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50 Cents (+ GST)
 Circulation: 22,800

56 Pages

THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

THURSDAY,
 June 3, 2010

Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper



Unity Day hoopla

Three-year-old Keira Vranic of Georgetown gives the hula-hoop a spin during Saturday's third annual Community Unity Day Picnic held at Cedarvale Park. (Inset) Linda Fischer, 17, and Chantal Viens, 16, both of Georgetown show off their balloon hats. The picnic is put on by local churches each year in an expression of unity.
 Photos by Jon Borgstrom

Red Cross and drivers at impasse in negotiations

By **TIM FORAN**
 Metroland Media Group

The Mississauga-Halton Red Cross, which transports north Halton residents to hospital for dialysis appointments as well as ferrying frail seniors and the physically or cognitively impaired to adult day programs, have reached an impasse in contract negotiations with their drivers.

This week, 47 drivers represented by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) have been in a legal strike position and Red Cross management is in a position to lock out the employees.

Eight of the unionized drivers work out of the Red Cross office on Nipissing Road in Milton, which covers the north Halton territory including Acton and Georgetown.

There is only one unionized driver at the Oakville branch, which serves 47 clients weekly, according to the Red Cross.

Approximately half of the Red Cross's 49 transportation clients in north Halton are driven to hospital for dialysis and other important medical services, said Tanya Elliot, a spokesperson for the Red Cross. The other half are transported to adult day programs.

The Red Cross offers transportation to adult

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