


The Independent & Free Press

Weekend Edition

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Business groups put forth alternative sign bylaw proposals

A committee of Halton Hills businesses presented its preferred version of a portable sign bylaw to replace a controversial one approved by council in July, at Monday's council meeting.

"It is the hope of the committee that these changes will allow for improvements within the streetscape without seriously hurting businesses," said Herma Buchanan, of Vision 2000 Travel Group, who along with Mark Poulos of Outdoor Power Equipment, led the committee of business people, town staff and councillors.

"The committee has remained true to the intent of the initial bylaw and has worked within the scope mandated by council to keep in mind safety, appearance of our community and fair business practices."

In July, businesses formed their own committee after opposing the current bylaw, which targeted portable signs with tight restrictions. This bylaw was written after years of receiving complaints about the number of portable signs, particularly along the Guelph St. corridor in Georgetown, blocking sight-lines or sidewalks, creating safety hazards, and having stale or vandalized messages for months on end.

But businesses said those restrictions were too tight, and would have a detrimental impact on their ability to do business in town. According to a committee survey of businesses (53 responded) every business was concerned about safety, most agreed that signs should be well-maintained, changed fre-

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Thanks to the efforts of students at Georgetown District Christian School, the Georgetown Bread Basket Food Bank received a load of 320 pounds of food after the students conducted their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Grade 2 students helping unload the food Monday at the Bread Basket included (from left) Brittany Middel, Elliot Bergsma, Erin Steckley and Joel Van Offwegen, all 7.

Photo by Ted Brown

Scouts, Guides, Cadets will be out in force

Local food drives set for Nov. 1

Residents in both Acton and Georgetown are encouraged to put food out on their doorsteps next Saturday (November 1) morning for the annual food drives in both communities.

Food collected in Georgetown during the 13th Annual Scouts/Guides Food Drive will go to the Georgetown Bread Basket, and in Acton the donations will go to Acton FoodShare. Scouts and guides will be collecting in both communities, and in Acton Calvinist Cadets will also take part.

Georgetown residents (including those in Glen Williams) should put their donations in the paper bag included in today's edition of *The Independent & Free Press* and have it out by the front door by 9 a.m. Saturday. Approximately 12,000 paper bags are being distributed in urban Georgetown (with the exception of apartment buildings).

Acton residents are asked to put their non-perishable food donations in plastic bags and have them

out at the front door by 8:30 a.m. for pickup.

Marian Viant of Georgetown Bread Basket said food items most needed in Georgetown are: canned juices, juice boxes, cheese spreads, canned meat, stews and fish, peanut butter, jam, canned fruit and vegetables, canned and powdered milk, dry and canned soups, sugar, salt, flour, pasta and sauces, Kraft dinner and instant coffee.

In Acton, needed items include: canned meat and tuna, canned pasta, canned stew, baked beans, canned vegetables, canned tomatoes, canned fruit, Jello/puddings, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jam, rice, cereal, juice, puddings (for school snacks), cookies, crackers, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, sugar, dry milk, macaroni and cheese, ketchup, toilet paper and soap. The food bank currently has a large supply of soup and dry pasta.

Viant said the Georgetown food bank serves 180 families in the community— including 200 children.

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War horrors relived

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A Ted Bit page 7



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