

# FREE ICE CREAM AT GEORGETOWN'S NEWEST PARK ON THURSDAY

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As if there needed to be a reason to take advantage of free ice cream, Georgetown's newest park is as good a reason as any to celebrate.

A celebration for the opening of the West Branch Park is happening on July 25 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

"I'm excited to welcome residents to this beautiful park," Mayor Rick Bonnette said in a prepared release. "The free ice cream couldn't be more welcome in this heat."

In addition to free ice cream, the Town of Halton Hills events include fitness demonstrations, lawn games, a scavenger hunt, and a guided nature walk.

"The park provides a va-

riety of opportunities to be active," Bonnette said. "Climbing on the playground, shooting hoops on the court ... These amenities further demonstrate our commitment to increasing physical activity opportunities to support a healthy lifestyle for all ages."

West Branch Park is located at 55 West Branch Dr. and also connects to the Hungry Hollow Trail.

# CHERRY TREES DAMAGED BY PERSISTENT PICKERS AT SCENIC ACRES

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It was the cherries on top that caused problems at Andrew's Scenic Acres over the July 13 weekend.

Several trees at the pick-your-own farm were damaged by cherry-picking visitors trying to collect fruit from the top branches.

"People are very enthusiastic," Kathleen Foley, tour co-ordinator at Andrew's Scenic Acres, said. "We get a lot of people from all over the Greater Toronto Area."

With only a few trees,

the season for cherries at the farm lasts only a couple of days.

Over the weekend, several trees were damaged in the small orchard when adults misused the trees, pulling branches down to collect fruit, or climbing on branches to reach cherries at the top of the tree.

"They're not meant to bear that weight," Foley said. "They're pruned to grow up and out and because they're pruned this way, they don't have a lot of support."

In one case, an adult refused to climb down from

the tree.

"If we were to replant the trees it takes time to bear fruit and for the canopy to thicken," Foley said. "It's not something that's going to happen in two or three years."

However, since posting about the damage on social media, the farm has received an outpouring of support from the community.

"It's overwhelming the feedback we've received," Foley said. "It shows how much the community cares about the farm."

Andrew's Scenic Acres is a 165-acre farm offers a wide variety of pick-your-own fruits and vegetables.

"We have something for picking from May to October," Foley said.

This year, the farm will test an eight-acre field of sunflowers. Andrew's Scenic Acres is located at 9365 10 Sideroad in Milton.

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