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**A N D
THEY'RE
OFF:** The crowd cheers on competitors in a celebrity pig race held as part of the annual Milton Fair Fall over the weekend. The new event saw pigs 'purchased' with the names of the 'owners' announced over the loudspeaker. See more fair photos on page A8.

GRAHAM
PAINE /
CANADIAN
CHAMPION

First Milton Habitat for Humanity home to be built

By **Kathy Yanchus**
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A new Mattamy Homes subdivision breaking ground this November will include Milton's first Habitat for Humanity Halton home.

"It will be a good quality, simple, decent, affordable home," said Anne Swarbrick, executive director, Habitat for Humanity Halton.

The 1,150-square-foot house will have one

bathroom and blend in "beautifully" with the surrounding community, added Swarbrick.

Families who would qualify for the Habitat home must meet certain criteria, she said. They must have incomes low enough to be considered to be working poor and they must be currently living in sub-standard housing or poverty conditions, which means paying more than 30 per cent of their income toward housing.

"And thirdly, they must be willing to part-

ner with us and contribute 500 hours of sweat equity and agree to credit checks," Swarbrick said.

People are often under the impression Habitat gives homes away, a misconception Swarbrick is anxious to dispel.

"The family will purchase the home at fair market value," she said.

The way Habitat is able to finance the project makes it possible for families who would otherwise not have the opportunity, to pur-

chase a home.

"Our financial model makes it possible with community support, to sell a home to people who cannot otherwise afford it — giving them a hand up, not a hand out."

Swarbrick said Habitat is most appreciative to title sponsor Mattamy Homes, who donated the land, but also to Mayor Gord Krantz and council — particularly Cindy Lunau and (former councillor) Wendy Schau — as well as to

• see **HABITAT** on page A12

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