

Region to further study pay-per-bag trash plan

Regional council approved a staff recommendation last week to have a pay-per-garbage-bag system assessed by the region's waste management review committee.

Halton is reviewing its waste management strategy, last completed in 1999.

The committee, made up of staff, politicians and members from the public, will assess the merits of a user-fee system. It's not clear when a recommendation on user-fees might come forward, but the entire waste strategy review is anticipated to be completed by spring 2005.

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TD prime rate as of April 27, 2004.

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1. Variable rate portion can be as low as TD prime and changes with TD prime. 2. TD prime rate is subject to change. Some conditions apply. 3. Applies to residential properties only and is subject to meeting TD Canada Trust lending criteria. *Trade-mark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

Be ready for any emergency

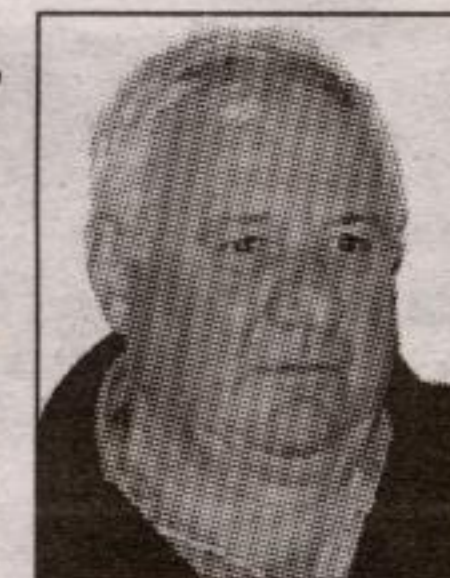
May 2-8 is Emergency Preparedness Week. Each year, thousands of Canadian families face emergency situations that could change their lives forever. Don't be caught off guard; here are five things to think about this week.

Identify the risks. Knowing them will help you better plan for them. You may find it helpful to prepare a list of the risks you are most likely to face and think about how they might affect your family. Think about past experiences like the power outage or freezing rainstorms.

Prepare your family emergency plan. Before disaster strikes, choose an out-of-area contact that each family member can call or e-mail in case of an emergency. This person can help you all stay in touch. Be sure to pick someone who is far enough away so as not to be affected by the same situation. Decide on temporary accommodation such as a friend's place. Don't forget to plan for your pets that may not be welcome in emergency shelters.

Assemble your emergency kits. Having essential items on hand, like food, sufficient water and prescription drugs will go a long way towards peace of

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Julian Reed

mind. Whether your kit is big or small, it should be organized and accessible. Keep your special needs in mind as well, such as a small bag of food for the family pet or the requirements of an older family member.

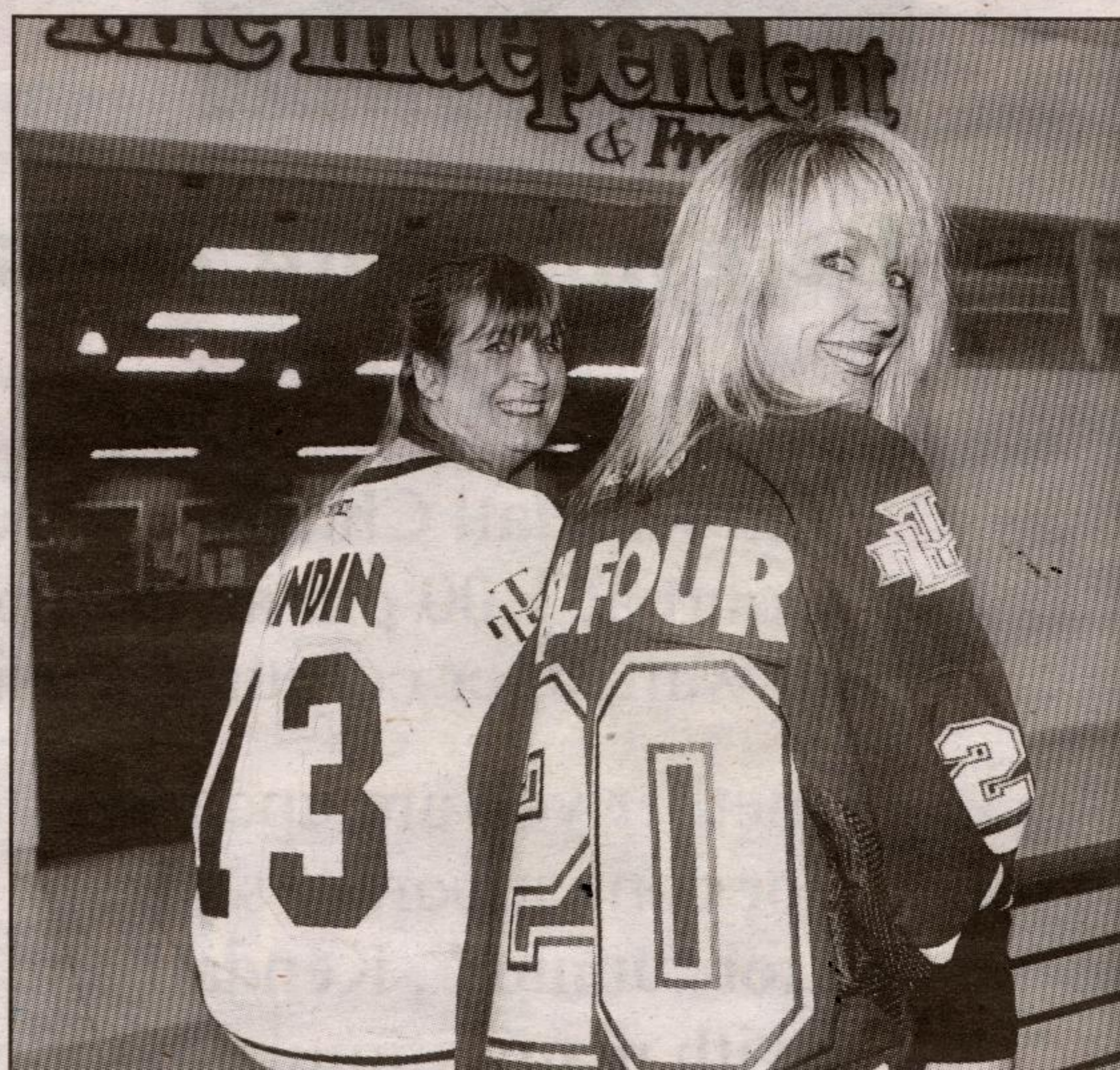
Check the emergency plans of your workplace, the children's schools and the municipality.

Most importantly, practice. An emergency can happen anytime, anywhere and practising often helps people feel less disoriented and better organized. Know how to turn off the electricity, gas and water in your home. Have a fire escape plan and check the contents of your kits.

Learn more at www.emergencypreparednessweek.ca; Keep in touch.

—Julian Reed is the MP for the riding of Halton

"GO LEAFS GO" JERSEY CONTEST!



Peggy-Sue Gelley of Georgetown (left) and Kristine Cieslok of Blue Springs Spa & Salon model their Sundin and Belfour jerseys at The Independent & Free Press office on Friday. Peggy-Sue and Kristine recently won the jerseys in our "Go Leafs Go" contest. Congratulations!

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Halton Hills Community Newspaper