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NEWS AT A GLANCE

Blue bag delay

■ There will be a delay in the start of the blue bag distribution by Halton Recycling Limited (HRL).

The reusable heavy gauge plastic blue bags were to be distributed this month to be used for newspapers, fine paper, magazines, and books.

However, the company informed Halton Region, that a sponsor cancelled its financial support at the last minute, forcing the company to get another sponsor. HRL expects to begin distribution of the bags in May or June.

Car stolen

■ A 1996 Chevrolet Beretta that had been left running on Mill St. Thursday while the driver went into a bank was stolen and found approximately 45 minutes later at an Orangeville mall after it had been involved in a minor accident. Charged with impaired driving, having over 80 mg of alcohol in 100 ml of blood, dangerous driving and possession of stolen property over \$5,000 was Leslie Norman, 49, of Orangeville.

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Town planner Marsha Paley speaks about a ravine development to a packed room at a town meeting held at Georgetown high school Monday.

Photo by Ted Brown

More than 400 citizens jam town meeting

More than 400 residents packed a town-hosted public meeting at Georgetown High School Monday night to oppose developers' plans to build 503 homes on Main St. S.

The Town of Halton Hills, expecting the large turnout, moved the venue from the regular council chambers to the high school. Many there were members of the citizens' action group, Save Our Ravines (SOR).

Halton Hills Village Homes Inc. (HHVHI) and Silver Creek Estates plan to build 503 homes on Main St. South lands, south of Cedarvale Park. The two developers have already appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) for a decision on the plans. A prehearing is scheduled for 10 a.m. May 4 at the Halton Hills Civic Centre.

It's a rarity that an issue has so much solidarity in a community, said SOR lawyer Hal Watson. He said his "dream team" of planners and environmentalists differ with Halton Region, Credit Valley Conservation (CVC), town and developers' contention of where the valley line falls.

It's SOR's contention the valley line actually follows Main St. on the portion of the pro-

perty, which would eliminate about 22 per cent of the proposed housing. In addition, SOR planner Mark Dorfman said the developer is "pushing the envelop" on the edge of the valley in the southeast portion.

The development, says SOR's experts, would impact water quality and quantity, destroy cold water fisheries—a possible federal violation, change the vegetation, destroy many wildlife species—some rare,

degrade the wetlands and the cumulative effect from the overall town development is still a big unknown.

SOR environmentalist Mirek Sharp contended the town must not only maintain the Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) but preserve the functions (the upper part of the ravine lands) which maintain these ESAs, and that hasn't been demonstrated in the developers' Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Both the

region and the CVC have accepted the EIS with conditions.

The town is reviewing the EIS and will present a technical report to town council Monday night. This report will be available to the public on Friday after 4 p.m. A public site walk of the lands is planned to start at 9 a.m. Saturday and will be led by members of the town staff.

Not only does SOR want the See RESIDENT, page 10

The Gondoliers opens tomorrow



The Duke and Duchess of Plaza-Toro (right, Joe Del Guidice and Dorean Boss) are somewhat concerned about their daughter Casilda's choice (Helen Tobin) of suitor, Luiz (Chris Gawley) while Don Alhambra del Bolero (Norm Douglas) looks on in Georgetown Globe Productions The Gondoliers. The Gilbert and Sullivan musical, set in 17th century Venice opens tomorrow night at John Elliott Theatre.

Photo by Ted Brown



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