

*Halton Hills*

# THIS WEEK

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## Church goer charged for disturbing service

By Jamie Harrison

A woman, upset with a Charismatic Christian group meeting at Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church in Georgetown, was arrested Wednesday evening and charged with disturbing religious worship.

The charge, the woman's second in two weeks, was laid when she refused to leave church property after being asked by police. She was praying on the front steps of the church at the time of her arrest.

According to the woman's son, the 48-year-old Georgetown woman and the church group have been at odds for the last two years, over what the woman feels are Satanic influences and overtones in the messages preached by the Charismatic group.

Constable Ray Bruce of Halton Regional Police said, the Charismatic group used to meet in the actual church-section of Holy Cross, but moved to the basement auditorium at the insistence of the suspect.

The church group has about 80 members.

Four of the woman's five children, as well as other relatives were on hand for moral support Wednesday, as their mother was arrested while praying on the front steps of Holy Cross Church.

Before the start of evening services, an group member called the woman a "disruptive force", adding "she has been advised that she should not attend the meeting."

He went on to say that he felt that she would probably be arrested as a result of the evening's activities.

Some group members chose not to attend the weekly meeting

which, reportedly includes faith healing, chanting, and speaking in tongues, according to one of the suspect's sons.

A reporter from Halton Hills This Week was refused access to the meeting to verify these claims and church officials were reluctant to comment to the reporter on the situation.

But a member of the church who contacted This Week on Wednesday afternoon said the woman represents "the silent majority" of the church's parishioners. The anonymous caller added that most of the church's followers are afraid to confront the group.

As police, officials from Holy Cross Church and the Charismatic group waited for the woman to make her appearance and protest at the side door of Holy Cross, it was discovered she was in fact kneeling on the front steps of the church praying.

The woman's sister, acting as a liaison between police and the suspect, warned the woman that she would be charged if she did not leave the property. The woman refused to leave.

Three officers from 11 Division then moved in to arrest the woman who went limp as she was picked up and placed in the waiting police cruiser.

Once inside the cruiser she returned to a kneeling position to continue her prayers.

Lucia Amodeo of River View Street, Georgetown, has been charged under the Criminal Code of Canada with disturbing religious worship.

Halton Regional Police officers were forced Wednesday to remove a woman from the front steps of Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, Georgetown. It was the second time in as many weeks that the woman caused a disturbance at a gathering of the Charismatic Christian movement. She has been charged under the Criminal Code of Canada with disturbing religious worship.

Photo by Jamie Harrison

## Miller to be on dump committee

By Dianne Cornish

While consultation with Halton Hills was overlooked in the early stages of a Peel Region landfill site search, Mayor Russ Miller has been invited to join a committee that will be involved in a review of short-listed sites this fall.

Also invited to sit on the committee are Halton Regional chairman Peter Pomeroy and David McPhail, interim chairman of Stop the Credit River Valley Dumps, a newly-formed anti-dump group from the Norval area.

The Interim Waste Authority (IWA), a provincial corporation set up last year to search for three long-term landfill sites (one each in Peel and Durham Regions and one within the combined areas of Metropolitan Toronto and York

Region), announced last week that it is establishing a participant funding program to be administered by a Technical Committee from each of the landfill search areas. The committees, composed of citizens and politicians from each long-listed site area, will conduct an independent audit of the IWA's technical activities as the Authority proceeds from the short list to the preferred list stage. With funding provided by the IWA, each committee will retain expert technical consultants to conduct the audit which will focus on a number of technical areas, including geology/hydrogeology, agriculture, archaeology, biology, economics, heritage, land use, site design and operation, social, surface water and transportation.

In early June, the IWA identified 21 possible dump sites in Peel, three of which are located just north of Norval on the east side of Winston Churchill Boulevard. A short list of four to six sites is expected to be announced in late September, with the final site being named next spring.

The Technical Committee for Peel Region is eligible for up to \$200,000 in funding from the IWA during this, the first phase of the program, which will cover the period from the release of the short list to selection of the Peel site.

Additional participant funding will be available during Phase 2 when the preferred site is selected.

While Pomeroy and Mayor Miller weren't available before

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## Woman pinned under fence

A 26-year-old Pennington Court woman was pinned under a 4' high fence after a car backed into the fence knocking it over.

The bizarre accident occurred at about 7:45 p.m. Monday as a man -- the woman's uncle who was visiting from Quebec -- was backing a 1990 Ford station wagon into a driveway.

According to police, the man was attempting to move the driver's seat when his foot slipped off the brake and onto the accelerator.

The car "shot" backward into the fence, which toppled and landed on the woman. The woman struck her head on a step and was pinned several seconds.

She was taken to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital suffering from abrasions and a possible fracture of her spine.

No charges have been laid.

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