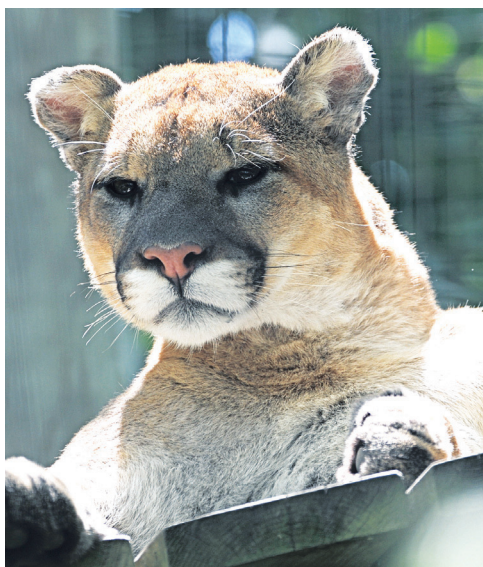


Local resident shocked after seeing 'big-ass cat'

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer



Georgetown resident Tom Prong is convinced he saw a 'big, big cat', possibly a cougar on Ninth Line earlier this week.

File photo by Jon Borgstrom

Prong said the animal didn't look like a coyote, or a dog.

"That was not dog-like, it was cat-like," he said. "It was as big as a St. Bernard, with shorter legs."

John Pisapio, a wildlife biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources, **See MNR, pg. 4**

Could there be a cougar—the four-legged furry kind not a middle-aged woman with a penchant for younger men—roaming around this area?

One Georgetown man believes there might be after he caught a glimpse of an animal that looked a lot like a cougar, also known as a mountain lion, run across the road in front of his vehicle on his way home from work Tuesday night.

Tom Prong, 47, said he saw the "big-ass cat" about 11:40 p.m. when he was heading northbound on Ninth Line about a km north of Steeles Ave.

He saw something in his headlights moving in an easterly direction.

"I caught a glimpse of it as it was going over the fence. It was a big, big, cat."

He said it was cougar-sized, about 100 lbs.

"It had a long tail, and short, stinky legs," said Prong, adding it was a solid color—grey or brown.

"I was more than a little shocked. I was freaked out to see such a large animal," said Prong who reported the sighting to Halton Police.

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