

Commission to hear proposal to amend Escarpment plan

An application to amend the Niagara Escarpment Plan by Dufferin Aggregates will be considered by the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) at a meeting at the Civic Centre tomorrow (Thursday).

Approximately 30 people have registered to speak at the meeting to be held in the council chambers.

Richard Murzin, a NEC spokesperson, said the business section of the meeting will start at 9:30 a.m., and the Dufferin application is to be dealt with beginning at 10 a.m.

Dufferin Aggregates, which has operated its quarry from its Milton site

since 1962, wants to expand its operation and is seeking to re-designate a total of 205 acres for mineral extraction production. Of that, 169.5 acres is located within the Niagara Escarpment Plan Escarpment Rural Area designation.

NEC staff is recommending that the NEP amendment not be approved and key issues are the perpetual operation of the water management system, the loss of corridors and linkages and the impact on the substantially continuous natural environment of lands in the vicinity of the Niagara Escarpment.

NEC staff has alternatively recommended that the NEC may consider

that, because of a number of factors, the application is justified and can be approved.

If the NEC does approve the application however, staff recommends several conditions should be considered for adoption including the removal of the wetlands/Jefferson Salamander breeding site from the licence and identification of an appropriate buffer area.

Staff also recommends that the necessary agreements be put into place to manage, monitor and maintain the water management system over the long term at no cost to the public.

Halton Region and the towns of

Halton Hills and Milton have approved in principle all applications necessary for the licensing of the lands for mineral extraction with conditions.

Those conditions include that the wetlands and Jefferson Salamander breeding sites in Halton Hills and a small portion of a provincially significant Area of Natural and Scientific Interest in Milton and appropriate buffer area be excluded from the proposed licence.

Conditions also deal with the long-term operation of the water management system and groundwater management.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

Roadway dedication to honour veterans

Signs to be posted along Regional Rd. 25 will serve as a permanent tribute to Halton veterans.

The honorary dedication of the roadway to commemorate the veterans will be made this Sunday during a traveling ceremony that will take place at three Halton locations including Acton.

"This ceremony will applaud the Halton veterans who fought for our liberty, ensuring the quality of life we are so privileged to enjoy today," said Halton Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline.

Representatives from local legions, naval associations, the Canadian Merchant Navy and the Korean Veterans Association will take part in the ceremony and the public is welcome to join the procession along the highway.

The north Halton ceremony will take place at approximately 3 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 19, at 15 Wright St. in Acton and will involve military honours and the laying of wreaths.

The south Halton ceremony will be held at approximately 12:30 p.m. at the Halton Regional Building, and the mid-Halton ceremony will be at the Allendale Long Term Care Facility in Milton at about 2 p.m.

Peel cop facing charges

An off-duty Peel police officer is facing charges of impaired driving, refusing to provide a breath sample and possession of a controlled substance after a single-car accident on Regional Rd. 25 (Hwy. 25) early Sunday.

Police report no one was injured in the accident that occurred at approximately 3:50 a.m. south of 15 Sideroad.

Police say a northbound 2002 Pontiac Aztec left the roadway and struck some guard rails. Damage to the Aztec was extensive and several guardrails were damaged. A small amount of marijuana and psilocybin mushroom were found in the driver's personal effects.

Charged is Jayson Bouwkamp, 27, of Mercer Dr., Brampton.

United church event this weekend

A story in the Friday, Oct. 11 *Independent & Free Press* listed an incorrect date for a gathering of local United church members.

The "I Believe Faith Matters" event will be held this weekend (Oct. 18-20). The event highlight will be a service Sunday (Oct. 20) at Nashville North. For information call 905-877-4482.

