



GOOD DEALS: There were good deals and great prices at Knox Presbyterian Church's annual bazaar and sale on Saturday. Acton's Debbie Rennie (left) and Gwen O'Regan browsed the sales tables.— *Ted Tyler photo*

Shedding light on daylight Savings

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 6, when we turn back the clocks and lose an hour of sleep to undo the change made in the spring when clocks were moved ahead an hour to make more hours of sunlight during the evening hours and, theoretically, to help conserve energy.

Daylight savings time (DST) was the brainchild of Benjamin Franklin, who felt it would help increase productivity in the early evening by increasing the hours of sunlight during the warmer months. Franklin also felt DST would be

a good way to save on candles, among other energy used to artificially light areas once the sun had set.

Some people mistakenly believe that DST was created to benefit the farmer. But no studies have proven that more sunlight in the evening positively affects a farmer's schedule or the growing cycle of crops.

DST also doesn't have too great an impact on energy conservation. Many studies have shown little to no energy savings from having more sunlight in the evening. That is because even if the lights are turned off, other things

are turned on, such as air conditioners and pool filters for individuals enjoying the added sunlight hours instead of retiring early to bed.

There have been points throughout history when DST did help conserve energy. This occurred mainly during the World Wars, when conservation of energy helped divert money and fuel sources toward the war effort.

While it may not help save energy, a 2007 study determined that DST does help reduce vehicular crashes, perhaps due to better visibility when on the road in the spring and summer.

Value agriculture in economic development plans Town urges

Agriculture is big business in Halton, and should have equal focus in Halton's proposed 10-year Economic Development strategy. It recommends wooing IT, green energy technology, digital media and animation, and life sciences and biotechnology companies to the Region to create some of the 140,000 new jobs for the 780,000 residents mandated by the province by 2031.

At a recent Halton Hills Council meeting, Regional/Ward One Councillor Clark Somerville, noted that Halton recently hired an agricultural facilitator, under the Planning department, not under Economic Development. "I've always felt if we truly want to look at the development of agriculture within Halton, we shouldn't be looking from land use planning (view), but from the economic development side," Somerville said, adding that agriculture in Halton is valued at approximately \$1.1-billion and should be

viewed as big business.

Regional/Ward Two Councillor Jane Fogal said the draft Economic Development strategy is very important to the Town as the Region has agreed to finance payment for water and wastewater services in the 401/Steeles Avenue corridor, which will spur development.

The report recommends charging different Development Charge (DC) rates for retail and non-retail businesses, and Fogal said there's also a commitment to look at differentiating a lower rate for warehousing developments, which would "give us a boost."

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette noted there's a lot of confusion as both the Region and Town have Development Charge rates, and the Town has reduced its rates in past years to try to stimulate economic development.

Halton is collecting comments and questions on the proposed Economic Development strategy that says focusing on Halton's good quality

of life and growing, skilled workforce will attract more business and investment. Consultant Paul Blais told councillors that the bottom line for some potential businesses is not about money. He said Halton's location and transportation networks are huge strengths, along with its resident human resources, and the businesses need to follow the local labour force.

While Economic Development is a joint Regional/Town initiative, Doug Penrice, the Town's Economic Development Officer, said it is important to Halton Hills that there be a "strong Regional presence" relating to small business development, national and international marketing programs, innovation, economic research and agriculture.

Halton's Administration and Finance Committee will deal with comments on the draft Economic Development strategy report at its November 9 meeting.

Hampers help deliver happier holidays

Applications for the Links2Care Holiday Hamper Program are now available at Links2Care offices in Acton and Georgetown. The Holiday Hamper Program provides hampers of new children's clothing to lower income families with children aged 18 and younger, in the Halton Hills community. If you feel that the holiday season might be tough financially for you and

your family this year, please feel free to drop by one of our offices to fill out an application form. Your personal information will be kept strictly confidential.

Application forms must be received by no later than December 2nd.

This program could not be possible without the generous and caring community members who sponsor families and donate to Links2Care. If you would

like to sponsor a family this holiday season, we will send you a family profile with the ages, sizes and clothing needs of the children and then you shop for the items on the list. Donations of money, new children's

clothing and gift cards are also very much appreciated as well.

If you would like more information about this program please call Cathy at 519-853-3310. Applications are available for pick up at

the following Links2Care office locations in Acton:

Links2Care Ontario Early Years Centre, 85 Wallace Street, Acton Links2Care Employment Resource

Centre, 45 Mill Street East, Acton Links2Care Community Support Office, 47 Mill Street East, Acton (please use John Street North side entrance).

60th Anniversary



Congratulations to Kay and Dave Dills who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

With much love from, Kathleen, Steve, JD, Matt and of course Cider!

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