

Halton to review landfill issues

By ANGELA BLACKBURN

Special to The Independent/Free Press

Halton Region will re-examine a handful of issues regarding its Milton landfill site, including the \$5 user fee, possible extended hours, site monitoring and a review of compensation for nearby residents.

Complaints about the dump just north of Lower Base Line surfaced twice at Wednesday's planning and public works committee meetings.

"We're very, very discouraged and we don't know where to turn," said 15-year Lower Base Line resident George Tell.

Tell complained about a "dramatic" increase in garbage dumping on his and other properties near the landfill. He said the \$5 user fee and 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. dump hours were sources of the problems.

He said construction debris and even loads of propane tanks have been dumped on fields, usually at night. He believes most contractors need to dump debris after 5 p.m. and before 8 a.m. — when the dump isn't open.

"There's excess dumping of garbage. It doesn't matter where, people just don't care. I think they're doing it in order to avoid payment of the \$5."

Tell said school groups that used to do clean-up projects aren't any more because they too encounter the \$5 fee. Mayor Gord Krantz confirmed that two weeks ago a school group faced paying the fee. "It's discouraging the volunteer," noted Krantz.

"I've never seen such a big maze just to dump a garbage bag," said the resident. Tell said he has even picked up dumped garbage and then faced the \$5 fee, that landfill site personnel "just standing around not doing much," that 16 Mile Creek is littered with garbage and tires, and that area residents put up with the smell of garbage.

Milton regional councillor Barry Lee, chair of the region's waste management committee, said Tell was "echoing widespread concerns of the community."

Regional chair Peter Pomeroy suggested staff visits to the area.

Burlington councillor Bob Brechin said the problem was destined to worsen as the province directed Halton to reduce its waste by 50 per cent from mid-1980 levels.

Burlington councillor Joyce Savoline said the issue shouldn't be blown out of proportion since, at budget time, the region favored the user pay system. If the management portion of collecting waste (not landfill operation costs) weren't covered by the fee, \$500,000 would be spread across the urban areas taxes, she said.

Regional staff will report back on the issues raised by Tell.

Tot earns beauty crown

Little Caitlind Thompson of Georgetown is a beauty queen before her second birthday.

Caitlind competed in the Ontario Canadian Grand Finals on June 25 and cleaned up. She won beauty queen, photogenic princess, queen of portfolio, queen of western wear, princess of beach wear and Miss Personality.

She didn't, however, get the over-all award, since she was beat out by one point by a little boy, said her mother Kelly Thompson.

"(Caitlind) was in really good spirits that day. She waved, said hi and rode her horse. She wasn't tired or anything," she said.

This allows Caitlind to represent Ontario in the Alabama Grand Finals for the North American competition.

She will also be competing July 22 and 23 in the Canada-Wide Sunburst Beauty competition in Toronto.

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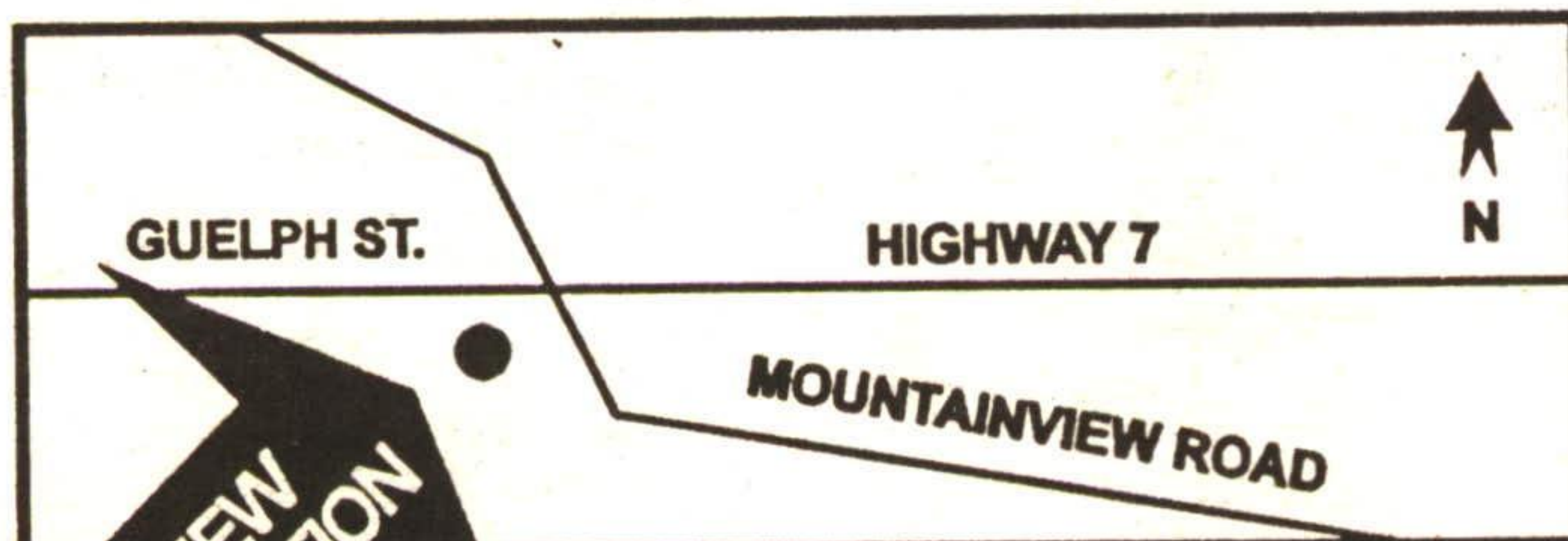
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The victory celebration will be an open house at Andrew's Scenic Acres, July 6th, from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Refreshments will be available. Live entertainment is planned to help us add to the festivities--please plan to join us as we celebrate this success.

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