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# The North Halton Compass

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Volume 5, Issue 4

Circulation 11,400 Homes & Businesses

July, 2002

## Dufferin keeps growing

Plans for Milton quarry expansion given tentative go ahead

By DONNA DANIELLI

It's been a long journey, but it would appear Dufferin Aggregates is one step closer to a new, expanded quarry.

A year and a half of public meetings, and agency reviews have followed Dufferin's application to expand its Milton Quarry but in the past few weeks the Towns of Halton Hills and Milton, and the Region of Halton have given the application a tentative go ahead - subject to certain conditions.

Official planners for both Milton and Halton Hills, as well as at the Region, have presented reports to their Councils to consider the application to expand the quarry, which at present time could be exhausted as early as 2007. This application would see the life of the quarry extended to 2020.

Planners have balanced four key concerns in their reports, keeping in mind the growing need and importance of quality aggregate resources to the Ontario economy, while also protecting the surrounding natural areas.

It is the protection of four natural areas labeled W7, W8, V2 and the ANSI lobe along with the

Adaptive Management Plan (that would inject water into the ground as necessary to maintain the water table in sensitive areas) that are providing the only stumbling blocks to the approval of the application.

The Adaptive Water Management Plan and its water injection system has been used before but not on such a large scale as Dufferin is proposing. Heather Malcolmson, Hydrogeologist for the Region, has concluded that the Plan can work from a hydrogeological standpoint.

"We have asked for a mechanism by which we test the system long before it's actually put into effect," she explained. "If there is an indication that it will not work, we've asked for a mechanism that will allow them to adapt the system or to stop extracting. This is part of the agreement we require."

Dufferin is currently working with Conservation Halton on an agreement that would see Conservation Halton monitor and review the Plan, and manage the water system in perpetuity.

Of the four natural areas, W7 and W8 have been identified as

provincially significant wetlands, and V2 was found in 2001 to have egg masses of the nationally threatened Jefferson Salamander. Provincial Policy does not allow for development in areas of provincially significant wetlands or endangered or threatened species habitats.

The ANSI lobe (Area of Natural and Scientific Interest), would also be free from development under the Official Plan Amendments for the Towns and Region as it is designated as part of a larger Provincial ANSI. The proposed amendment also calls for appropriate buffer areas adjacent to these wetlands and the ANSI lobe.

Ann MacMillan, an ecologist for Ecoplans Limited appeared before all three councils to debate the need for these four natural areas to be excluded from the proposed extraction area.

"The boundary that we propose for the extension was established specifically to protect the core natural systems that encompass the Ministry of Natural Resources, Area of Natural and

(Continued on page 8)



### A little taste of Italy

Photo By REID KENNEDY

The 2002 celebration of Campbellville's Birthday on June 23 was extra special with the grand opening of the hamlet's newest business, the San Antonio Southern Bakery & Bistro. On hand for the official grand opening of the Cortese family's latest venture were (left to right): Jack Starr, Nick Cortese, Antonio Cortese, Dominic Stagliano, Enza Cortese, Pino Cortese and Barry Lee.

### Inside this Month's Compass

#### Shoebbox Memories

Joseph Pickett of Surrey, England came to Canada as a young man and married Susannah Husband of Nassagaweya. Her family came from Tipperary, Ireland in 1822 and settled near Ebenezer Church.

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#### Idle Pursuits

It was murder in Eden Mills during the month of June with the production of the village's first dinner theatre murder mystery. The play was a rollicking adventure with fictional characters based in the Eden Mills Community.

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#### Mull'n It Over

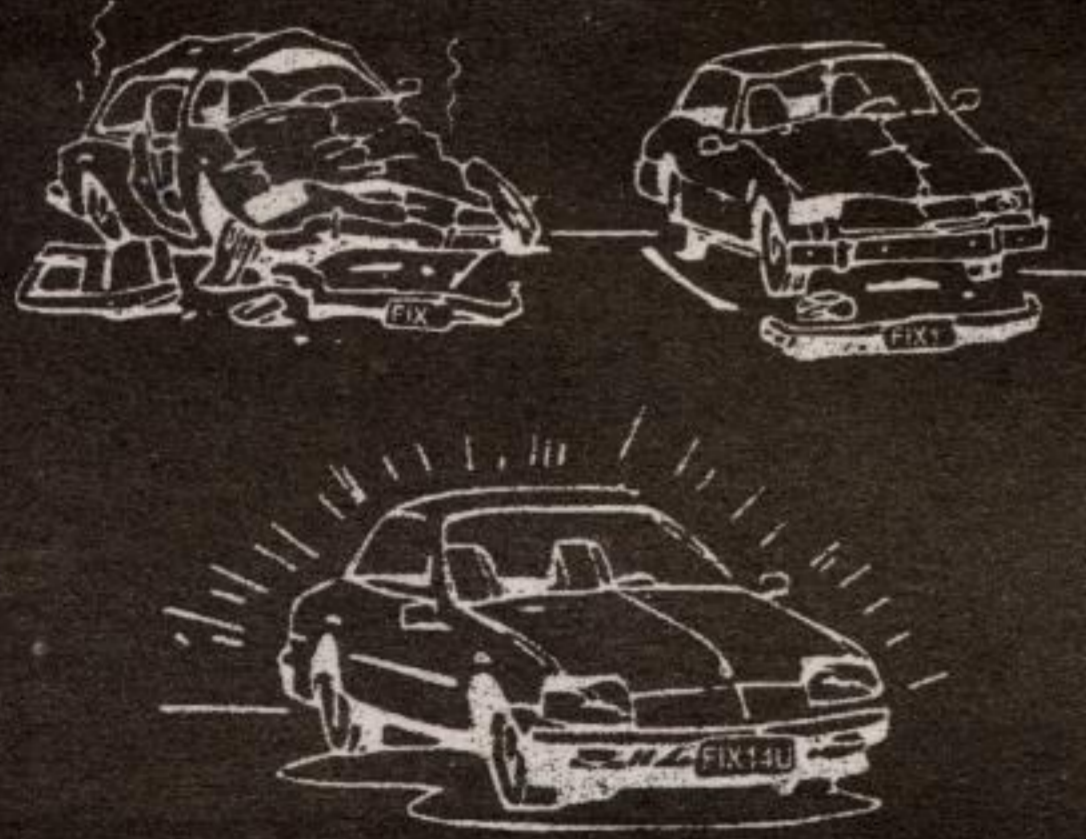
Bonnie Mullen invites you to peruse Monica O'Halloran-Schut's art studio "Croi go Larmh", where the local artist explores her creative Irish roots.

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