

THE INDEPENDENT



Raiders' playoff quest ends at hands of the Oakville Blades

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New police column launches today

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Firefighter killed in two-car crash

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Leslie McCurdy dazzles as Harriet Tubman

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Visit our website at www.independentfreepress.com and have your say on a current issue through our new interactive web poll. A new question will be posted every Tuesday and Friday after 5 p.m. and results will be available online and on page 6 every Wednesday and Friday.



Putting on a happy face

Gavin Thibeault, 5, found the biggest challenge of having his face painted was sitting still, as Brandy the Clown did the honours for him at Georgetown Market Place, during last week's March Break activities. Photo by Ted Brown

Region plan called a...

'Death knell for 401 Corridor'

CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

Economic disaster could come to Halton Hills, say Town officials, if Halton Region goes through with its plan to require developers to pay full-recovery cost development charges.

"With these rates, we are out of business—completely," said Wards 3&4 Regional Councillor Jane Fogal, at Monday's council meeting.

"This keeps me awake at night thinking about

it. This is so critical to us and right now there are deals walking away from Halton Hills for fear of what is proposed here. Unfortunately my colleagues at the Region are not on side."

Her Halton Hills regional colleague, Wards 1&2 Regional Councillor Clark Somerville agreed.

"The proposed development charges are going to have a serious impact on Halton Hills," he said. "If it goes ahead, it will have such a negative impact on our 401 Corridor, as well as any industrial growth that we would want to see in this

town, that it would virtually bring it to a standstill."

"I think this will be the death knell for future development along the 401 Corridor," added Mayor Rick Bonnette.

For years the Town has been relying on the future potential of the Corridor to add taxes and DCs to the Town's coffers to help even out the unbalanced industrial-commercial/residential tax ratio and to pay for major capital improvements such as the library expansion project.

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