## Public input wanted for recreation plan

By Wendy Long

This winter, Halton Hills residents can get involved in the recreational future of their town.

A major analysis of the development of leisure services in Halton Hills, for the next 10 to 20 years, is presently taking place. The public consultation phase will begin in January. The success of the project, called Active Living, really depends on public participation.

The study needs to know how the community perceives their current level of leisure services satisfaction. A realistic game plan of future developments and changes will then evolve.

"It's a community wish list done within the context of certain financial constraints," said project director Jim Morgenstern of consultants IER Planning, Research and Management Services, hired by the town to do the study. "It really is in some respects a clean slate. We're trying to write a document that makes sense to the community over the next 10 years."

The eight-month long study will result in a Recreation Master Plan, to be complete in the spring. A draft report for public review should

be ready for presentation in June.

Morgenstern said the focus will be on four key issues: facility requirements, programs and services, parks and open space and the delivery system - the role of the municipality in providing leisure services.

The study is being undertaken in six phases. Phase One, now almost complete, was the planning stage. Phase Two (January - February) features a vigorous public consultation effort. Phase Three is market analysis, Phase Four a commu-

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## **HHTW** holiday office hours

While some may believe that a newspaper never closes, the staff at Halton Hills This Week is going to take some time off over the next week.

The office will be closed from Thursday Dec. 24 to Sunday Dec. 27 and reopening Monday Dec. 28. We will also be closed Friday Jan. 1 recovering for New Year celebrations.



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## **Mountainview Road** needs major overhaul

By Dianne Cornish

If all goes as planned, Mountainview Road through Hungry Hollow will be widened and redesigned so that the existing grade is more than halved and a four-span bridge is built over Silver Creek. These and other plans were explained to about 30 interested area residents who attended a Public Information Centre held last Tuesday night by Halton Region at the Halton Hills Civic Centre, Georgetown.

On hand to answer questions about the \$10 million project, which includes the bridge construction and widening of Mountainview to four lanes from Eden Place to 10 Sideroad were regional engineer Bob McMurray and engineering consultant David McCann.

McCann, who is assistant manager of transportation planning with C.C. Parker Consultants Limited, Hamilton, said the existing 16 per cent grade through Hungry Hollow will be reduced to six per cent. A four-span bridge with sidewalks and bicycle paths on both sides will be built over Silver Creek to maintain the upstream water surface elevations in accordance with criteria of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA).

To minimize the width of the ual erosion if an earth embankment was to be put in place, McCann said engineers have opted for rock fill. The bridge and the road will be fully illuminated, the consulting engineer added.

Work on the project, which is currently undergoing a Class Environmental Assessment (EA), began in 1988. Halton Region has budgeted design monies for the study for 1993. The capital budget

has set aside \$10 million for construction of the bridge and roadway in 1994-95.

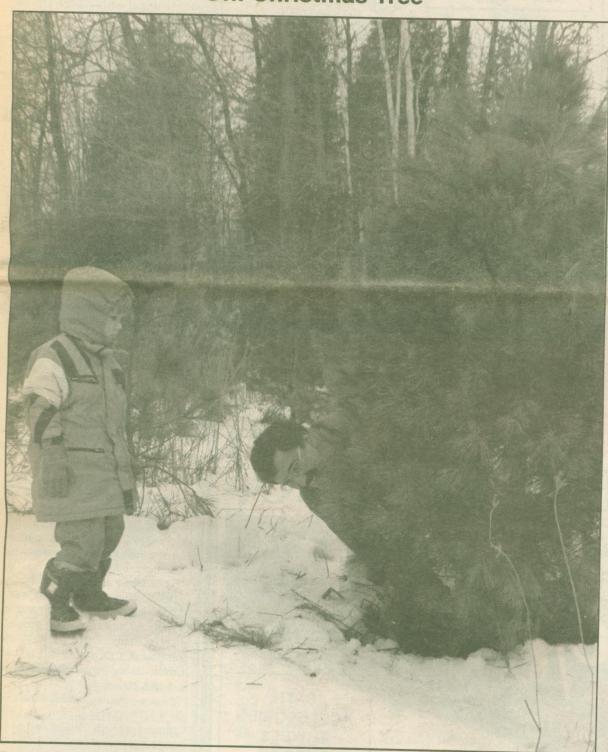
A review of the potential for cumulative environmental impacts resulting from the proposed Mountainview Road crossing in combination with other projects being proposed in and around Silver Creek Valley is currently being conducted by members of the Public Liaison Committee (PLC). Input from last week's Public Information Centre will be considered along with comments from the PLC before the Region completes its documentation for the Class Environmental Study Report (ESR), McMurray explained. The report is expected to be completed in the spring with preliminary design work starting shortly after-

McMurray and McCann said they're hopeful that any public objections to the project can be worked out by the Region and the PLC. "We're trying to get construction under way by 1994," McMurray said. "There's a pressing demand for the road (reconstruction)."

Questions posed by the public at Tuesday's information session focused on concerns about access from Eden Place onto embankment and eliminate poten- Mountainview Road and the timing of the project, McMurray reported. Others commented that they had difficulty visualizing the proposed bridge through the Silver Creek Valley and some asked about the possibility of a bridge that would span the entire valley from hilltop to hilltop.

McMurray said a series of traffic lights at major crossings (such as Barber Drive and Argyll Road)

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Douglas Izon cuts the family Christmas tree under the supervision of Douglas Izon Jr., 3 at the J.P. Tree farm in Nassagewaya over the weekend. Photo by Laura Salverda

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