

# THE INDEPENDENT



**Georgetown High students to aid Habitat in Costa Rica**

Page 9

**M&M stores help in Crohn's & Colitis fight**

Page 12



50 cents (+GST) Vol. 130 No. 10 Wednesday, May 23, 2007 40 Pages Circulation 21,220 Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper

## INSIDE



**Politicians, others get McHappy**

Page 16



**Bulldogs earn split in Jr. B play**

Page 20

Editorial	6
Rick Bonnette	12
Sports	20, 21
Classifieds	24-27
Calendar	27

## FRIDAY...

The message of suicide prevention in Halton has moved to a new medium with the creation of the Halton Suicide Prevention Coalition's new website. See details Friday.

For breaking news go to: [www.independentfreepress.com](http://www.independentfreepress.com)



## Rib-ling rivalry

Rowan Walsh, 2, keeps a close eye on his brother Kieran, 4, as he reaches around Rowan to grab another rib as the siblings enjoyed a plate of ribs from Jack the Ribber during the Ribfest competition held as part of the Optimist Club of Georgetown's annual Bang-O-Rama event Sunday. The three-day event, which featured a midway, dog agility shows, clowns, petting zoo and a motorcycle show, attracted good crowds to Georgetown Fairgrounds. For more photos see page 7.

Photo by Yves Desjardins

## Five try life in a wheelchair for a day

**TED BROWN**  
Staff Writer

There's an old saying: "To fully understand another person's predicament, you first must walk a mile in their shoes."

Recently, I did travel a mile in someone else's shoes— only I did it in a wheelchair.

I was one of five individuals who took part in "Wheels for a Day," an awareness program to have ordinary people try to do their jobs for a day, while confined to a wheelchair.

Organized by Bill Leslie, Maria Smorong and Garry Gore of Halton Hills Accessibility Advisory Committee, the purpose of the exercise was to have able-bodied people cope with the restrictions of a wheelchair, and in doing so, build awareness of some of the challenges that we tend to take for granted.

Also taking part were Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette, Georgetown Scotiabank branch manager Sandra Schulthies and Georgetown District High School students Joanna Meltzer and Brett Reynolds.

We were required to not only do our jobs, but also incorporate a few other activities, like go for

lunch, make purchases, and perhaps book a ride to an appointment on the Activan.

The Wheels for a Day event was designed to help bring awareness to the upcoming Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion event, planned for June 10 at the Gellert Centre in Georgetown South. Sponsored by Scotiabank, the event will feature a pledged wheel and walk event to raise funds for spinal cord injury research and help those living with spinal cord injuries have a better lifestyle.

There are also team wheelchair relays, for teams to enter by checking out the info online at [www.rickhansen.com](http://www.rickhansen.com) or simply pledge a participant who is going out to take part.

Registration at the Georgetown event opens at 9 a.m., and the events follow. There are rewards for fundraisers reaching specific levels, and top team and individual fundraisers will win grand prizes. For more info, check out [www.rickhansen.com](http://www.rickhansen.com), e-mail [wheels@rickhansen.com](mailto:wheels@rickhansen.com), or call 1-866-609-4335. Registration forms are also available at The Independent & Free Press office or at any Scotiabank branch.

See page 3 for each participant's observations.



Independent & Free Press staffer Ted Brown does some banking while confined to a wheelchair for a day.

Photo by Lisa Tallyn

**GEORGETOWN KIA**  
VOTED #1 FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE  
2007 KIA SPECTRA **0%** FINANCE  
CALL THE GEORGETOWN HEADQUARTERS 1-866-364-0697 or 905-877-7818

**2007 CHEVROLET AVEO SEDAN**  
1.6 Litre DOHC, 5 Speed Transmission, AM/FM/CD/MPS, P185 14", Front & Rear Floor Mats. Stk #065260

**\$12995\*** excludes frt. **yes** **\$197.00\*\*** per month **yes** **46 MPG** per gallon. **No Money Down**

\*Frt., admin., taxes & license fee extra \*\* Lease based upon 48 mo., 80,000 free km, frt., 1st, admin., taxes, lic. fee due on signing

**GEORGETOWN CHEVROLET**  
33 MOUNTAINVIEW, GEORGETOWN (JUST NORTH OF HWY. #7 ON MOUNTAINVIEW) 905-877-6944

**REFINANCING? PURCHASING?**  
**0.9%**  
Variable **BOB WOODS** Mortgage Specialist  
\*Rate subject to change

**Assured**  
(905) 877-1490  
360 Gough St. Georgetown