

Citizens show they care about Halton Hills

by participating in Earth Day clean up.

BY SARAH O'ROURKE

Although the weather may not have cooperated for this year's Earth Day events, citizens in the Halton Hills region certainly did. Many schools, organizations, businesses, and residents demonstrated their commitment to creating a litter-free community by participating in the clean up events organized and promoted by the Town of Halton Hills.

Jane Fogal, Regional Councillor for the Town of Halton Hills and Chair of the Litter Free Task Force Committee, is delighted by the public's response to the first ever 20-Minute Makeover. "For the 20-Minute Makeover, given it was the first time that we did it, we had great success with it. Leading the way, really, were the town employees. They made a tremendous difference." In a commendable attempt to lead by example, town employees went outdoors on April 22nd to remove unsightly litter from nearby parks, trails, roadsides, and parking lots.

Eight schools also participated in the Makeover. "That's hundreds and hundreds of children who were out doing some clean up," said Fogal. "We know the plan was to take out a lot of kids given the number of gloves and bags they were asking for. In fact, next year we are going to have to arrange for more because we ran out of gloves. So from that point of view, I guess we had more people doing clean up than we had anticipated for the 20-Minute Makeover."

At least a dozen local businesses are known to have participated in the

Makeover, but Fogal anticipates a far greater response from the business community next year. "I think there are people who wouldn't have understood what it was to start with, but now that we've done it, and they can see that others have been out there, I think we'll get much more interest, not just from the business owners, but from the employees who might begin asking about it; so, I'm quite sure it's going to grow," said Fogal.

While the 20-Minute Makeover persuaded businesses and residents to focus on tidying their own property, the Halton Hills Clean Up Day on April 23rd was intended to be a town-wide clean up event. Unfortunately the dismal weather forced many businesses and organizations to postpone. As Fogal argues, however, the point is not when the clean up gets done as long as it does get done.

Fogal refers to a few outstanding individuals who are particularly devoted to getting the job done. "Larry Alderbert from the Stewartown area went out on his own cleaning up the Fifteenth Side Road between Main Street and Trafalgar Road, which is a huge undertaking. And he also put up flyers for people in his neighbourhood to try and get some help out there, so he was trying to organize some people and he really took a terrific initiative; he definitely cares passionately about this. And Mr. and Mrs. Porty have once again cleaned up the Twenty-second Side Road, from the Fourth Line to the Third Line. It's a particularly difficult place

to clean up because it is in the middle of a quarry and a lot of stuff gets heaved out the car windows and the truck windows. I went out to help them last year, and they were trying at that time to do from the Fourth Line all the way to Highway 25 — and these are senior citizens," remarked Fogal.

According to Fogal, exceptional people like these are making a noticeable difference in the community. "They're not cleaning up their own property, they're cleaning up somebody else's property, or they're cleaning up town property, and it takes special people to go and do that," commented Fogal. "Lots of people will keep their own place neat and tidy, but getting them to go and clean up some other area is really wonderful. It's really wonderful that we've got citizens that care that much."

Earth Day may be over, but we can all show we care about preserving and enhancing the beauty of Halton Hills by spending just a little time removing the litter we see around us everyday.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pictured at the 20-minute work out downtown clean up in Acton are (from left to right) Clark Somerville (Regional Councillor), Pat Akers (Remax Agent), Mark (volunteer), Josey Bonnette (Acton BIA Coordinator), Phyllis Follett (Remax), Mike O'Leary (Acton Councillor), Jon Hurst (Acton Councillor).

halton happenings

Please note: Halton Happenings is a free editorial service to non-profit groups, churches, schools, and charities only. Deadline for submission is Tuesday at noon prior to insertion on Friday. Please restrict information supplied to include the date, time, venue, organization and contact details for your event. The Halton Compass reserves the right to edit each submission for brevity. Inclusion is at the discretion of the publisher and is dependent on space. To submit an event for Halton Happenings call 905-854-3333 or email info@haltoncompass.com

