

Editorial

Time to restock

Despite appearances of an upturned economy, the Halton Social Planning Council is worried that some families and individuals cannot afford to live in Halton and purchase the basic necessities of life.

In a recently released report, Cost of Living in Halton, the council reports the basic cost of living for a family of four is about \$30,000— that just includes food, rent, clothing, childcare and transportation. It doesn't cover utilities, toiletries, cleaning supplies, school and recreation costs, or any of the extras, like computers, cable and cell phones, that many people today consider essential.

That's where Acton Foodshare and Georgetown Bread Basket come in. They assist families and individuals who have difficulty affording the most basic necessity— food. But the food banks depend on local residents, who can afford these basic necessities, to restock their depleted shelves during the annual November food drive.

This Saturday, dozens of scouts, guides, Calvinist Cadets and adult volunteers throughout Halton Hills will be spending the day collecting food.

The process is simple: residents fill a bag of non-perishable goods and set it out on their front porch. The young volunteers will come by between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to pick up the bag and return it to the distribution centre.

The kids are doing their part— will you do yours?



Letters to the editor....

Hornby ratepayers can make informed choice

Dear editor,

Speaking on behalf of the Hornby Association of Rate Payer's (HARP), I would like to thank all the residents for attending our all-candidates meeting on the evening of October 18.

We also express our sincere thanks to all the nominees for

taking the time out of their busy days to attend. Thanks also goes out to our mediator Barbara Dixon, Jim Snow and the Hornby Glen Golf course for the wonderful facilities, our question runner Ken Lawday as well as the excellent coverage by *The Independent & Free Press*. The turnout far exceeded our expectations with more than 100 people in total.

The Hornby area residents now can make an informed decision on November 13 with regard to their representation at regional and local councils.

Please mark your calendar on November 13 and have your say by voting.

Erik Kowal,
president, Hornby Association
of Rate Payers

Adults can be as cruel as kids

Dear editor,

In today's society we often hear how teenagers criticize their peers— from the clothes they wear to the way they walk. But recently, I had the unfortunate experience of seeing how adults criticize and ridicule a teenager because she was not the same as they were.

To belittle and make fun of someone because they don't talk the same way they do is unacceptable. It's obvious, the adults responsible didn't even bother to look at the young teenager and see the pain in her face as she was struggling to make the words flow more easily, nor did they see the tears filling her eyes as they made cruel remarks as to when will she learn to speak properly. These adults also don't hear the sobs which come from behind her closed bedroom door, all because of the heartless and vicious comments adults feel they must make towards other people.

I guess the snickers and giggles along with the rude comments make the adults feel superior or perhaps it is covering up their own imperfections or maybe they're just plain ignorant.

Do yourselves a favour, the next time you have the privilege of being in the company of a person who is dysfluent— this, by the way, means stutter—take the time to listen. You may be amazed at what they do have to say.

Jamie Owen, Georgetown

Send us your letters

The Independent & Free Press welcomes letters to the editor.

All letters must be signed and include an address and a daytime telephone number. Letters requesting names be withheld will only be published pending a valid reason at the editor's discretion. Letters should be not exceed 300 words and may be edited for content or length.

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Red Cross drivers thanked

Dear editor,

The Canadian Red Cross, would like to thank the following drivers for their dedication and devotion towards the many clients they drive to medical appointments. Without these drivers, many people in these communities would have tremendous difficulty getting to these appointments.

Georgetown: Andrew, Arie, Bernie, Carl, Cecil, Earl, Edie, Eric, Henry, John, Linda, Lynn, Mary,

Mary Jane, Murt, Paul and Stan.

Acton: Donna, Dorothy, Henry, John, Maureen, Murray and Norm.

Milton: Bud, Archie, Bob, Geoff, Hugh, Jane, Joan, John, Judy, Mae, Ric, Ross, Stells and Tommie.

Again, many thanks.

Lynne Sim,
community services assistant
Ann Sharpe,
transportation co-ordinator
Canadian Red Cross,
Milton branch

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