



THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

Thursday, January 31, 2013

Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper serving Acton & Georgetown (www.theifp.ca)

48 Pages

50 Cents (+HST)

Local artists upset over loss of Gallery use

By LISA TALLYN
Staff Writer

For many years the finest works by local artists and photographers have hung on the walls of the Gallery at the Cultural Centre, providing a venue to showcase their talents to the public.

Some local artists are now upset because they believe that opportunity may be lost as the Town has dedicated the Gallery to permanently house the Fred Helson Art Collection—featuring works by Canadian historical artists including members of the Group of Seven. Helson donated the artwork, valued at more than \$800,000, to the Town last November and the Gallery, currently being renovated, is now called the Helson Gallery.

The artists say the message they have heard from Town staff is that they can't use the Gallery space any more for their various exhibits and they've been shown other locations in the newly-renovated Georgetown Library to display their work, including the lobby and a room on the library's lower level.

But Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette says the artists can still show their work in the Gallery.

"Council did not agree to anything that would restrict use of the Gallery to local artists," said Bonnette. "Nobody ever said all local artists are restricted from the Gallery. That's not going to happen.

"There will be room for local artists," he said.

Bonnette believes there's been some miscommunication.

"I guess we can take some of the blame, obviously it goes both ways," said Bonnette.

See ARTISTS, pg. 12



One wet Wednesday

Both Halton Conservation and Credit Valley Conservation issued flood outlook warnings earlier this week as rainstorms on Tuesday and Wednesday, coupled with unseasonably warm temperatures yesterday that melted earlier snowfalls, led to some localized flooding in low-lying areas in the region. Here, water is seen across 15 Sideroad, west of Trafalgar Rd. Residents, and especially children, are urged to stay away from all watercourses and structures such as bridges, culverts and dams. Elevated water levels, fast flowing water, ice-covered creeks and slippery conditions along stream banks continue to make these locations extremely dangerous. Temperatures are expected to drop significantly over the next few days.

Photos by Ted Brown

REFINANCING? PURCHASING?

3.89%

10 YEAR FIXED

BOB WOODS, Broker

Assured
MORTGAGE BROKER
Division of UBSFP (The Ltd.)

(905) 877-1490
360 Guelph St., Georgetown

44th Annual January Paint & Home Decorating Sale

ENDS SATURDAY

Bergsma's
paint & decor
WWW.BERGSMA.S.CA

GEORGETOWN MARKETPLACE MALL 905-877-4193

Derek Dunphy
REALTOR®
CallDerek.ca

Time to move?
I can help

Johnson Associates
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
REAL ESTATE LTD., BROKERAGE
905-877-5165