- May 6**
- The Canadian Federation of University Women - Milton & District at Hugh Foster Hall 7:30pm. "Camp X-Training Canada's Secret Warriors" with John McLean. Call 905-876-4524 or 905-878-2421.
 - A SPRING TONIC concert of song, at 7:30 pm, featuring the Choirs of Ebenezer United Church, A much better Tonic than cod liver oil or rhubarb! Free Will Offering! Ebenezer United Church, 12274 Guelph Line, 905-854-2423.
- May 7**
- Gala Concert - Georgetown Bach Chorale and guest soloists perform with a Baroque Orchestra. 8pm at St. John's United Church, Georgetown. Tickets \$25. Call 905-877-8321
 - Community Garage Sale at St. John's Anglican Parish Hall, Main St. Rockwood from 9am-1pm something for everyone.
 - Milton Perennial Plant Sale - St. Paul's United Church, 7:30am-noon - \$2.50 ea or 10 for \$22.00
 - Elvis Concert - St. Paul's United Church, in Milton Sat., May 7, 7:30pm & Sun. May 8, 3:00pm-all tickets \$22.50
 - UCW Spring Tea - 1pm, St Paul's United Church 123 Main St. Milton. Tickets \$6 per person. Call 905-878-6807 or 905-876-1397
 - Giant Communal Garage Sale/Car Wash/BBQ to support the Georgetown District High School Music Dept going to Musicfest. 8am to noon. At GDHS parking lot. For more details or to rent a table call 905-877-4693 or 905-877-7262
 - More Than a Garage Sale - Milton Lawn Bowling Clubs Fundraiser, 45 Commercial St. Milton. 8am-1pm. Plants, baking 50-50 draw, silent auction, household items, toys, games, old & new just for you. Come check us out.
 - Churchill Community Church will be holding

their annual "Spring Tyme at Churchill" 8am-1pm, rain or shine. Crafts, plants, baked goods and other goodies. 14406 Churchill Rd. North in Acton at the Townline.

- Ballinafad United Church will hold a Garage/Bake/Quilt sale, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Church on Trafalgar Road, Ballinafad.
 - BBQ for Cystic Fibrosis presented by the Milton Kinette Club. Hot dogs, hamburgers, pop, and bottled water to be sold in the parking lot at Loblaws in Milton from 11:00am to 3:00pm.
- May 9**
- The Town of Milton's Community Services Department holds registration at the Milton Leisure Centre, 1100 Main St. East., from 6:30 - 9 pm for a new co-ed beach volleyball league in Milton, 18 years and older. www.milton.ca or recreation@milton.ca or call 905-878-7252, ext. 2754.
- May 10**
- "Helping Skills" is a 7-week program designed for volunteers and members of the public. This program is offered in Milton. Participants receive a certificate of completion and the cost is \$75.00. Call the Canadian Mental Health Association, 905-693-4270. CMHA Halton is a United Way member agency.
 - "From Puberty to Pregnancy" a symposium on health for the young adult woman. This free seminar will be held in the Classroom of the Milton District Hospital, refreshments from 6:30 p.m. and the seminar at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 905-338-4379 or e-mail cpopp@haltonhealthcare.on.ca.
- May 11**
- Esquising Historical Society: Development of Religion in Esquising - a presentation by local historian Rick Ruggle. All are welcome. Knox Church, 116 Main St. S., Georgetown 7:30pm
- May 13**
- Georgetown Horticultural Society will be holding their Annual plant sale and Silent Auction at St. George's Anglican Church, 60 Guelph St., starting at 6:00 pm. For more info call Janice 905-873-9890
 - Annual Roast Beef Dinner at St. John's Anglican Church in Stewartown, at 6 pm. Reservations are required. Contact Joan @ (905) 877-5797. Adults- \$12, Children under 10 yrs - \$6.

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