

Accepting applications for home for single, pregnant women

After months of planning and work, the first supervised home for single, pregnant women in Halton is ready to accept applications and referrals for residents, who could move in as early as May 23.

At Shifra Home at 215 Pomona Ave., Burlington, young women will receive housing and assistance during their pregnancy, childbirth, and for a period after the baby's birth. Shifra Homes Inc. expects to obtain the necessary provincial and municipal licences to accept girls under the age of 18 within a few months.

There will be qualified staff in the home 24 hours a day and a maximum of eight residents,

including babies. Programs will include pre- and postnatal care, parenting and life skills, and will reach some of the more than 200 teenagers in Halton who become pregnant each year without support or resources. The home's resources will also be available to the child's father.

The home will be operated as a joint venture of Shifra Homes Inc. and Project Maranatha for Youth (Hamilton/Halton). Shifra means "beautiful", and was the name of a midwife in the Bible who protected and nurtured life (Exodus 1:15).

Shifra Homes Inc. and Project Maranatha are committed to the long-term success of Shifra

Home (Burlington). The project has initially been funded through private donations, without public seed money.

To finance ongoing operating costs, the organization has created an "Angel Program" through which individuals, groups and others are committing to sponsor a new mother and baby with a monthly donation of \$25. During a May-June fundraising campaign, the organization hopes to receive the support of 500 such "Angels."

Contributions can be made by cash, cheque or credit card using secure transactions via Shifra Homes web site located at

www.shifrahomes.com.

Due to the incredible generosity of previous donors, gifts-in-kind are not required at this time. Donations to offset grocery bills, non-perishable food items and grocery gift cards are welcomed.

Since Project Maranatha is a non-profit charitable organization registered with Canada Revenue Agency all contributions will be tax deductible. Shifra Homes Inc., a new organization, will be applying for the same status as a registered charity.

For more information please visit www.shifrahomes.com.



The Regional Municipality of Halton

Curb Appeal

Halton Hills Victoria Day Holiday Notice Please Note Waste Collection Day Changes May 2006

Monday, May 22 moves to Tuesday, May 23

Tuesday, May 23 moves to Wednesday, May 24

Wednesday, May 24 moves to Thursday, May 25

Thursday, May 25 moves to Friday, May 26

Friday, May 26 moves to Saturday, May 27

Due to the Victoria Day Holiday, waste collection services for the week of May 22 will take place the day after your regular collection day.

GRASScycling

Grass clippings will not be collected.

Please grasscycle by leaving clippings on your lawn.

Residents are encouraged to leave grass on the lawn as a valuable nutrient source. Grass clippings are 90 per cent water, so they decompose quickly, releasing nitrogen and other valuable nutrients back into your lawn.

Tips for a Healthy Lawn

- Don't mow too low: mowing your lawn to a height of 6 to 8 centimetres (2.5 to 3 inches) will encourage longer roots resulting in stronger grass and shade the soil, reducing moisture loss.
- Longer grass will also choke out weeds.
- Keep the blades of your mower sharp, and alter the direction each time you cut the grass.
- Avoid cutting the grass when it is wet. Your lawn requires only about 2.5 centimetres (1 inch) of water per week.



Halton Waste Management Site

Will be closed on Monday, May 22 due to Victoria Day

Regular Operating Hours

Open Monday to Saturday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

5400 Regional Road 25, Milton

For more information, please check your 2006 Waste Management Calendar or the Region's website at www.halton.ca

Keeping you in the loop on Halton's Comprehensive Economic Development Study

For every community, it's critical to have a plan that will guide economic development into the future. To sustain a prosperous and balanced economy, Halton Region has launched a Comprehensive Economic Development Study.

Come out to either of the following sessions and learn about some of the study findings and where we're going from here. Get your questions answered and make your opinions count!

Date: Thursday, May 25, 2006

When: Drop in session at 6:30 p.m.

Presentations start at 7:00 p.m., followed by a question and answer session

Where: The Ramada Inn & Suites Conference Centre
161 Chisholm Drive
Milton, Ontario

Date: Monday, May 29, 2006

When: Drop in session at 6:30 p.m.

Presentations start at 7:00 p.m., followed by a question and answer session

Where: The Centre for Skills Development & Training
860 Harrington Court
Burlington, Ontario