

Cyclist escapes serious injury

Halton Regional Police Const. Stephanie Visser and Acting Sgt. Michael Dunn talk to witnesses after a 12-year-old Georgetown boy was struck by a truck while crossing Maple Avenue at Guelph St. Monday afternoon. The youth, whose crumpled bike is in the foreground, was taken to hospital and released after suffering cuts and bruises.

Photo by John McGhie

Plastic bags banned

New waste rules in effect Sept. 1

Starting September 1, it becomes mandatory for all Halton residents to use only open reusable containers or large kraft paper yard waste bags when setting out their yard waste such as leaves.

Plastic bags are banned. Earlier this summer, Halton residents received a starter kit in the mail, which included a yard waste container label and a coupon for a sample paper yard waste bag. The yard waste bags are available from a variety of

local hardware and grocery retailers across the region.

"Residents recognize that this is a good move for the environment and for them as it improves the quality of compost we are able to offer at our popular twice-annual giveaways," said Rob Rivers, Halton Region's Director of Waste Management.

This fall's compost giveaway will take place from September 23 to October 1 (excluding Sunday) at Halton's Waste Management Site.

Acton beaches open and closed

Acton's Old Beach in Prospect Park is still deemed safe for swimming, according to the latest results posted by Halton Region's Health Department.

Bacteria levels, however, continue to be too high at the park's Boathouse Beach and it remains closed.

This information is available

on the 24-hour Beach Hotline. Halton residents can call 905-825-6111 or toll free: 1-866-442-5866 (ask for the beach hotline) to find out which beaches have been closed due to poor water quality. Information is updated weekly or as conditions change. This information is also posted on the Health Department Web site at www.region.halton.on.ca/health.

Local woman frustrated by seven-year mail mix-up

Same street, wrong town.

A Market St. Georgetown woman is frustrated because she has received several letters over the past seven years for a couple in Gananoque who live on Market St. in that town.

Doris Barber said she can't understand why she gets the couples' mail.

They both live at the same number on Market St., but that's where the similarity ends. The Gananoque couple's address also includes an apartment number, and the postal codes aren't close.

Barber's postal code is L7G 3C3 and the couple's code is U7C 2M3.

"I'd have all kinds of them (letters for the couple)," said Barber. "And I've even put them back in the mail, and they come back the next day."

She said she was irritated when she first began getting the mail "because I had to run around with it," but now gives the mail to her son-in-law Malcolm Kilburn, who lives next door.

Kilburn said they have complained about the mail mix-up to the local post office, and were told "thanks very much we'll look after it."

When the letters continued to arrive, he said he called the Canada Post ombudsman a couple of years ago.

"It seemed to me it had dried up," said Kilburn, but he says now, when his regular mail carrier is away, as she is currently, the letters sometimes show up again.

"This is no reflection on our postal carrier Kelly, she is just fantastic," said Kilburn.

"We think it's happening from Gateway (sorting station in Mississauga) but these people in Georgetown should be able to pick up on it," said Kilburn.

Canada Post spokesperson Kevin Kane said "we don't believe this is a continual problem, we believe this is a rare occurrence."

He said there have been perhaps three or four instances where the letters for the Gananoque address were delivered to Barber's home.

Kane said the letters likely came to the Georgetown address because the postal code couldn't be read correctly during the letter-sorting process.

"If it can't read the postal code correctly it goes to the street address," said Kane who couldn't explain why the letter would go to the Market St. address in Georgetown instead of Gananoque.

Kane said the problem could be resolved with "clearly identified addressing."

He also said he couldn't see how letters sent back by Barber were returned to her home the next day.

"I don't see how that's possible. It's virtually impossible for the same piece of mail to come back twice," said Kane.

He said their best option for dealing with the problem is through the superintendent at the local post office.

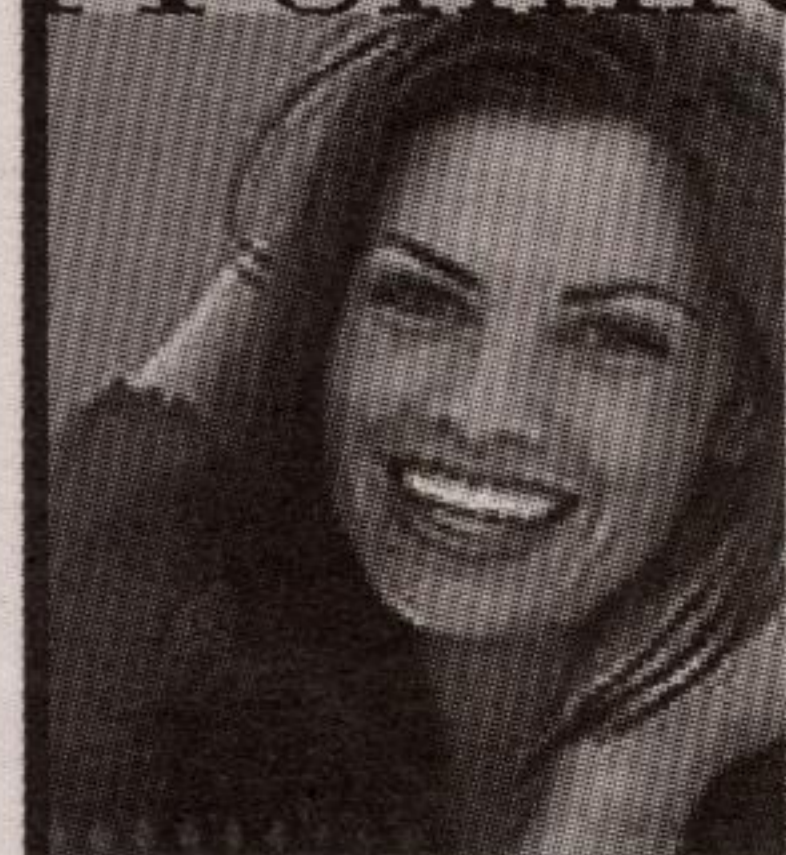
—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer



Doris Barber and her son-in-law Malcolm Kilburn show off one of the many pieces of mail she says she has received over the years for a residence in Gananoque. The Georgetown woman shares the same street address as the northern Ontario family.

Photo by Ted Brown

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