

Celebrities support fun-filled adult spelling bee

*Ann Murray, Margaret Atwood
among supporters of May 1 event*

More than 25 well-known Canadian authors and celebrities such as Margaret Atwood, Ann Murray and Stephen Lewis have stepped forward to support North Halton's fifth annual Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee.

The Literacy North Halton fundraiser promises to be another successful event held to support local adult literacy programs that help break down the barriers low literacy present.

The personalities have each donated a book either written by them or recommended because of a relevance to the cause.

One children's author, Kathy

Stinson, chose a particularly poignant story she wrote based on a friendship she developed with an older gentleman. Stinson writes that with 26 books under her belt she has never been faced with the challenges of struggling to read and write. It was while she did a stint as a visiting author at a primary school that she got to know a caretaker who as a grandfather had recently learned to read. King of the Castle is not based on this man "but on someone like him and the many adults in our country who, for one reason or another, were not lucky enough to learn to read as children."

Bee organizer Theresa Macdonald wants to remind everyone that ultimately the fun event is about raising funds and awareness of the long-ranging affects of low literacy in adults.

"Literacy programs can combat nutrition and health problems, high school drop out rates, teen parenting, joblessness, welfare dependency and social alienation," she said.

The Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee will be held Thursday, May 1 at 5:30 p.m. at Halton Hills Banquet Hall, 3090 Steeles Ave. W.

The corporate bee pits teams of three from local businesses, agencies and organizations against each other in a hilarious night of costumes and antics.

Audience members are invited to attend and cheer on their favourite spellers. Tickets cost \$30 and include dinner and the show. Tickets are available at Elsley Optical, 55 Ontario St. S., Milton and at Salon 51, 51 Main St., Georgetown.

For additional information about the Bee and Literacy North Halton please contact (905) 873-2200 or literacy@bellnet.ca.



SPELLING IT OUT: Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee committee member Kath Beaven brushes up her skills in preparation for this year's Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee to be held Thursday, May 1 at Halton Hills Banquet Hall. The event raises funds and awareness for adult literacy programs offered by Literacy North Halton.

Cinema holds Filmfest for United Way

Milton students will be pulling an all-nighter of the more entertaining variety next month.

That's when Galaxy Cinemas is slated to hold its Starlight All-Night Filmfest, starting just before midnight on Friday, May 9. Running until 7 a.m. the following morning, the fundraising event — benefiting the United Way of Milton — will cost \$25 per person.

That'll allow 13 to 18-year-olds to take in a marathon of

free arcade games, live entertainment and movies — with The Simpsons, Transformers, Hot Fuzz and Disturbia being played.

Starlight-goers can also play Xbox or Nintendo Wii on the big screen and munch on popcorn, pizza and pop until dawn.

The event will be supervised, with representatives from both Halton Regional Police and St. John Ambulance Service. No one will be allowed to leave prior to 7 a.m. without a parent,

and all teens must present a valid student ID upon entry.

Tickets are available at both Milton District and E.C. Drury high schools during lunch periods on Thursday, while Bishop Reding students can order tickets through the United Way at (905) 875-2550.

The United Way is also looking for adult volunteers to help supervise that night, and those interested can sign up at the above number.

THE CHILDREN'S AID FOUNDATION
OF HALTON PRESENTS THE

STARDUST *Gala*

SATURDAY MAY 3, 2008
RATTLESNAKE POINT GOLF CLUB
DINNER, DANCE, SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS

TICKETS \$150.00 EA.

FOR TICKETS EMAIL
FOUNDATION@HALTONCAS.CA





**PERCY
SEGAL** *New Patients
Always Welcome.*

Specializing in Periodontics
Services: Implants, Periodontal Maintenance & Surgery
No Referrals Required

905
7 0 2 74 00

92 Guelph St., Georgetown
www.drpercysegal.com



Arthritis takes a severe human toll in Canada. More than 100,000 women, men and children will be diagnosed this year alone. That number is expected to rise by 1 million people within the next decade, making arthritis the leading cause of disability in Canada. Learn more by visiting www.arthritis.ca

Do you want to see all your favourite flyers anytime, anywhere?

flyerland.ca
Save time, save money.

Look for these great sponsors: