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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Follow the yellow brick road

Hitherfield School presented a series of plays, including the old classic the Wizard of Oz, inside a giant tent on the No. 10 Sideroad private school's property Wednesday. Above, one of the 'Munchkins' Emma Lupinacci, 5, beams with excitement during her performance. Inset from left, Ryun Currie played the Lion, Andrew Welland was the Scarecrow, Emily Foster starred as Dorothy and Jamie Kennedy portrayed the Tin Man.

Fast food employees taken to hospital in suspected gas leak

Wendy's assistant manager detected an odour of gas

By STEVE LeBLANC
The Champion

A dozen fast-food employees were taken to hospital as a precautionary measure following what may have been a noon-hour gas leak at Wendy's Restaurant on Market Drive Tuesday.

Assistant manager Dorothy Kirkwood said she detected the smell of natural gas and felt a little lightheaded at about 12:30 p.m.

She immediately contacted the Milton Fire Department and Union Gas before shutting off all the gas lines and clearing out the restaurant — as well as the adjacent Tim Horton's Donuts — of all staff and customers.

Neither the fire department or Union Gas detected any gas, although Ms Kirkwood is certain she smelled something.

"We didn't find anything harmful," said Captain Mark Cross of the Milton Fire Department.

Following the noon-hour inspection, a contract company replaced gas line equipment at the restaurant and operations were back in full swing by about 5 p.m.

Other than slight dizziness, all Wendy's employees — as well as a few from Tim Horton's — suffered no ill-effects from the noon-hour scare and were back to work the following day.

"The main thing is that everyone was okay," said Ms Kirkwood. "I've got to thank the fire department and gas company. They responded so quickly and were just amazing."

Canadian Meter plant re-locating

Half the workers at the Canadian Meter Company are expected to be laid off when the Milton plant closes its doors at the end of September.

About 25 employees will be affected when local operations move to the company's Cambridge plant.

"We have a smaller plant in Cambridge and we're combining the two," said Kelly Coulson of the Milton plant's human resources department.

"Everyone received verbal notice of the shut down and layoff. The details have yet to be worked out," said Ms Coulson.

Canadian Meter Company has been in Milton for 44 years.

"It's sad (layoff) but we're reacting to the environment out there," Ms Coulson said. "We can't accommodate the entire 50 employees at the other plant."

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