

Oakvillegreen president wins Hometown Hero Award



Liz Benneian

Goldberg said Benneian's nomination stood out not only because of the number of successful campaigns she has led, but also because of her initiative in helping to found other groups such as Burlingtongreen, Milongreen and the Ontario Zero Waste Coalition.

Earth Day Canada has awarded the 2009 Hometown Hero Award to Liz Benneian, president of Oakvillegreen Conservation Association.

Benneian, now a resident of Vineland, was selected from more than 90 nominees from across the country.

The Hometown Heroes Award program, established by Earth Day Canada in 2004, recognizes and celebrates environmental leaders who foster meaningful, long-term community awareness and action.

At the awards gala in Toronto on June 10, Jed Goldberg, president of Earth Day Canada cited Benneian's leadership as the key to achieving success in several environmental victories in her community including:

- The Town of Oakville ceasing

work on putting a paved pathway through an important migratory bird stopover area and returning it to its natural state.

- A halt in Oakville's Parks Department plans to put paved pathways through the Natural Heritage system.
- The Region of Halton canceling plans to spend \$800 million to build an incinerator and focusing on waste diversion instead.
- The Town passing a tree bylaw.
- The town passing a bylaw banning the use of cosmetic pesticides.
- The creation by the province of 675 acres of new conservation areas within Oakville, among many other initiatives and achievements.

The Hometown Heroes Award includes \$10,000 in prize money: \$5,000 for the award recipient and \$5,000 for the environmental organization of their choice.

Benneian chose Oakvillegreen Conservation Association as the organization of her choice.

Also honoured at the Earth Day Canada gala, receiving the Outstanding Commitment to the Environment Award, was author and well-known environmentalist Maude Barlow, chairperson of the Council of Canadians, who is the first person to be appointed special advisor on water issues to the President of the United Nations.

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Ontario's adoption records are now open.

visit www.ontario.ca/adoptioninfo

Effective June 1, 2009, Ontario's adoption records are open. This means that adopted adults and birth parents can apply for post-adoption birth information from birth records and adoption orders.

An adopted adult, 18 years of age or older, can now apply for a copy of his or her original birth registration and adoption order. A birth parent can receive information from the birth registration and adoption order of the child that was placed for adoption once that child turns 19 years old.

If you want your identifying information kept private, and if the adoption order was made before September 1, 2008, adopted adults and birth parents can file a disclosure veto.

To learn more about your right to information and privacy regarding adoption, visit www.ontario.ca/adoptioninfo or call 1-800-461-2156 (TTY 416-325-3408).

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BRONTE VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

A proposed 21 story-tower in Bronte... The end of a Village, or a new beginning?

If you're not sure ... you need to join us at the BVRA Annual General Meeting

What: **The BVRA AGM will be held**
When: **June 18 at 7:00 PM**

Where: **at Walton United Church on Lakeshore Road**

- On this year's agenda:
- New developments in Bronte
 - Ongoing projects in Bronte
 - Election of Executive
 - Question and answer session **with the Mayor**
 - Chance to voice your opinions and ask your questions

Guest speakers include:
Mayor - Rob Burton
Village Constable - Jennifer Dewar
Bronte Youth Centre director - Kim Lavecchia

All members and those wanting to become members are welcome.
The cost of a BVRA membership has been reduced to \$20 for 2 years instead of \$20 for 1 year.

You can renew your membership at the AGM or via our website www.brontevillageresidents.com

Please bring a neighbour or a friend.

We look forward to seeing you there!
The BVRA executive