

# Halton Hills Sportsplex well on the way to completion

by Stacey Massey

Debris littered the ground and machines screamed in the distance as about 50 Halton Hills community members, clad in hard hats, toured the Halton Hills Mold-Masters Sportsplex in early September.

Despite its current 'under construction' status, the Sportsplex, part of Halton Hills' Localmotion campaign for new recreational facilities, promises to be a sensational facility once finished.

Not only were council members, donors, Mayor Kathy Gastle and members of the media wowed by the new facility, those working directly on the plans for the facility were also in awe.

"It exceeded my expectations," Jonathon Fischer, President of Mold-Masters and chairman of the Localmotion campaign said following the tour. "I have seen the drawings from the initial onset. You always envision what it is going to look like but it's different when you actually see it. It will be a great facility."

After returning from a well-deserved vacation Mayor Gastle was excited to get back to work and have the opportunity to tour the near-finished facility.

"The progress is great," Mayor Gastle said. "It is certainly going to be a great facility."

"We have been anxiously waiting for this day in Halton Hills and as our community continues to grow it (Sportsplex) is a much needed facility."

Once the construction is finished the Sportsplex will house



Photo by Stacey Massey

Mayor Gastle, Council Members, donors and sponsors finished their tour of the Mold-Masters Sportsplex outside the facility at the newly erected sign.

both the existing ice rink and a new adjoining rink. The facility will also be more appealing to visitors with the inclusion of more windows providing natural light and the construction of a gallery displaying numerous pieces of hockey paraphernalia.

Warm viewing areas, a pro shop offering skate sharpening, plenty of parking, loads of seating and a snack bar will also be features of the new facility.

The Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council also has plans for the Sportsplex that include incorporating a board/community room into the new facility along with a museum.

Hockey Heritage Council Chairman Finn Poulstrup is thrilled to have the opportunity to be a part of the Sportsplex development and presented a \$4000

cheque to the Localmotion fund during the night's proceedings.

"There is an immense hockey history in Halton Hills and we're very pleased this facility has recognized it and encouraged it to grow," Mr. Poulstrup said.

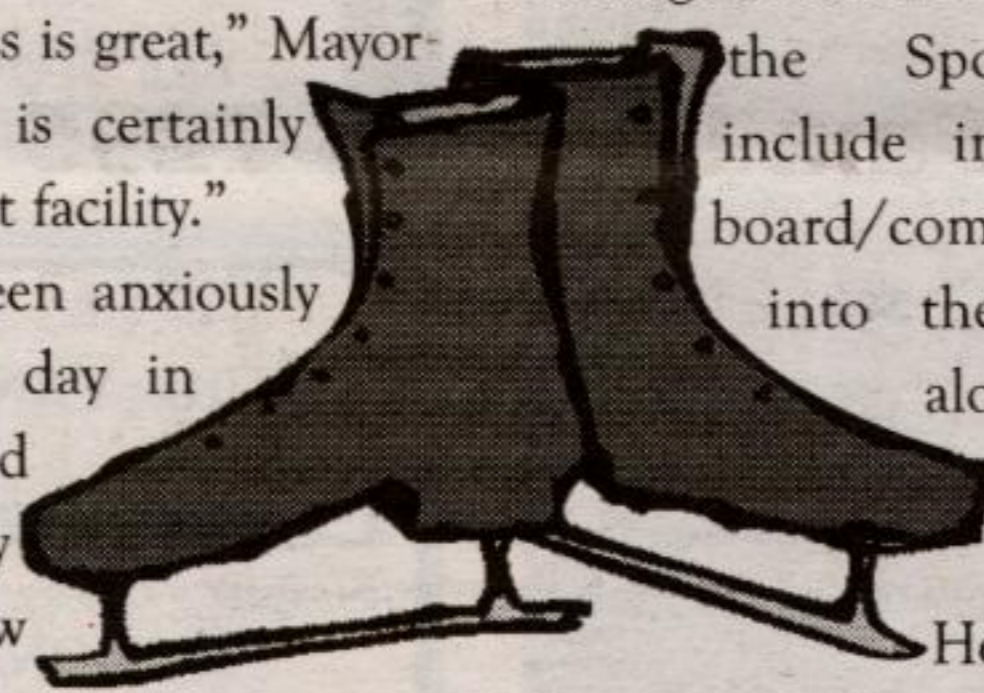
It is the hockey council's hope that they can create a rentable facility for the community to use as well as promote sports history and tourism in Halton Hills.

