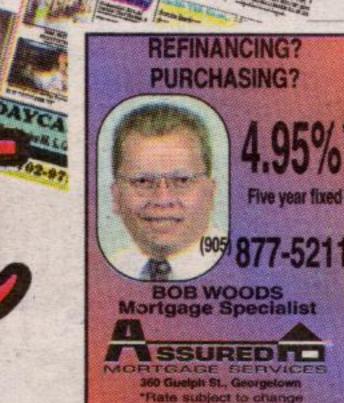


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Make room for bikes on Maple Ave. says regional councillor

Regional Councillor Jane Fogal asked for—and got—a deferral on the approval for a staff report on Maple Ave. roadwork until bicyclist safety can be reviewed, at a recent regional council meeting.

When regional staff and consultants presented their work on a class environmental assessment study of Maple Ave., from Trafalgar Rd. to Mountainview Rd. at regional and town council meetings recently, Fogal questioned the decision to narrow the roadway saying it could impact the safety of bicyclists.

The painted line shoulders currently on the road—which some interpret as a bicycle path—will be become a grassy boulevard, separating the sidewalk from the vehicular traffic.

The addition of a boulevard won't make it any safer for pedestrians, said Fogal, but removal of the road way used by bicycles will make it more dangerous for the cyclists.

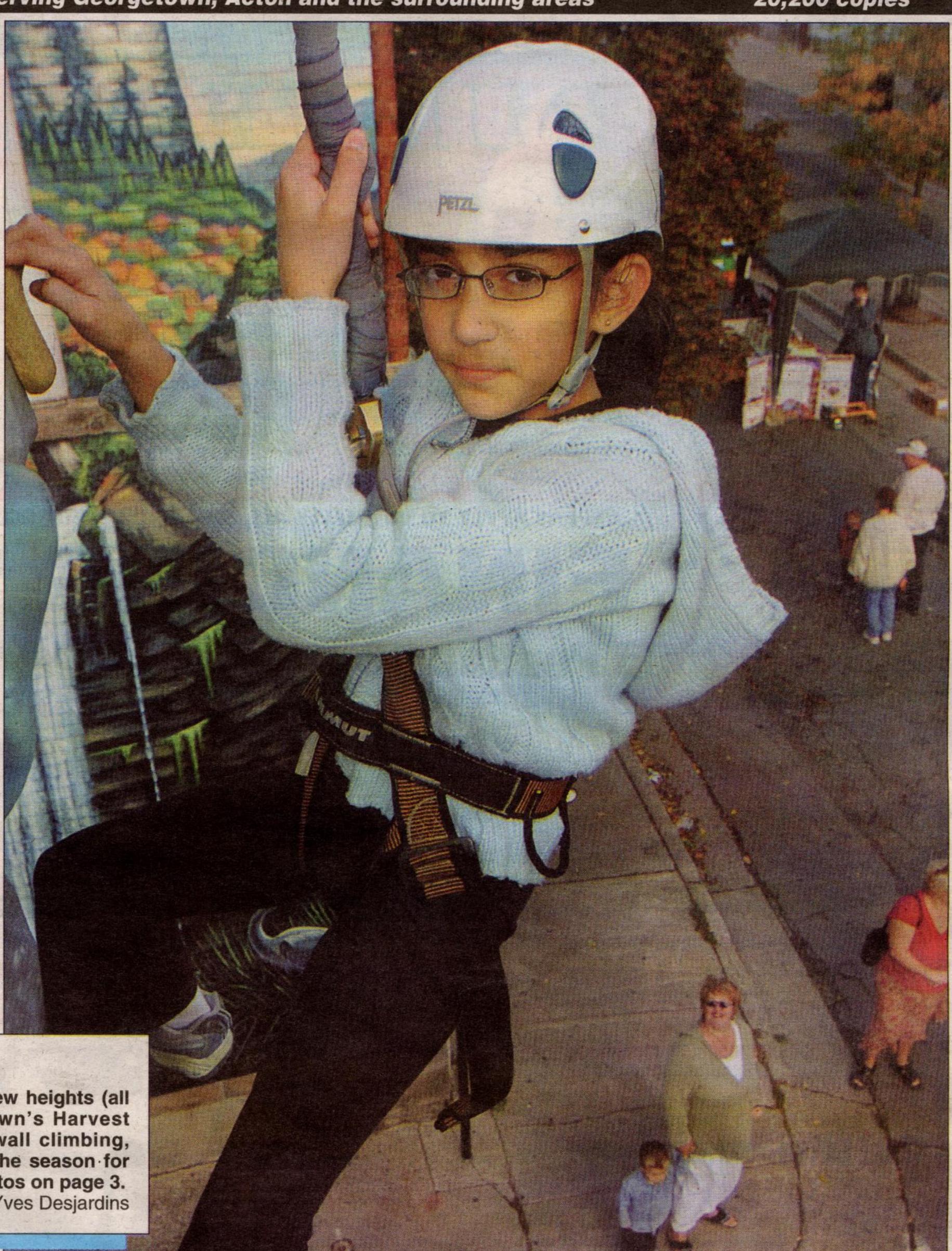
Regional consultant Mike Delsey of Totten Sims Hubicki Associates said the primary focus was on pedestrian safety, by narrowing the road width (but not vehicular lane width) to reduce vehicle speed and delineating the road with the boulevards.

His team had debated creating bicycle lanes, but felt it would be too costly (requiring land purchase), and "we went the other way" suggesting that cyclists take other routes.

Fogal, who described herself as a cyclist, replied, "there are no other routes."

Councillor Mike Davis, also a cyclist, said Maple Ave. has always been hostile to cyclists and this plan would make it even more so.

Fogal said the terms of reference for the study talk about making Maple Ave. safer for cyclists, but See MAPLE, pg. 3



Bird's eye view

Eleven-year-old Shaghig Kolandjian reached new heights (all the way to the top) at Downtown Georgetown's Harvest Festival Saturday. Activities included rock wall climbing, entertainment and of course, the final day of the season for the Georgetown Farmers' Market. See more photos on page 3. Photo by Yves Desjardins

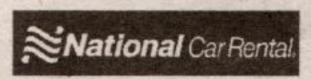


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