

# Annual bathtub race cancelled

■ By Krissie Rutherford  
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

For the first time in 44 years, Lakeshore Road won't be a racetrack for bathtubs on wheels.

The United Way of Oakville (UWO) Bathtub Race, which for 43 years kicked off the local fundraising campaign, has been cancelled.

Injuries are the reason behind the "difficult decision" to put an end to the race, says UWO president Barbara Burton.

"There was an incredible amount of liability involved, and there were a number of incidences last year where participants were hurt," said Burton.

"One individual had a broken arm, and I don't want to belittle that, but we didn't want to see more serious injuries happening as a result of the race."

Last year's bathtub race featured 12 local high schools vying to be the Fastest Tub in Town. Five students from each school sporting helmets and school gear were cheered on by other students, blowing horns and yelling through megaphones to support their school's tub.

The race also featured a highly-coveted spirit award.

Schools were notified none of this would be happening in 2007 back in June, and another letter was recently sent out as a reminder, Burton said.

Many local schools have been participating in the race for more than 20 years, when it was first opened up for high school participation.

"Some of the students really liked it, so obviously they're disappointed that it's been cancelled," said T.A. Blakelock principal Stuart Miller. "We have a nice bathtub, waiting to go."

While disappointment is the first reaction among students, Miller says they do understand the United Way's decision.

"Everyone can see the United Way's issues, that the bathtub is quite heavy and the students shove them around. You can see someone getting injured in that situation."

The principal added his students had "a few scraped knees" in the past, but no serious injuries, though he knew of other schools that had trouble with injuries.

As a result of past injuries, Burton says, "the schools have been very understanding" about their decision to make the UWO's 43rd bathtub race its last.

"I think the disappointment is more with the students, because they had such fun doing it," she added.

"We just realized it was time we had to be conscious of not only the safety of the participants, but the people in the audience."

Oakville's United Way is planning with the Catholic and public school boards to put together "a plan" for high school students to keep them involved, Burton said.

"They will be able to participate and support and build awareness around the United Way, but they'll be doing it from their school perspective."

The United Way hopes to get that project off the ground this year, either in late October or early November.

A breakfast celebration at Town Hall this morning is instead acting as the jump-start to the annual fundraising campaign.

UWO provides funding to 31 local health and social service agencies with an emphasis on prevention and crisis intervention. This balance allows United Way to help maintain the ongoing health of Oakville, and to provide support to those in the greatest need.

For more information, visit [www.uwoakville.org](http://www.uwoakville.org).



## THEIR WORLD STARTS now



AT APPLEBY COLLEGE,

we think students becoming vital, contributing leaders isn't something that just happens after graduation.

Here, it happens every day.

### Open House

Saturday, October 20  
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Take a campus tour and see all that Appleby has to offer!

540 Lakeshore Road West, Oakville  
905-845-4681, ext. 252  
enrol@appleby.on.ca  
[www.appleby.on.ca](http://www.appleby.on.ca)

HOME COMFORTS  
OF OAKVILLE

up to \$1,250 factory rebate\*  
or free 10-year parts & labour coverage\*

The Affinity™ Air Conditioner and Modulating Furnace from York. The most advanced units available.

At York, we've developed an air conditioner that has QuietDrive™ noise-reduction technology, R410A refrigerant for environmental friendliness and a selection of seven colours to choose from. Also, a furnace that modulates, or adjusts itself in 1% increments. So it's quieter, more economical and highly efficient while keeping the temperature in your home on target.



AFFINITY SERIES



It's time to get comfortable!  
[www.yorkhvac.com](http://www.yorkhvac.com)

**Bonus Offer:**  
No Payments for 6 Months

\* On selected models installed between August 1st & September 15th/07. Call your participating York Liberties Dealer for details. Only available through registered York Liberties Dealers. Void where prohibited.

Inquire about additional government and gas company rebates.

Terry Tripp  
c 905 580 5972  
(sales)

Richard Bodsworth  
c 289 259 3567  
(service 24-hour)

Pioneer sound.vision.soul ELITE



DEDICATION TO INNOVATION. Committed to the advancement of technology, Pioneer's Elite Blu-Ray Disc has made a quantum leap. Sight, sound, interactivity - Blu-Ray does it all and does it so well that you'll only believe it when you experience it firsthand. You'll be ready to explore cinematic excellence. Visit Canadian Sound in downtown Oakville to experience the Blu-Ray today!

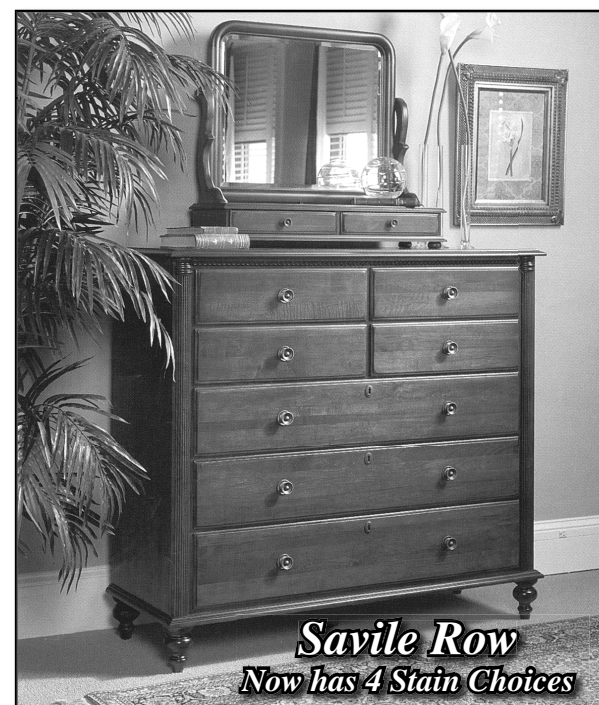


CANADIAN SOUND

85 Navy Street, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6J 2Z2  
Telephone: 905.844.7600 [www.canadiansound.com](http://www.canadiansound.com)

## SOLID WOOD BEDROOMS by DURHAM

All our Collections On Sale NOW!



Savile Row  
Now has 4 Stain Choices

Swiss Interiors Ltd.

21/ Lakeshore Road East  
Downtown Oakville Since 1953  
905.844.3530  
[www.swissinteriors.com](http://www.swissinteriors.com)

PROUDLY SUPPORTING CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS