

Halton Hills

THIS WEEK

Vol. 1, No. 24 Saturday, December 19, 1992 24 pages

Fore Christmas!

Make the golfers on your list merry with an Early Spring Foursome (w/carts) on the Turtle Lake course, just \$199 plus tax.

BLUE SPRINGS GOLF CLUB

Also...gift certificates in any denomination! Visit 'Customer Service' in the Hide House

232 Guelph St., Georgetown 873-2254

Your independent voice in Halton Hills

50 cents includes G.S.T.



Four-year-old Sarah Hillier lets out a scream before setting off on a run down this mound of snow on Barber Dr., Georgetown last week. Her brother Justin, 2, wanted to ride along but was bumped from this run. Photo by Laura Salverda

Council wants OMB hearings held here

By Dianne Cornish

A bid by the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) to hold a group of hearings about Halton Hills' development proposals at an out-of-town location has raised the hackles of town council.

After debating the issue Monday night, council directed town administrative staff to write to the Board, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Halton North MPP Noel Duignan stating its opposition to the Board's plans and asking that the hearings be held in Halton Hills.

Two weeks ago, Councillor Rob Heaton asked planning staff to try to find out why the OMB had re-scheduled a hearing on a Halton Hills Sand and Gravel subdivision proposal. Initially, the hearing was to be held Jan. 4 in the Halton Hills Civic Centre in Georgetown. However, it was later re-scheduled for Jan. 20 at the region's public works building, Trafalgar Road, Oakville.

Last week, town planner Glenn Wellings and administrative assis-

tant Stephen Thomson contacted OMB officials who told them that the Board plans to hold a group of hearings in Oakville as a means of reducing a backlog of cases referred to them for resolution.

That response, however, doesn't sit well with Mayor Russ Miller and several other members of council who want the hearings to be held in Halton Hills.

"We need to put some pressure on the OMB to hold the hearings here," the mayor told council. Seniors have phoned him to complain about the change of location, Miller said. "I think it's so unfair. It's wintertime and it's 25 miles to Oakville," the mayor said, noting that he can understand the reluctance of town residents to travel to Oakville for the hearing.

"If you want to bulldoze something through, take it out of town," Mayor Miller said of the location change. Commenting on the same vein, Councillor Rick Bonnette charged, "This is bureaucracy trying to run our town, (from) some

Continued on page 6

12-11 vote halts NEC control change

By Dianne Cornish

By a narrow one-vote decision, Halton Regional Council decided Wednesday not to proceed with plans to request development control of Niagara Escarpment lands in Halton.

Council voted 12-11 in favor of a resolution proposed by two Halton Hills councillors Marilyn Serjeantson and Bill Robson to put the region's plans on hold until details on the potential cost and organizational structure of the development control transfer are addressed. The whole issue was referred to the Feb. 24 meeting of the region's planning and public works meeting.

Approval of the referral was greeted with applause from several environmentalists in the gallery at regional council. Also present were members of the Niagara Escarpment Landowners Coalition (NELOC), a group of escarpment landowners which supports the transfer of development control of escarpment lands to regions and counties along 725-kilometre landform which extends from Queenston to Tobermory. At present, development control along the escarpment is in the hands of the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC), a 17-member board appointed by the province.

Regional council's action is expected to allay the concerns of some environmentalists who on earlier appearances before regional councillors have argued that a decision on the transfer of delegation control is premature because the findings of the Niagara Escarpment Plan's Five-Year Review aren't known yet. NEC director Nars Borodczak told council

Continued on page 11



MAKE A GOURMET MERRY!

Gift Certificates in any denomination: 853-3440



Jack TANNERS TABLE LLBO