

## Guide to the Outdoors

Julie Pomeroy

Walking this week has been spectacular. We are so lucky to have the Bruce Trail. I love the moss covered rocks on the escarpment. In fact I love them so much that I have filed the store with ROCKS. Well.. not the whole store, but we have a great selection. River Rock Soap is a hand milled natural soap that is kind to your skin and long lasting. It comes in a gift pack for \$16 or \$4.29 per rock. Really neat. Stone Candle Holders by Rock Solid Creations come in a unique beautiful wooden gift box for \$24.95. The stone lanterns are \$44.95. Great cottage gifts! How about a Rock Flamingo? Each one is unique with its hand selected stone and will adorn any garden. Augiak Novalinga is one of Canada's most renowned Inuit carvers. He has carved an Inukshuk into soapstone to create a beautiful one of a kind necklace. \$19.95 Let's rock!

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**SMART INVESTMENT PAYS DIVIDENDS**

Window treatments are an investment in time, money and creativity, so protect this investment by purchasing the right type of draperies for your needs and caring for them properly.

- First, make a sound investment.
- Know what you're buying. Ask about the colorfastness, the suggested care process, its resistance to light and how this relates to the atmospheric conditions of your home.
- Consider purchasing lined draperies which have a longer life than unlined.
- If your draperies are custom-made, ask for preshrunk fabric, especially when installing floor-to-ceiling draperies.
- Read the care label carefully. Look for resistant fabrics such as acrylic, modacrylic, polyester, nylon and glass fibers. Silk and sheer fabrics weaken much faster than heavier, tightly woven fabrics. Protect these fabrics by installing blinds or blockers on the window as well. Some draperies have special backing that insulates and reflects light well, but it may be difficult to clean.
- Clean your draperies at least once a year, and vacuum thoroughly between cleanings.
- If possible, rotate your draperies to vary light exposure. Sun can damage draperies, weakening textile fibers and fading colors.

For further information see Barragers Cleaners.

Oct. 10 - Oct 16. Only  
**\$5.00 off drapes, spreads & comforters**

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### Walk this way

As part of the naturalization program, Glen Williams Public School Council, with help from Accent Landscaping and Unilock Brick Ltd., constructed a walkway in the front of the school to make walking in the school grounds safer. On hand for the official opening were (from left) former Glen Williams principal and Halton Board supervisor Al Greyson, Halton Board of Education Director of Education Dusty Papke, School Council co-ordinator Linda Jackson and her daughter Chelsea, Zoe Caldwell, Halton Board Trustee Ethel Gardiner, Unilock representative Steve Gamoyda, Dave Clifford of Accent landscaping and former Glen Williams principal Mary Lyons.

Photo by Ted Brown

## Task force credited with attracting doctors

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similar task force in Cambridge—a municipality identified as under-served by physicians, which means the province provides incentives for doctors locate to such areas—has lured 10 GPs over the last two years.

According to the task force, 40 physicians were needed in the region this year, and 20-25 are needed next year and in 2005.

Much of the credit for Halton's doctor recruitment goes to the physicians recruitment task force. It's comprised of a number of agencies, including area physicians, municipalities and hospitals.

The task force has embarked on a number of initiatives to get doctors to come to Halton as quickly as possible. They include aggressive marketing, attending trade shows and selling Halton as wonderful place to live and work and through its Web site—www.physicianopportunities.ca—which averages about 18 visits a day.

Kate Johnston, Halton's corporate projects consultant with duties on the task force, said the group is "very delighted" with the number of GPs attracted to Halton so far, saying "it is a lot."

Yet it's the kind of success they were expecting. "I don't know if we exceeded our expectations because we had very high expectations from the beginning," Johnston said, noting a great deal of interest is being drummed up from doctors in the United States and overseas about practicing in Halton.

There are a number of reasons GPs are making the move to Halton, she said. Halton Hills is tagged under-served by the province. That designation means physi-

cians are eligible to receive up to \$40,000 in provincial incentives to locate in places that are under-served.

Also, Halton's rural-urban setting provides unique challenges to practice medicine and the quality of life offered in Halton is attractive, Johnston said.

"I think one of the great things for Halton is the word-of-mouth marketing opportunity," she said, noting medical students and physicians tell their colleagues about the region.

"That has really generated good, solid leads. They're impressed with the collaboration of the community hospitals, and with the other physicians they meet. That collegial environment is important to a new physician."

Given the shortage of doctors in Ontario, Halton municipalities and others have taken seriously the need to attract GPs by offering unique incentives.

