

# Halton Hills Council Round-up

BY BARB WANLESS

## Winston Churchill Boulevard Improvements

Edward Soldo, from the Region of Halton, addressed Council regarding a Class Environmental Assessment Update – Winston Churchill Boulevard (Regional Road 19) improvements from 5 Side Road/Embleton Road to River Drive/Mayfield Road.

It is hoped that this rehabilitative project will correct many problems associated with this thoroughfare:

- The pavement is in extremely poor structural condition.
- Shoulders are inadequate, providing little opportunity for correcting vehicle run-off, or allowing safe pedestrian or bicycling movement.
- While rehabilitating the pavement, there is an opportunity to correct:
  - minor geometric problem locations with high collision frequency;
  - improve sight lines along the corridor; and,
  - improve intersection operations at: 5 Side Road, 10 Side Road, Wanless Drive and River Drive.

It is the Region's intention to perform this work between 2006 and 2008

A summary of the preferred, preliminary design includes:

- 2 lane rural cross-section with 2.5 m shoulders (1 m paved) and ditches.
- Maintain urban cross-section through Norval.
- Illumination proposed through residential area

(high frequency of night-time collisions).

- Replacement of major culvert (Credit River tributary) near Upper Canada College lands, relocation of stream bed.
- Left and right turn lanes added at main intersections (5 Side Road, 10 Side Road, Wanless Drive, River Drive).
- Winston Churchill Boulevard from Highway 7 to River Drive will be transferred to the Town of Halton Hills after reconstruction.

Mr. Soldo also stated that it would probably take another 10 years before Winston Churchill Blvd. needs to be widened.

## New Tenants for Loblaws Site?

Councillor Bryan Lewis requested staff to follow-up on a letter from Steve Zakem, partner at Aird & Berlis LLP, regarding a reference to re-tenanting the Loblaws site in the Georgetown Market Place Mall to a No Frills Supermarket.

## Federal Gas Tax

Mike Chong, M.P. Wellington-Halton Hills addressed Council regarding his role as M.P., and outlined the differences between the federal and provincial gas tax. According to the Red Book produced by the current Federal government, by April 2005, 5 cents of gas tax would be paid to municipalities. In real terms, that could equal 1 cent per year, Mr. Chong stated. He went on to advise Council that the payment is

based on population not size and it could result in up to \$750,000/year for Halton Hills. It is anticipated the federal government will make an announcement regarding this matter during the speech from the Throne.

## Expenditure Authorized

A motion was carried authorizing the expenditure of the 2004 Connecting Link Funding Allocation from the Ministry of Transportation, Ontario. Amounts were allocated for projects in Acton: \$270,000.00 for the Mill Street Resurfacing Acton; and in Georgetown: \$396,000.00 for the Guelph Street/Mountainview Road Intersection Improvements.

## Community Strategic Plan Available Online

Town staff were directed to condense the existing Community Strategic Plan document, and make it available for public distribution through the Town's website [www.haltonhills.ca](http://www.haltonhills.ca) and in a printed format. This work is to be funded from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve at a cost not to exceed \$3,500.

## Jail-N-Bail

Councillor Bryan Lewis congratulated Halton Regional Police on the "Jail-N-Bail" event held at the Georgetown Market Place on Saturday, September 25, 2004. Mr. Lewis noted that the event raised over \$18,000 and will be donated to the Canadian Cancer Society. The Ministry of Transportation and the public were also thanked for participating in the event.

# Oakville Round-up

BY ALLISON DEMPSEY

## Randy Mogridge's body discovered

Two weeks after Randy Mogridge disappeared from Oaklands Regional Centre, his body was discovered in Sixteen-Mile Creek in Oakville. Police believe Randy died the night he disappeared on October 24 near Oaklands, a home for people with multiple developmental disabilities. He left the home where he had lived for more than 20 years at about 8 pm. Randy, 46, had autism, epilepsy, was bipolar and couldn't speak. It was the discovery of his shoe, with his initials inside, that led searchers to investigate the creek. The police had searched the area before, and had a boat equipped with an underwater camera. Several divers found Randy last Monday at 12:35 pm, between 12 and 18 feet below the creek's surface. Foul play has been ruled out, but the coroner had not released the cause of death. Hundreds of volunteers had taken time over the past two weeks to help search for the missing man. The family is setting up a memorial fund with donations going to the Parents Association of Oaklands. Tributes and condolences can be made at [www.bringrandyhome.ca](http://www.bringrandyhome.ca)

## Northern development freeze could be appealed

The Town of Oakville isn't budging from its year-long development freeze north of Dundas Street, despite unhappy landowners. The purpose of the freeze is to further study the area so inappropriate development doesn't occur. The by-law is to be in effect until September 13, 2005, while the Town studies the four areas destined to be high-density. The \$75,000 study to be done while the by-law is in effect has already begun. Public workshops to be held this month are to be announced shortly.

