

# One pit stop, and no waiting

By MELANIE CUMMINGS

Special to The Champion

Call it the Milton-apolis 500, minus about 499 turns around the racetrack.

On the same day as the Indianapolis 500, Sunday May 30, Milton hosts its first ever pit stop race.

It is short on requirements and long on laughs, said Jim Dunham, the organizer of this fundraising event for the Optimist Club.

Simply gather four fun-loving people together, no matter what their age, height or strength. No driver's license is needed and anyone tall enough to reach the pedals of Dunham's coaster cars is driver material.

Now quickly as humanly possible, push the car and driver 10 meters to the starting line, then into the pit area without knocking down any pylons. Jack the car up, change the right tires over to the left and vice versa. Then push driver and car another 10 metres to the finish line.

The winning team is the one to do it all in the least amount of time.

The fastest time in which Dunham and his family team have ever completed the race is in one minute, 12 seconds.

"People seem to have smiles on their face the whole time they are racing," said Mr. Dunham, who was inspired to bring to Milton an event that started at a pumpkin festival in Waterford, Ontario.

"It's all very easy to do," he adds. His 12-year-old daughter manages the whole feat with ease. "I've seen whole families do the race together."

Already 12 teams are registered for the fundraising event. It costs \$2 per person to enter and all money raised goes toward Optimist Club charities.

Race time begins at 10 a.m., May 30. The starting line is in front of Charley Fitzwhiskey's on Ontario Street. To register your team, show up on race day or call Jim Dunham at 399-1663.

# Greg Hill's Tour des Trees aims to support keeping greenery

By MELANIE CUMMINGS

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In Greg Hill's mind, fundraising for a worthy cause can't be delayed because the big event doesn't have a catchy name yet.

On June 5, Mr. Hill and a crew of 15 cyclists, including Olympic medalist Steve Bauer, embark on the first annual Canadian Tour des Trees (the event's temporary title), to promote urban tree research.

Mr. Hill borrowed the name from the annual worldwide event organized by the International Society of Arboriculture.

The Milton native was the first Canadian to participate in the society's Tour des Trees, held in England last year. That tour lasts about seven days and covers approximately 100 miles per day.

## Wine country tour

Mr. Hill has organized a local scaled-down one-day version for June 5, when participants of all levels will cycle a 50 kilometre, or for the adventurous type a 100 kilometre loop, through the Niagara wine region.

Already the tour crew has raised close to the \$5,000 goal. The money raised is earmarked for urban forestry research projects based in Canada.

"There's a real need for research in the area of tree preservation on construction sites — especially in Milton where future land development is imminent," Mr. Hill said.

"Rainforests worldwide are depleting, human populations are increasing and consequently pollution is on the rise. Trees are what we have always relied on to filter our air, we have to begin thinking long term. The next generation's air quality is at stake," he added.

Mr. Hill founded the International Society of Arboriculture Canadian Research Trust, which is a registered charity that distributes grants to worthy urban forestry research projects nationwide. Funds have been provided to scientific studies under way at the University of Toronto and the University of Guelph.

Donations made toward the Canadian Tour des Trees are tax deductible. More riders are welcome to participate. For more information call Greg Hill at Maple Hill Tree Services, (905) 824-2100.

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