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Toronto tragedy with Georgetown connection, pg. 3

Thursday, March 13, 2014

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MARCH BREAK FRIENDS Cierra van Aragon celebrated her third birthday on Tuesday by taking a trip to the Georgetown Market Place to see the Sciensational Sssnakes exhibit, where she got a hug from a yetto-be-named boa constrictor. Sciensational Sssnakes owner Jenny Pearce

Fatal crash case: Driver sentenced to 20 days, licence suspension

By EAMONN MAHERStaff Writer

A Georgetown driver who struck and killed an 89-year-old pedestrian in December 2012 was sentenced to 20 days in prison and had her driver's licence suspended for two years Monday morning in Burlington Provincial Offences Court.

Jennifer Unsworth, 37, pleaded guilty on Feb. 7 to careless driving and driving with a handheld device.

Her lawyer, Michael Lacy, submitted that a \$2,000 fine and an 18-month licence suspension would be a sufficient penalty, while Assistant Crown Attorney Laurie Jago argued that a jail sentence of 30 to 60 days and a one-year ban from driving, along with the \$300 fine for using a hand held device while driving, should be levied.

Justice of the Peace Marsha Farnand cited a number of similar cases in coming to her decision. She also

took into account Unsworth's conviction in October 2010 for using a handheld device while driving.

"She obviously did not learn her lesson," said Farnand.

Patricia McCarthy, of Georgetown, was out for her daily walk Dec. 17, 2012 when she was struck about 12:10 p.m. by Unsworth's vehicle while crossing on the walk signal in the crosswalk at Guelph Street and Sinclair Avenue. Unsworth was northbound on Sinclair Avenue turning left onto Guelph Street

Jago quoted a witness stating that Unsworth struck McCarthy, "not even touching the brakes."

McCarthy suffered a head injury, collapsed lung, fractured pelvis and leg, and internal bleeding in the crash and was taken directly to Toronto's Sunnybrook Hospital. She succumbed to her injuries Dec. 20.

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said the snake was rescued by the Windsor Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in an emaciated condition and she's been nursing the reptile back to health over the past few months. The Market Place held a series of March Break events this week.

Photo by Eamonn Maher





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