

Cancer campaign raises over \$100,000

Acton Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society has received well over \$100,000 in their fundraising campaign this year and they still have another event to take part in on September 22 in Rockwood.

Mary Ann Myhill of the Wellington County Unit which includes Acton among its members says the Acton branch raised \$33,753 in its April residential campaign, received \$53,000 from the Paul Murr Memorial golf tournament and another \$17,776 from Acton High School's Relay for Life which totalled \$104,529.00.

On Friday, September 22 the Acton unit, along with Erin and Rockwood, is sponsoring a Relay for Life for the Wellington Unit at the Rockmosa Community Centre grounds, in Rockwood.

The Relay for Life is a 12-hour non-

Relay For Life next event

competitive relay in support of the Cancer Society. Above all, it is an event that perpetuates a message of hope and courage. Through many different aspects of the event, including the Survivor's Victory Lap, and the Luminary Ceremony participants, volunteers and survivors alike become a part of the fight against cancer.

Approximately 600 people will be taking part in this event. Teams of 10 people take

turns walking, running or strolling around a track. Teams consist of people representing corporations, communities, families and friends.

The Cancer Society is urging people to form a team, come up with a creative name for it that will get others laughing and plan how to decorate your camp site in tent city.

For more information and to register plan

to attend the information meeting at Acton's Trinity Church on Wednesday, August 16 at 7p.m. or contact the Wellington County Unit at 519-824-4261 or go online at www.cancer.ca.

The Acton branch points out that the Rockmosa Relay for Life is a joint effort from the East Wellington branches of the Cancer Society including Rockwood and Erin as well as Acton. It in no way is attempting to conflict with the Acton High School event which this year raised a record \$17,776.

Fire hazard associated with citronella torches

Halton Hills Fire Protection & Prevention Services relays the information there is a potential fire hazard associated with the use of outdoor citronella wax torches.

This product usually consists of a cylindrical shaped wax candle supported along its entire axis by a long bamboo pole. The pole extends beyond the bottom of the wax portion and can be vertically inserted into a heat resistant surface so the torch can burn in an upright position.

The torches are sold individually or in a multi-unit package under generic product names by a number of major retail chains and discount stores.

In tests conducted by a local fire department, hot flaming wax began dripping and flowing down after the torches had been lit for a period of time. The flaming wax ignited combustible materials situated at ground level (dry grass, mulch), including the bamboo pole itself. Subsequently, the pole toppled and ignited other

combustibles that were located further away.

If left unattended in close proximity to combustible materials, it could potentially develop into a significant fire and cause extensive property damage.

Director of Fire Services Bob Meads said, "While we have not been made aware of any incidents involving these torches, we would appreciate being notified of any problems or experiences. "As with any torch or candle, only adults

should be handling them and exercising extreme care in their use."

Health Canada routinely investigates complaints involving candles and fire related products and will be monitoring the situation to determine if further action is warranted.

For additional safety precautions when using these torches please call:

David Ford, Fire Safety Specialist (905) 873-2601 ext. 2115 or David Bouskill, Fire Safety Technician (905) 873-2601 ext. 2118.

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Halton Regional Council approves Housing Strategy

Halton Regional Council has approved the Region's Comprehensive Housing Strategy (CHS) that incorporates a series of policies and actions to ensure a variety of affordable housing types for Halton residents, regardless of income and stage of life.

"We believe that Halton residents should be able to remain in their community as their lives and circumstances change. We need to foster an environment that encourages investments in housing; an environment that creates opportunities for those who build housing, to form partnerships and build the type of housing that our residents need," said Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline. "And, ensuring we have a range of housing types also supports a competitive economic environment as businesses look at housing options for employees when they consider locating in Halton."

A Comprehensive Housing Strategy Steering Committee was formed chaired by Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline and included Councillors Rick Craven (Burlington), Clark

Somerville (Halton Hills), Ron Furik (Milton) and Mike Lansdown (Oakville), Joan Lougheed (Burlington) and Maria Robinson, co-chair of Halton's Housing Advisory Committee. The committee worked over the past 18 months with senior staff engaging in extensive public consultation, to develop a set of goals, both short and long-term, to address housing needs in Halton. A housing continuum was developed to reflect the range of housing systems in Halton.

The left side of the continuum reflects homelessness and supportive and transitional housing; the centre comprises not-for-profit and assisted housing, and the right side of the spectrum encompasses lower cost, rental housing to higher-cost private home ownership.

Taking a longer term view of housing through 2015 and beyond, the committee identified five major strategic directions along with a comprehensive set of recommended actions. These include: promoting healthy communities; encouraging and protect-

ing affordable housing; encouraging and protecting assisted housing; supporting independent living; and, retaining and regaining housing.

"When people have housing that meets their needs, their family life is more stable which eases the burden on social services costs," said Chairman Savoline. "We know that we need a diverse range of housing to support independent living including accessible housing for those with physical disabilities. We know that we need a mix of live/work opportunities so people can spend less time commuting and more time with their families. And, we know that we need a mixture of rental and ownership properties within neighbourhoods so residents can move back and forth across the housing continuum during life changes without having to leave their communities."

However, says Halton CAO Brent Marshall, "Halton Region cannot do it alone. A realistic response to the need for affordable

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