In the past year the City of Burlington has suggested providing \$40,000 to persuade city medical students to set up a practice at home when they graduate. It's also encouraged golf clubs to offer free memberships.

Thorold and Pelham in Niagara Region have offered doctors a \$50,000 signing bonus.

Premier-elect Dalton McGuinty has pledged, as part of his election platform, to increase the number of physicians working in Ontario by streamlining the accreditation process to allow foreign-trained graduates to practice here, as well as increasing the number of spaces in medical schools.

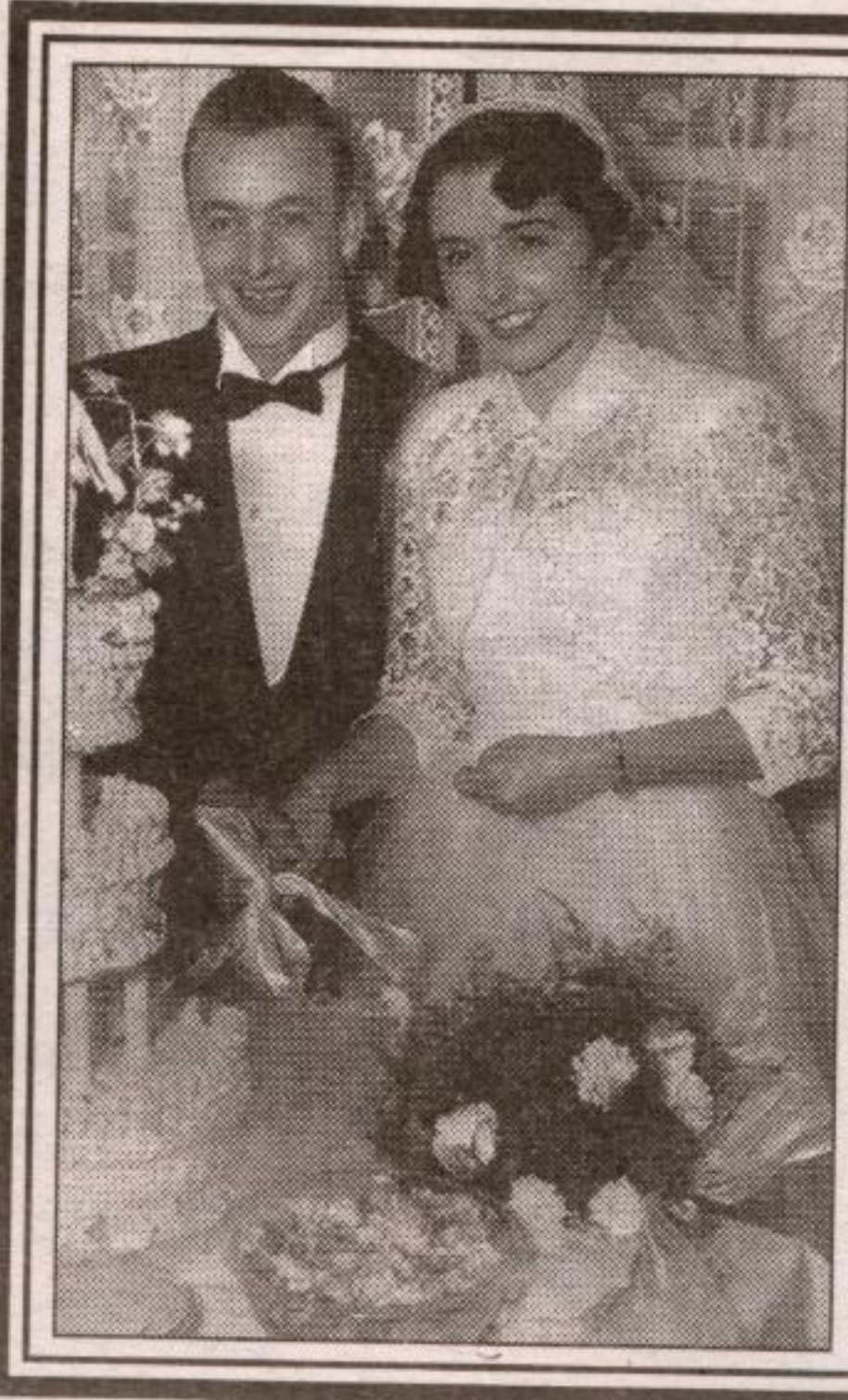
The Halton recruitment task force started out as a pilot project with a budget of \$150,000 and the intention is to get Halton council's approval in the spring to keep it going.

—By Jason Misner, special



career alert: chiropractor

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Love Mom, Dad, Derek & Lindsay