## Cancer Society needs more volunteer drivers

The Oakville Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society urgently needs at least 10 more volunteer drivers to ensure all local cancer victims travel to hospitals, clinics and doctors' offices. The unit has experienced a drop due to snowbirds heading south and illnesses among its core of seniors who are the majority of its volunteer drivers. Drivers have the freedom to choose which days and what times they prefer to drive each week, as well

as the treatment centre to which they prefer to travel. Oakville's volunteer Cancer Society drivers average about 300 to 350 trips per month. Call the Oakville unit office at (905) 845-5231 between Monday and Friday, 9 am to 5 pm for more information.

## 311 coming to Halton

Halton residents will soon be able to dial 311 to access non-emergency municipal services. The Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) announced approval for 311 Nov. 5. The designation of 311 for local government use is aimed at simplifying access through a single, easily remembered number.

## Time running out for Dream Lottery tickets

There are less than two weeks left to purchase a ticket for the Community Foundation of Oakville's (CFO) 10th annual Great Dream Lottery. The cut-off date is November 22, with the draw taking place December 2. Ticket buyers have three chances to win \$100,000 plus many other prizes including cars and vacations. Other top prizes include three cars: a 2005 Mini Cooper, a 2005 Chrysler Crossfire and a 2005 PT Cruiser Convertible. This year's proceeds will support the purchase of diagnostic equipment for Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, cardio rehabilitation equipment for the Oakville YMCA, scholarships and bursaries at Sheridan College, and the Community Foundation of Oakville Children and Youth in Recreation Fund. Call 1-877-883-3300 or (416) 883-3300 to purchase tickets.

## Upcoming events

### • Free Poetry Readings

Canadian Federation of Poets, Williams Coffee Pub, Third Line & Upper Middle Rd., [www.federationof-poets.com](http://www.federationof-poets.com) (905) 220-2226 Contact: George Arnold. Third Monday of every month, free. Come share your poems and listen to others.

### • Oakville Quilters Guild Monthly Meeting

Central Baptist Church, Morden & Rebecca (905) 825-4156 Contact: Diane Wolder November 18, 7:30 pm, \$5 for guests. Come enjoy a Christmas Holiday social meeting

with a "hands-on" activity and seasonal refreshments.

### • OAC Poetry Café

Featuring Stella Body, Oakville Arts Council, Paradiso Restaurant, 125 Lakeshore Rd. E., [www.oakvillearts.com](http://www.oakvillearts.com), (905) 257-7075 Contact: Elka, [ere@sympatico.ca](mailto:ere@sympatico.ca), November 21, 2 pm to 4 pm, \$8 includes chapbook and refreshments. A popular poetry event. This month's feature is Stella Body. Bring your own poetry for open mic time, too.

### • Festival Forest Showcase

The Bronte Butterfly Foundation, Butterfly Park, Bronte Harbour, [www.butterflys.ca](http://www.butterflys.ca), (905) 825-2245 Contact: Susan Sheppard, November 27, 7 pm.

### • Sponsor a Christmas tree.

Tree lighting ceremony, celebrating a Canadian Christmas.

### • Meet Canadian Poet Dennis Lee

Bookers Book Store, (905) 844-6698, November 27, 1 pm to 3 pm. Dennis Lee will sign his new book of young adult poetry.

### • Stories of Christmas, Annual Christmas Carol Sing

The Oakville Children's Choir, Glenda Crawford, Founder/Music Director, presents, with special guest narrator Dinah Christie. Featuring stories from local winners of the Community Story Writing Competition. OCC Choirs will perform a wide selection of traditional Christmas Carols. Tuesday, December 21, 2 pm. The Meeting House, 25-171 Speers Rd., Oakville. Admission \$10. All ticket proceeds to Big Sisters of Oakville. Call (905) 337-7104 for more information.

### • Study of time travel at Oakville Galleries

Janet Hodgson's exhibition at the Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens studies time travel. Her show "Here and There Then and Now" revolves around the idea of time travel, of the same space in a different place in a different time. Made up of three pieces, the centre room of the house is a time machine made of cardboard. In the north room is a video of the house's interior. The show runs until Jan. 2, at 1306 Lakeshore Rd. E.