

Everything's  
ducky

Page 9



A Ted Bit:  
It's exam time!

Page 7



Ashbee claims  
Smith crown

Page 12

# The Independent

## Weekend Edition & Free Press

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GEORGETOWN

### NEWS AT A GLANCE

#### Renewal talk

■ A special meeting on the renewal recommendations which have been made by staff for the Halton Board of Education will be held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Stewarttown School. Trustee Ethel Gardiner and an administrator will be on hand to tell people the status of the proposals.

#### 911 reminder

■ Halton Regional Police is asking for the public's help in reducing the number of non-emergency calls on 911. 911 is for emergencies that require the immediate response of police, fire or ambulance. If you have a non-emergency call, you are asked to use the 878-5511 number.

#### Clothing drive

■ Country Style Donuts is holding a clothing and food drive for Halton Gospel Temple. Any items taken into the store at 184 Guelph St. in Georgetown will be sent with a planned shipment to the Ukraine.

#### INSIDE

Heaton ousted.....	4
For the kids.....	8
Staff suspended.....	12
Entertainment.....	16
Community calendar....	17
Classified.....	RE 13

## Parade kicks off Unity Week celebration

### Marching for Canada

BY LISA TALLYN  
Staff Writer

More than 500 local school kids, many carrying banners emblazoned with Better Together — Unis Chez Nous and provincial flags, are expected to parade through town Monday morning in the name of Canadian unity.

The parade will be the official kickoff of Unity Week, organized by the University Women's Club — Georgetown, to encourage area residents to take pride in Canada and celebrate its heritage, similarities and cultural differences.

Unity Week chair Barb Baron says the week is also "a means of strengthening support for a united Canada, and developing a greater level of mutual understanding."

The parade, which will be split into two routes, will include students from public and separate elementary schools in Georgetown.

Students will walk along Delrex Blvd. in the east and Main St. in the northwest, and are expected to arrive at Cedarvale Park at about 11 a.m. for a rally.

Throughout the week student artwork portraying images of Canada will be on display at Georgetown Marketplace, Young's Pharmacy and the Civic Centre.



Photo by Ted Brown

#### 20 years at ASSIC

Longtime Acton Support Services and Information Centre (ASSIC) volunteer Brendan Aherne was recognized for his 20 years of volunteering his time to helping the organization's many programs

in Acton. Brendan was honored by ASSIC president Anna Spiteri (left) and seniors' coordinator Sue Haggith, at ASSIC's annual general meeting, at St. Alban's Church in Acton.

## High school for Grade 7s hot topic

BY JANET BAINE  
Staff Writer

The hottest issue among 20 speakers at a Monday's special school board meeting was whether high schools should start at Grade 7, trustees Dick Howitt and Ethel Gardiner agreed.

Most parents think that 12-

year-olds are too young to be in high school, but some supported the idea, Howitt said.

"Grade 7 to OAC configuration is going to impact everything else around renewal, including school closures," Gardiner said. Once the configuration of the high schools is determined (will they start at Grade 7, 8 or 9?), the board will then be able to identify the 8 to

12 schools slated for closure.

Renewal is the school board's major overhaul of the system to both upgrade it and cut costs.

Howitt said delegations from smaller schools such as Glen Williams, Pineview and Limehouse schools were asking the board not to close their schools. Trustees were expected to discuss renewal again at a June 20 board meeting.

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