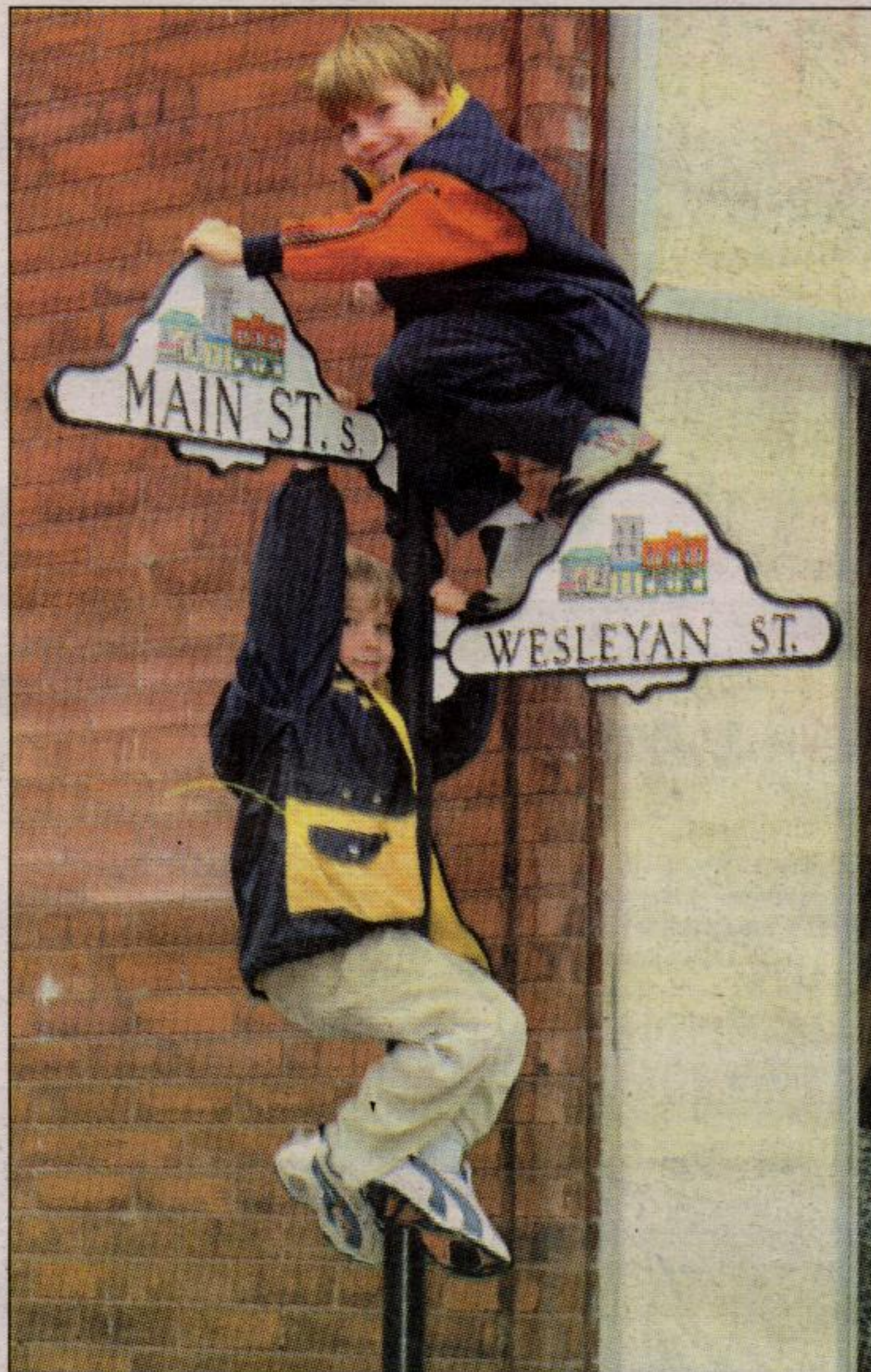
The *Independent & Free Press* regrets the error.

Harvest Festival photo gallery



The annual Harvest Festival took over downtown Georgetown Saturday offering residents music, fun and food. (Left) Guitarist Lee Martin clowns around with Australia native Arabella Jones, 2. (Below right) Brothers Luke (top) 7, and Carl, 5, Haynes opt for a bird's eye view of the fun. (Below) Linda Kemper of Georgetown checks out tomatoes at the Farmers' Market.

Photos by Stephen Uhraney



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