



Local residents pitching in at
Vancouver Olympic Winter Games
PAGES 3, 6, 7



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PAGE 7



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We may not have athletes competing but...

Halton Hills to be well-represented at Vancouver Olympics

By **EAMONN MAHER**
Staff Writer

Approximately 85,000 people from around the world applied to become a volunteer in various locations in B.C. for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, set to begin this week.

And no fewer than nine Halton Hills residents are going to be volunteering or working or both in capacities such as food services, makeup for television personalities and on-hill supervision at the Whistler alpine ski venue.

Following are profiles and job descriptions for the local residents who are all getting their first hands-on Olympic experience.

Sally Plackett

Finding accommodation for some of the out-of-province volunteers was one of the biggest challenges for 2010 Winter Olympics organizers and Georgetown's Sally Plackett will help connect visiting workers with a place to stay for three weeks at Whistler Village.

She is a lead in the Homestay program, settling approximately 20 volunteers at various lodgings, and if all goes well, Plackett's mission will be accomplished before the Games even begin, giving her plenty of time

to take in events such as her favourite sport, figure skating.

"Whistler and Vancouver residents were asked to give a volunteer who doesn't have accommodations a bedroom and breakfast for the duration of the Games and they'll get event tickets in exchange," said the 64-year-old part-time hairdresser and volunteer for Cancer Assistance Services Halton Hills.

"My job is to introduce the volunteers to their host families and deal with any problems that might come up."

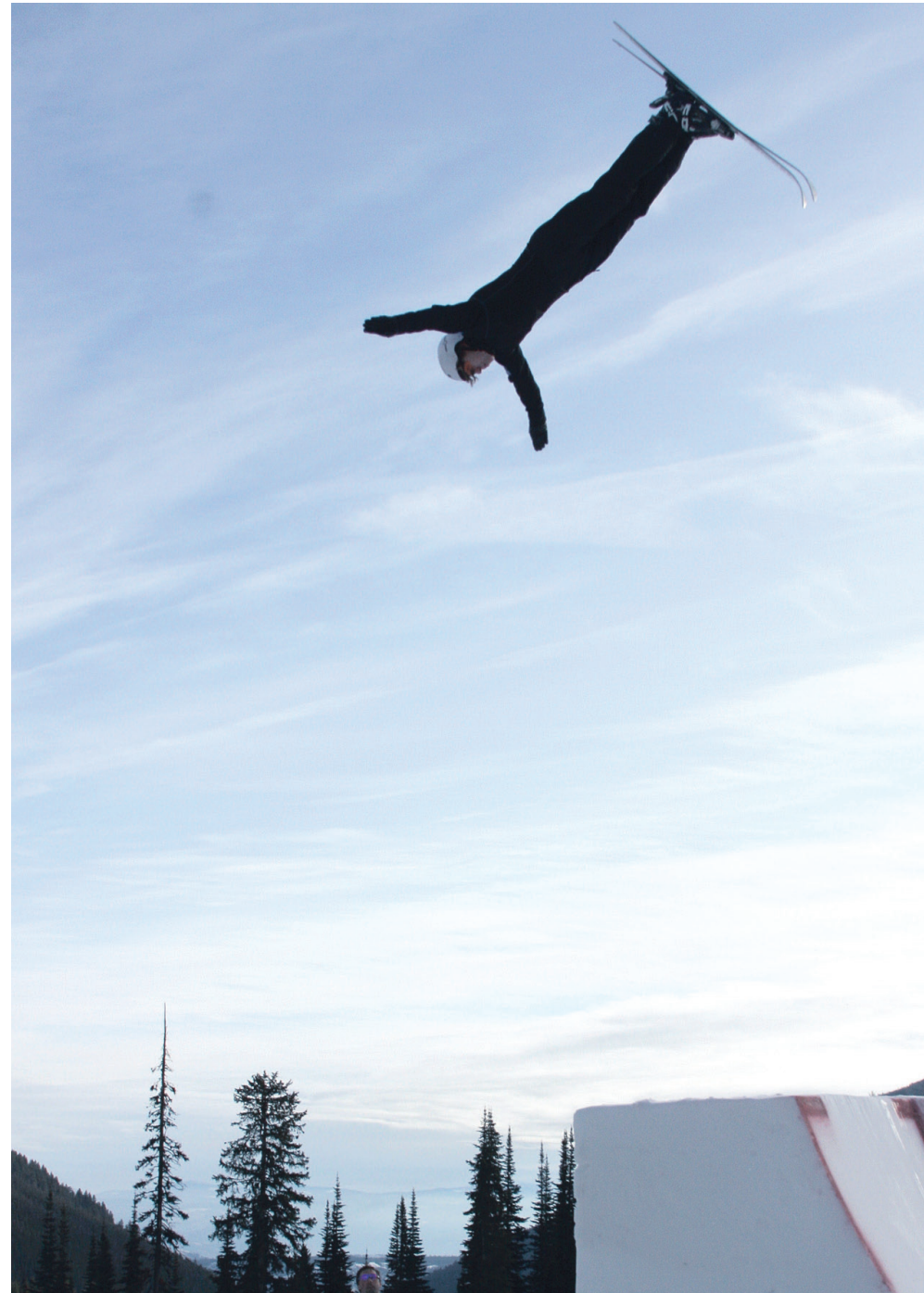
Plackett will stay with her daughter Louise, a Georgetown District High School graduate who works for the town of Whistler and will help co-ordinate the entertainment area downtown.

"We are some of the honoured few," Plackett chuckled.

See **SEVERAL**, pg. 3



SALLY PLACKETT



Eighteen-year-old Travis Gerrits of Acton will serve as a forerunner in the freestyle skiing competition at the Vancouver Olympic Games.
Photo by Rob Gerrits

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