

Successful first year for Wastewise project

By **STUART JOHNSTON**
Staff writer

After one year of operations, Georgetown's community resource centre, Wastewise, appears to be a roaring success.

Wastewise manager Diane van de Valk recently issued the project's first year-end summary to regional and town councils, which points out that many of its projected goals have already been surpassed.

"We're really excited about the new opportunities that we've uncovered in our first year, and about our

revenue and the participation shown by the community," van de Valk said in an interview. "It's just been really impressive over the year — it's been phenomenal the kind of response that we've had."

Although Wastewise's expenditures were slightly higher than its income, van de Valk is more than pleased and satisfied with what it has accomplished so far.

Wastewise is a unique resource centre that stresses the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), houses a flea market where used goods are sold for a nominal fee, and provides



education to the public and private sectors on how to better manage their waste. It is located in the Westinghouse building on Armstrong Ave. in Georgetown.

It is funded through provincial and federal grants, as well as revenue

generated through its sales of recyclables/reusables and the flea market.

For its first year ending in March, Wastewise's total income was \$167,597 — 52 per cent from the province and 26 per cent from the feds. The remainder, \$34,815, was derived from its sales and donations, which is almost double its original predictions of \$18,000. Its total expenditures, however, reached just shy of \$173,000.

Under the terms of the government subsidies, Wastewise must be self-sufficient within three years, a

goal which van de Valk is confident will be reached.

"Three years is an appropriate amount of time — we'll have ample opportunities to make this operation self-sustaining," she said.

So far, van de Valk noted, Wastewise is earning roughly 30 to 45 per cent of its monthly operating costs of \$15,400.

Van de Valk is proud of the many accomplishments that the resource centre has made in its first 12 months, and the project is continuing to grow.

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HALTON HILLS

WEEKEND

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News

Digest

International match

Members of the North Halton Rugby squad will get an opportunity to play in their third international match in as many years, when Middlesex, England invades Neilson Field Tuesday evening. Action is scheduled to get under way at 6:30 p.m.

Waste Reduction Week

September 27 to October 4 has been declared by town councillors as waste reduction week in Halton Hills. This year's theme is The Future is Rs, and each day will focus on different aspects of reduction, reusing and recycling.

Chatten urges fair play

Councillor Ron Chatten requested that local merchants not be charged for erecting signs on public boulevards during regular business hours. Chatten reasoned that licensed peddlers selling their wares along town streets on weekends are allowed to erect signs, so he wanted local merchants to have the same opportunity to do so Monday through Friday. Although administrator Dan Costea cautioned against ignoring the town's sign bylaws, Mayor Russ Miller suggested that "discretion be used" by the bylaw enforcement department.

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TED BROWN/Halton Hills Weekend

Don't Be a Victim

Halton Hills' seniors were given a few pointers in how to avoid being taken advantage of at Acton High School drama students' presentation of "Don't Be A Victim," at the school recently. The students covered a number of

scenarios to illustrate the traps seniors often fall into, including purse snatching or having expensive and unnecessary repairs done to their homes. The evening was rounded out with musical entertainment.

RSI hearings set to begin June 1

Those interested in participating in the preliminary hearing into the Acton dump landfill proposal only have until this Tuesday (May 19) to register with the province.

The hearing is set to begin June 1 at the Acton Legion, and will like-

ly last the entire week.

Groups and individuals are entitled to have their voices heard at the hearing, but interested parties must submit their intentions in writing to the Office of Consolidated Hearings, P.O. Box 2382, 2300 Yonge

St., Suite 1201, Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1E4. The phone number is (416) 323-4806, or fax (416) 323-4997.

The preliminary hearing will determine what the issues are, who is to be involved, who qualifies for monetary assistance.

Georgetown resident missing

Police are asking for the public's assistance in locating a 43-year-old Georgetown man who has been missing for five weeks.

Thomas Paul Melanson of Gibbons Pl. was dropped off by his nephew in the area of the Eighth Line and 27 Sideroad approximately five weeks ago. Melanson was intending to go camping, but his family haven't heard from him since, and is concerned for his well being.

Melanson has a history of camping in the area for up to two months at a time, according to police, but his family still want to locate him.

He is described as 5' 8" tall, 180 pounds, with short black hair in a brush cut, brown eyes, slim build, fair complexion with a mustache. He was last seen wearing blue jeans, a jean jacket, red T-shirt, white running shoes and carrying camping equipment.

Anyone with information about Melanson's whereabouts are asked to contact Halton Regional Police at 878-5511.

Don't forget Bang-o-Rama

Bang-O-Rama's main events begin today at the Georgetown Fairgrounds.

Featured today (Sunday) is the demolition derby, the Conklin midway, bingo, mini golf, batting cages, bands and much more.

Tomorrow (Monday), the festivities are set to begin at 9 a.m., and will conclude at dusk with a fireworks display.

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