

## Command performance

Georgetown resident Ross Welsh, a Lieutenant Colonel and Commanding Officer of The Lorne Scots in Georgetown, lends Major Duane Hickson, the officer commanding A Company in Oakville, a hand during a recent training session in Meaford. The pair are working with an 84mm Carl Gustav anti-tank weapon.

Photo by 2nd Lieutenant Robert Walsh



## HHCSI considers amalgamation with Oakville agency

Halton Hills Community Support and Information (HHCSI) could have a new name and a new service to offer seniors next spring if a proposed merger between that agency and an Oakville agency goes through.

HHCSI and Oakville-based Halton Helping Hands have signed a letter of intent to explore a possible amalgamation.

Joan Barham, executive director of HHCSI, said the main reason for the merger is to be able to offer better services to Halton Hills seniors.

She said currently the Halton Hills agency offers a wide variety of services to seniors including Meals on Wheels, Friendly Visiting and Congregate Dining, but it does not provide home help (light housekeeping). That service is offered Halton-wide by Halton Helping Hands, which HHCSI refers clients to.

The amalgamation should make it easier for senior and disabled clients to access the services offered by Halton Helping Hands.

"We don't see a downside," said Barham. "We will be able to offer better services to seniors."

She said HHCSI has also been asked to bring some of its programs into south Halton such as the Client Intervention and Assistance program for seniors in crisis situations.

Ann Burlison, executive director of Halton Helping Hands, said they are pleased about the possible amalgamation.

"I think the main thing is it's helpful for the clients we serve in Halton," said Burlison. "For the clients it should definitely be an advantage because they should have one less agency to deal with."

Barham said if the amalgamation goes ahead, the HHCSI office would remain in Georgetown and that there are to be no job losses.

"It's (the possible amalgamation) looking very positive, both boards believe it's a very good thing and we're moving along steadily," said Barham.

She said it's hoped the boards will vote on the amalgamation early next year.

"There's some hope a new entity might be incorporated at the beginning of April," she said.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer



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## MADD Red Ribbon campaign begins

MADD Halton/Peel Chapter will launch its 12th local red ribbon campaign at the Hilton Garden Inn, in Burlington today (Wednesday).

Stephanie Dooley, MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) Halton/Peel Regions victim's advocate and this year's Red Ribbon chairperson said, "By attaching a ribbon to your vehicle antenna, this will serve as a message to people on the roads to drive safe and sober over the holiday season."

The 2005 Project Red Ribbon— Tie One on for Safety campaign helps to raise public awareness to the unnecessary tragedies resulting from impaired driving. MADD Canada volunteers from across the country will be distributing more than 4 million red ribbons through November and December.

For further information contact MADD Halton/Peel Chapter 905-844-0096 or info@maddhalton.ca

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