



Quilt up for grabs

The Halton Hills Quilters Guild recently donated a quilt to United Way of Halton Hills to be used as a fundraiser. On hand to accept the quilt were (front, left) UW treasurer Ron Stitt and past president Brian Clark. In back, Halton Hills Quilters Guild members Margaret Haynes and Joan Lovegrove, and UW Halton Hills executive director Kim Robinson. Created by Joan Lovegrove, the quilt will be raffled off and the draw date is Saturday, November 25, the same date as United Way of Halton Hills House Tour. Tickets cost \$2 each or three for \$5 and can be purchased at the United Way of Halton Hills office. For more info call the office at 905-877-3066.

Photo by Ted Brown

Security cameras to be installed at Catholic elementary schools

A security camera will be installed at the front door of each of Halton's 37 Catholic elementary schools over the coming months.

The camera systems, funded by the provincial Ministry of Education at a cost of \$4,000 per school, will allow the schools' front doors to be locked throughout the day.

Visitors to the schools will have to speak to the office through an intercom system, and be viewed on a video monitor, before doors are unlocked by remote control.

Larry Clifford, superintendent of education with the board, told trustees that the cameras were tested at six schools during a two-week pilot program last spring. A follow-up survey found that five of the six

schools supported the use of the security system.

Through questioning parents and board staff, Clifford said the surveys found that most believed the system improved school safety by ensuring unwanted visitors did not have access to the building.

However, he added some parents felt the system ran counter to creating a welcoming atmosphere.

"We don't want to create a fortress mentality here," he said. "We need to find the right balance."

Clifford added that the board will be installing a swipe card system to allow teachers and school staff easier access to the schools.

The systems are expected to be installed in all schools by Christmas.

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Plenty of Time to Plant

Just because autumn is here doesn't mean your perennial garden is finished for the season. Fall is a great time of year to fill in some holes and add some fall interest to the garden. The fall perennial is the subject of this week's TERRA Trend.

There are a number of great perennials for fall. Sedums, Turtle Head and Russian Sage are a few of them but the most sought after perennials for the fall garden are ornamental grasses. Grasses add a great deal of colour, structure and texture to the fall and winter garden. They are easy to maintain, most are drought tolerant and grasses are best pruned back in the spring.

Go outside and check your garden for the perfect space for a fall addition and stop by one of our garden centres this week to check out the selection of fall perennials. Remember there is still plenty of time to plant.

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