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# The Independent

Wednesday, October 5, 2005

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## Region balks at prospect of accepting Toronto's trash

Local politicians are vocalizing their strong opposition to the possibility of garbage from GTA municipalities coming to Halton's landfill.

This comes in response to a secret report the Province has had for the past eight months listing landfills in Ontario that could accommodate a million tonnes of trash per year from Toronto, York, Peel and Durham should Michigan stop accepting waste from Canada.

While it's not known which landfills are listed as potential spots for GTA trash in the report, insiders have said Halton could be on the list since it's one of the few landfills in Ontario big enough to take the extra garbage.

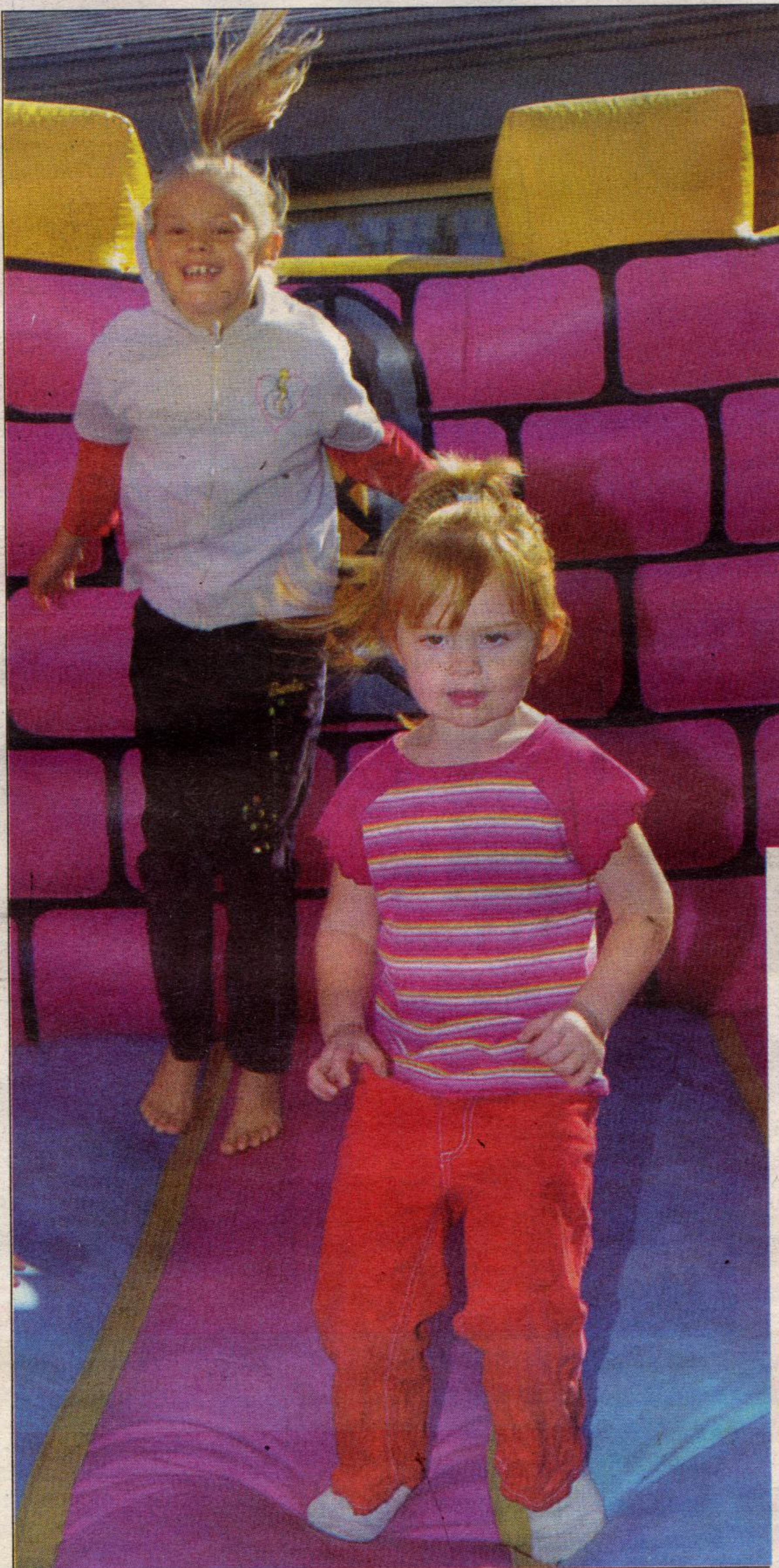
That raised concerns from Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline, who called the possibility "just unacceptable" considering the investment and commitment the Region and its taxpayers have made in the landfill.

"They (the Province) have to respect what we've gone through," she said, referring to the long and arduous process the Region and residents endured in developing the landfill on Regional Road 25 in Milton. It encompassed a 10-year environmental assessment that cost \$8 million.

Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh shared similar sentiments, noting millions of taxpayers' dollars were spent to build the local landfill and create programs to make it safer and lengthen its life expectancy, all for the benefit of Halton residents.

"Simply said, no, we will not take Toronto's garbage under any circumstances," he said. "Toronto has had years and years to take charge of their waste management needs. We will not bail out a municipality whose problem is a lack of political fortitude to make the tough and responsible decisions necessary to manage their own affairs."

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## A bounce and a bite

The Salvation Army Church held its annual Family Fun Day Saturday and there were plenty of happy faces to be found. (Left) Mikayla Hepburn (left) 7, and three-year-old sister Alycia found the bouncy castle a good place to let off a little energy while (below) Courtney Paige, 10, of Georgetown satisfied her sweet tooth with a stick of cotton candy.

Photos by Yves Desjardins



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