"I think you're going to be very proud of up here (Hockey Heritage room) when it's done," Mr. Poulstrup said.

As work continues on the Sportsplex the Localmotion committee will continue to strive to reach their \$2 million goal. Mr. Fischer and all the campaign members are ecstatic about the support the campaign has already received from individuals and companies in the community.

"It would not have been possible without our gracious donors and volunteers," Mr. Fischer said. "This facility will provide many opportunities for recreation and sport year round."

The official grand opening for the Mold-Masters Sportsplex has not been confirmed but will likely occur in the early Spring of 2002.



## Givin' you the dirt

by Sean James  
The Compass



### Some Notes on Fall Gardening

There's so much to write about at any given time of year. This month we'll deal with a few different topics all related to the season.

Fall colour is an aspect of the landscape we rarely think about until it's too late. Look around. You'll see many different bushes showing their best side in the next couple of months.

Burning Bush is the most obvious choice, but visit a nursery and check out other options such as Blueberries, Viburnum, Flowering Raspberry (Rubus odoratus), Oakleaf Hydrangea and trees such as Red Oak.

Look at the fall colour of perennials. Bergenia, Balloon Flower, Hosta "Elegans" and many perennial grasses will offer an extra dimension to your garden giving you more bang for your buck space-wise. It may even be a thought to go to a nursery at this time of year and pick out the peony and perennial geraniums that have the best fall colour.

This is a fine time to plant most plants since they are coming into the fall rainy season and will have all winter to establish. Some plants including Rhododendrons and conifers could benefit from wrapping with burlap for the first winter. I try and avoid plants that need wrapping every year. If I buy an evergreen and need to regularly wrap it for the winter, what was the point of buying an evergreen? Also, nobody needs extra work these days. We all have bigger things to worry about right? Right!

Earlier this year I mentioned combinations of flowers to complement each other in colour and form. Now is the time to think about combos for different bloom times. If you layer plants you can have bloom from April to November. For instance, plant crocus about four inches deep for early bloom with tulips planted eight

inches deep for May flowers. Lilies can be planted in the same hole about six inches deep with late summer plants like coneflowers, grasses or asters on top. The plants won't suffer from being planted in layers and you will get four bloom periods from the same three or four square feet.

I do it by digging one big hole, throwing in the first batch of bulbs, adding a bit of soil and throwing in the second batch and so on.

**New Feature:**  
**The Tip of the Month**  
Be ruthless with diseased trees.

There are several examples of insects and diseases, which are difficult or impossible to cure, and they will only spread disease to neighbouring trees. Examples are Dutch Elm Disease, Bronze Birch Borer and fireblight. There are controls for elm disease and fireblight but they are very expensive and labour intensive. If you are not going to undertake them FOR SURE suck it up and cut them down. Dispose of them only by burning or taking them immediately to the dump. If you're not sure of the disease, call a professional. All three problems are evidenced by branches dying and leaves turning all brown and are very host specific meaning that they only affect the same type of tree.

Sean is a graduate of the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture '91. He has been landscaping since the tender age of 16 (which means that he has been landscaping since some of his employees were in diapers...very hard to deal with emotionally...). He is the co-owner of Fern Ridge Landscaping with Chris Denich. Fern Ridge Landscaping specializes in consultation, ponds, nitelites and outdoor woodworking and full landscape design and installation. Sean is also available for public speaking engagements. He can be reached at 905-466-2202.



Mayor Gastle, members of Council and all the staff at the Town of Halton Hills want to wish everyone a very

## Happy Halloween!

**Kids should keep in mind that a fun time is also a safe time. The safety tips below will help ensure everyone has a wonderful time.**

- **Cross only at corners and never between parked cars**
- **If there is no sidewalk, walk facing the oncoming traffic**
- **Travel only in familiar areas and along an established route**
- **Avoid wearing dark coloured costumes or wear reflective tape**
- **Make sure masks do not obstruct vision, or opt for face paint**
- **Wait until you get home and your parents can inspect your treats before you eat any candy**
- **Never go into a stranger's house**
- **Have Fun!**



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