

Historic bridge gets a facelift

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

A Halton Hills bridge that dates back to the 1870s will be good as new, but still retain its heritage look, when restoration work now underway is complete.

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette called the work on the 27 Sideroad bridge located between Eighth Line and Fallbrook Trail a “unique restoration project.”

The work is being done with funding from the Town of Halton Hills and federal government. On hand at the bridge for the announcement recently were Bonnette, Ward 2 Councillor Joan Robson, Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong and MPP Ted Arnott.

Bonnette said the bridge— a stone art structure— was “very important” and had been mentioned in many heritage reports. He said it’s being rebuilt while maintaining its heritage aspects.

The mayor explained the masonry will be repointed, missing and damaged stones replaced and the wingwalls, headwalls and embankments will be repaired. New concrete retaining walls and a guide rail will be installed and the road will be resurfaced.

He said when the work is



Work is underway to rebuild the historic 27 Sideroad bridge located between Eighth Line and Fallbrook Trail. On hand at the bridge recently for the project’s announcement were from left; Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott, Councillor Joan Robson, Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong and Mayor Rick Bonnette. Photo by Lisa Tallyn

done— slated for the end of October— the bridge will be “something we’ll be very proud of.”

The project costs more than \$927,582 with \$750,000 coming from the federal government’s Gas Tax Fund.

Chong said since 2010 through 2014 the federal government will have contributed \$6.8 million to the Town of Halton Hills through the Gas Tax Fund.

The bridgework is being done by Drexler Construction Ltd. of Rockwood.

Resident frustrated by wire-clipping trucks

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

If Luana Baird had her way, there would be no transport trucks allowed on the road in front of her home.

The Mountainview Rd. resident, who lives a few houses north of Delrex Blvd., is frustrated that trucks have taken down wires that run to her home three times over the last 18 months— knocking out her power and cable.

“I don’t think trucks should be going on that road,” said Baird, whose cable was recently knocked out again when a truck pulled down the cable wire over the road for the second time since she moved there three years ago.

When she bought her house she said she knew there would be a lot of traffic.

“I don’t even mind the busy road. I just didn’t realize there would be hundreds of transport trucks driving by,” said Baird. She added when the trucks pass by, her house shakes.

She said 18 months ago a truck went by and took down her overhead cable wire. At that time she said the cable company temporarily piggybacked her cable service onto her neighbour’s line. That was the line that was knocked down Aug. 18. Fortunately for Baird, it was repaired quickly.

Earlier this summer (July 15) Baird said another truck clipped her tree near the road causing the branch to fall on their hydro line, knocking out their power and the mast attached to their home.

With soaring temperatures and no power, the family was forced to move out for four days and live with a relative. As well, she had to submit an insurance claim to repair the damage.

“For 30 years I was claim-free, now I have a claim,” said Baird, who suspects it will impact her insurance rate.

She figures other neighbours are likely experiencing similar problems.

“If this keeps happening to these houses on Mountainview Rd. and enough people need to put claims through their home insurance like I had to, the insurance companies may opt to delete certain coverages from our policies and the homeowners may need to pay for these expenses out of our own pockets. In my case, I am a single mother and I simply could not afford to do the work. Where would I be then?”

Baird said in most cases “trucks that do the dam-



Luana Baird (right) is frustrated that her overhead cable wire has been pulled down once and her hydro wire once by passing trucks since she moved to Mountainview Rd. three years ago. Her neighbours Rick and Sue Little (left) also had their cable service knocked out in the most recent incident.

Submitted photo

age simply leave the scene, either because they don’t know that they caused this damage or they don’t want to get in trouble with their employers.

“In my case the driver was caught and charged because my neighbor witnessed it,” she said.

Chris Mills, Director of Infrastructure Service for the Town of Halton Hills, said he wasn’t aware of the issue with wires being pulled down on Mountainview and was going to look into it.

He said Mountainview Rd. where Baird lives is designated in the Town’s Official Plan as a minor arterial road and is meant to carry truck traffic. He said the road serves as a major link into downtown and the industrial/commercial area of Georgetown.

“There have been concerns about truck traffic on that road for decades,” said Mills. “We know there’s an issue but there is no good alternative right now.”

An alternative truck route may be coming, but not for some time.

The Halton-Peel Boundary Area Transportation Study Final Report released in 2010 recommended a four-lane arterial road bypass (Norval West bypass) west of Norval running between Hwy. 7 and 10 Sideroad. It has been approved as part of the Town and Region’s Master Plan. An Environmental Assessment is slated to begin in 2015 and if the bypass is a go it’s identified in the Region’s Capital Forecast for 2020.

Squealing tires leads to charge

A Brampton man was charged with having over 80 mg of alcohol in 100 ml of blood about 12:45 a.m. Friday.

Halton Police were conducting a RIDE spot check on Guelph St. when they saw a vehicle come out of the parking lot of a nearby bar with tires squealing. Police stopped the vehicle.

Charged with having over 80 mg of alcohol in 100 ml of blood is Jaime Teves, 22.

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