



Running for Terry

Thanks to the efforts of 528 participants, the Georgetown Terry Fox Run raised \$20,069 on Sunday. Sponsorship was down \$5,000 from last year, due to a drop in corporate giving. But, says organizer Tamara Diardichuk, "we are totally happy with what our community gave. It was a great day, and a lot of fun." Among those running at the Gellert Community Park were Lizzane Gray and her son Jarrett, 10, of Georgetown. Photo by Yves Desjardins

Speed limit on Main to stay at 40-km

Halton Hills council recently agreed to keep the speed limit on a portion of Main St., from Maple Ave. to Cindebarke Trail, at 40 km until reconstruction of the road is completed.

A staff report had recommended to increase the speed limit to 50 km/hour stating the 40 km/hour

has been unsuccessful.

But Councillor Moya Johnson who had fought for the lower limit last year, said it was put in place to protect residents trying to back out of their driveways.

She said until the road construction is completed it should remain at 40 km/hour.

Dwindling supply of land will put growth pressure on this area, planners told

As land supplies run out in surrounding regions, more growth pressures could soon be redirected to Halton.

That's what two presentations given to the region's planning and public works committee last Wednesday suggested.

The topic came before committee through delegations on the recent discussion paper put out by the provincial government, *Places to Grow: Better Choices, Brighter Future*, a document aimed at stopping urban sprawl and focusing compact development on 11 priority urban centres and 15 emerging urban centres.

Planners for Halton Region and its four municipalities have prepared a response to the provincial report but it was not available to councillors in time for a committee discussion. It will be debated at today's (Wednesday) at regional council meeting.

The province's deadline for comment is Friday.

The staff response thinks the provincial report is a good document, but wants to remind the Province that the growth management strategy would be best delivered through regional and local official plan policies.

Garry Stamm of Stamm Research Associates, who represented the South Georgetown Landowners Group, said growth is shifting from Peel to Halton.

"Halton Hills and Milton must absorb growth of units as west Brampton and northwest Mississauga lands deplete," he said.

"Over the next decade, approximately 7,000 of 12,000 housing unit permits per year currently developing in Mississauga and Brampton can be expected to shift as additional growth to Halton Hills and Milton."

Don Given of Malone Given Parsons Ltd. pointed out to the committee that

'Halton Hills and Milton must absorb growth of units as west Brampton and northwest Mississauga lands deplete.'

—Garry Stamm, of Stamm Research Group, representing the South Georgetown Landowners Group

places like Vaughan, Markham and Newmarket are all running out of land.

He provided a chart that outlined the amount of vacant designated and developable urban and employment lands in Halton, which are 5,450 hectares and 2,230 hectares respectively—the third largest amounts in the GTA-Hamilton area.

"Halton is seen as one of the key candidates for growth," he said. "It's better to plan for growth than deny it."

But Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette said if we're not careful we could see the 'Bramptonization' of Halton Hills.

Regional and Burlington Councillor John Taylor said the region isn't prepared to accept a dictated plan from Queen's Park and called for a legal opinion on it.

Milton resident Bob Beyette shared similar thoughts with Taylor, reminding the committee that at the recent public forum that looked at the discussion paper, citizens continuously said that growth numbers and locations as posed by the Province shouldn't be forced to happen.

"Challenge the need to have the degree of growth that's posed exclusively aimed at the Greater Golden Horseshoe," he said. "Have it aimed elsewhere to where it needs it more and could actually handle it with much less negative impact."

—By Melanie Hennessey, special, with files from Cynthia Gamble, staff writer

Newest Georgetown doctor prefers working in small towns

The physician shortage in town continues to become less critical with the addition of another new doctor to Georgetown.

Dr. Gabriel Ting, 27, has recently joined Georgetown Medical Associates as a family practitioner and is accepting new patients.

With the addition of Ting, Halton's physician recruitment co-ordinator Angela Sugden Praysner said five new doctors are required in town to meet the needs of the current population, and Acton is the most in need.

Ting, an Alberta native decided to

join the Georgetown practice after getting a taste of working there during a locum coverage for retired doctors Kennedy and Furness.

Before coming to Georgetown, Ting, who lives in Mississauga, practiced in Thunder Bay, Wawa, and Fort Frances as part of his two-year residency in McMaster's rural family medicine program, and did locum work in the Edmonton area.

Ting found he preferred working in smaller communities.



DR. GABRIEL TING

"It was great. I really enjoyed it. The family doctors were really kept on their toes."

Ting, who received his medical degree from the University of Alberta, is accepting patients of all ages into his Georgetown practice.

He said in order to accommodate patients who need to be seen on the same day they call for an appointment he is keeping time slots open.

He does not deliver babies, but does shared care obstetrics—caring for the

expectant mom until she is referred on to the physician of her choice.

Ting, who loves to travel and marathon running, said he enjoys working in Georgetown.

"You really get to know your specialists more," said Ting who added that means better accessibility for his patients because he can just pick up the phone and talk to one of the specialists, which wouldn't be the case in a big city.

To book an appointment with Ting call 905-873-3000.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

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