efforts of teachers and the Board to address literacy in both elementary and secondary schools have virtually eliminated this standard as a barrier to graduation."

Acton District High School Principal Darlene White said they've already begun to look closely at their numbers and have plans in place for next year.

"We get very specific data from the Ministry (of Education) which will tell us what types of questions that students aren't doing well on," White said on Tuesday, adding one-half of the 20 students who did not achieve a result of 300, scored in the 290 to 295 range and were within a question or two of being successful.



## NOTICE TO HALTON HILLS TAXPAYERS INTERRUPTION IN POSTAL SERVICE

The 2011 Final Tax Bills were mailed between May 27th and 30th, 2011. Property owners are responsible for paying property taxes by the set due dates as these will not be extended due to the Canada Post strike. Please do not mail payments. Alternative payment options are listed below. If you have not received your tax bill, please contact the Corporate Services Department immediately.

By Phone – 905-873-2601 Extensions 2242, 2243, 2244 or 2246  
or

Email [taxdepartment@haltonhills.ca](mailto:taxdepartment@haltonhills.ca)

Penalty and interest charges are added the first day of each month that taxes are in default at a rate of 1.25% per month.

### Available payment options:

- In person – Civic Centre – Corporate Services Department
- Cash, Cheque or Interac
- **Payments by credit card are not accepted**
- After Hours Drop Box – Civic Centre – next to the main entrance
- Internet or Telephone Banking (Your account number is your 19 digit assessment roll number)
- Pre-authorized payment plans are also available
- Any Royal Bank Branch located within Halton Hills (may be subject to a fee)
- Halton Hills Hydro Office – Payments may be left at the Halton Hills Hydro office during regular business hours or the after hours drop box at the main entrance. Halton Hills Hydro will not issue receipts for any payment received.

Please visit [www.haltonhills.ca](http://www.haltonhills.ca) for further information

Thank you

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2

## UNIVERSITY of GUELPH

### ARE YOU 18 TO 25 YEARS OLD? WANT TO GIVE YOUR OPINIONS IN A RESEARCH AND RECEIVE \$25.00 ?

We are looking for individuals that are 18 to 25 year old to participate in a study about the labour market in your region. The interview will be 1 to 1.5 hours, individually or in group with other young workers. We will ask you questions about the barriers you face as an employee in the region you work at, your job quality, opportunities at exist, etc.

→ You will have the chance to meet other young workers; snacks and beverages will be provided; you will receive \$25.00 for your participation in this session. You may be invited to participate again in 2012 and 2013 - a total of \$75 for all three sessions.

If you are interested in participating, please email Adriana Socha at [acordeir@uoguelph.ca](mailto:acordeir@uoguelph.ca).

Please include the city you are located and your phone contact number in the e-mail.

You can also forward this note to friends you think might be interested in taking part on this study.