'We should... have our antennae up in the future.'

—HDSB trustee Alice Strachan see story pg.12

The way we were



A 19th century grocery run

Business was bustling on Main Street in Georgetown, in this photo from the 1880s. Star Grocery, owned by J. M. McDermid was established in 1881. Items for sale included groceries, crockery and glassware. Following his death, J. McDermid Jr. succeeded his father adding boots and shoes to the store's wares. The site is now the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Photo: courtesy of the Esquesing Historical Society Content: Heritiage Halton Hills

From our readers

DANCERS' DONATION

The competitive team from Georgetown Dance Company held a Halloween party to collect food for the Georgetown Bread Basket. Here members show off their costumes and their collected goods.

Submitted photo

Got a photo you want to share?

Email: jmcghie@theifp.ca.



Halton is an economic hotspot

Last year, 2012, was a record setting year for industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) development in Halton, with ICI development surpassing over \$1.2 billion in building permit value.

On Tuesday, October 29, I joined industrial and commercial developers and real estate brokers from the GTA, along with my colleagues from Region-

al Council and Halton's Local Municipalities at the Halton Real Estate Forum.

The event was a terrific opportunity for businesses to network. Attendees also had the chance to learn about economic and real estate performance, trends, development cost competitiveness in Halton and the surrounding area, and hear from business panelists their reasons for choosing Halton.

Halton has been named the safest regional municipality in Canada for the past five years. We have an AAA credit rating, location and quality of life that is second to none, and incredible talent living within our borders. Judging by our growing ICI development numbers and recent investments by companies such as Target, Siemens, Toronto Premium Outlets and Gypsum Technologies Inc., it is clear that Halton continues to be an economic hotspot.

A key message voiced by the speakers at the Forum was that with our ecosystem of leading companies and exceptional quality of life, Halton is indeed a location of choice—one of the best communities in which to live and work. Speakers mentioned Halton's attractive

business environment, access to skilled workers, customers and suppliers, the entrepreneurial eco-system, excellent infrastructure, location, facilities for innovation and startups, such as HalTech, and proximity to post-secondary institutions.

You can view presentations at www.halton.ca/ref2013.

If you have any Regional concerns or comments you would like to share, please feel free to email me at gary.

carr@halton.ca. You can also find me on Twitter @garycarrhalton or on Facebook. To receive further updates on Regional issues, please subscribe to my quarterly e-newsletter, "The Carr Report."

—Gary Carr is the chair of Halton Region



Santa Parade will force road closures

GARY

CARR

Dear editor,

Please join us for the Georgetown Santa Claus Parade and say hi to Santa as we celebrate our 82nd annual parade.

The parade will be held Saturday, Nov. 16 starting at 5 p.m. and will travel along Guelph St. to Mill St. then to Charles St. before ending at the fairgrounds.

Just a reminder there will be some road closures starting at 4:30 p.m. so please be patient as they are necessary to ensure the safety of volunteers, participants and spectators. Also those going to Mold-Masters SportsPlex for hockey are reminded the arena is in the area of the road closures.

So remind your family, friends and neighbours to arrive early and get a good spot.

Kevin Robinson, Georgetown Lions Club





