

Elementary students urged to join in walk to schools

On Wednesday, October 2, 2002, elementary students across Halton will join millions of children in 26 nations and participate in International Walk to School Day (IWALK).

IWALK is an annual event designed to motivate children and parents to adopt an active mode of transportation to and from school.

"IWALK is designed to promote safety and physical activity. It will also help to reduce traffic on school property and improve air quality," explains Lou Piovesan, Director of Education, Halton Catholic District School Board.

Last year, nearly three million children, parents and community leaders from around the world joined together to celebrate the simple yet healthy, community-building, environmentally sound practice of waking to school.

In Ontario, the IWALK event is part of a larger active transportation initiative called *Active and Safe Routes to School* (ASRTS), organized by the environmental organization *Greenest City*. IWALK is a starting point for schools and the community to implement the ASRTS program, which is supported by both the Halton District School Board and the Halton Catholic District School Board.

ASRTS programs provide communities with tools to address issues of physical activity, safer communities, traffic congestion and air pollution around the school. Through partnerships with *Choices 4 Health* and the *Halton Partners for Clean Air*, both Halton school boards are working together to promote IWALK 2002 in every Halton elementary school.

"It is important to encourage all Halton schools to participate in this worthwhile event," says Dusty Papke, Director of Education, Halton District School Board.

Choices 4 Health is helping to motivate schools to take part in IWALK by donating prizes. Participating schools are eligible to win the prizes which include gift certificate ranging from \$225 to \$400 for sports equipment.



THE BEST: For the ninth year in a row, the Acton Subway has earned top honours, receiving the best excellence rating of 165 Subway franchisees. With 100 per cent compliance in operational categories, including cleanliness, franchisees Gus (left) and Maria Galimanas are understandably proud of their staff, including Sarah Perkins and Pat Payne. — Frances Niblock photo

TOWN DIGEST

Small plaza

A new site plan application for a small two-or-three-unit commercial plaza for the vacant property at the north east corner of Queen Street and Acton Boulevard was filed recently with the Town.

The Cavallo application

calls for a 3,894-square-foot building on the site that currently houses a vacant new home sales trailer.

The application conforms to existing zoning and is being circulated to commenting agencies before it is dealt with by the site plan committee.

A previously approved site plan for the property lapsed before development conditions were fulfilled.

Pond policy peeves

Acton developer Fred Dawkins request to the Town to waive its relatively new storm water maintenance fee in his Acton East Devon Place subdivision will be reviewed by staff who will report back to Council on Monday.

Beginning in April, the Town stopped charging a flat rate maintenance fee of \$20,000 per pond and switched to a fee calculated by using real costs for maintenance, including litter clean up and grass and weed cutting.

Dawkins' letter to the Town, dated Monday, isn't clear if he's willing to pay the earlier \$20,000 fee.

Dawkins argues Acton

didn't have a chance to develop before the new charge was implemented and no mention of it was made prior to the Acton East Housing Corporation purchasing the three properties that make up the development on the south side of Highway 7.

Dawkins said while the Ontario Municipal Board ruled all Acton East developers must have a shared approach to storm water management, including storm water ponds, the IGA plaza developer, Effort Trust, who will use Dawkins' pond, is exempt from the maintenance policy because it registered its development prior to the policy approval, while Dawkins had to wait while improvements were made to the Region's Third Line wastewater treatment plant.

Dawkins said he hopes to register the Acton East subdivision within days so construction can begin, but that can't happen until the storm pond maintenance issue is resolved.

Seat Belt campaign...

Continued from Page 1

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