

RURAL BLAZE

Fire causes \$150,000 damage to shed on 15 Sideroad

PAGE 9

THE BIG BOUNCE

Gymnastics club's trampoline squad making big leaps

PAGE 22

www.theIFP.ca

THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS



Thursday, February 2, 2012

Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper serving Acton & Georgetown

48 Pages

50 Cents (+HST)

Where's winter?

With Tuesday's warm temperatures, Ryan Mersiadis-Carrier, 16, figured it was balmy enough to lose the coat while stopping a few shots from neighbour Chris Caissie, 6.

Photo by Ted Brown



Fluoride to stay in Halton's water

By CHRISTINA COMMISSO
Metroland Media Group

The decision to stick with fluoridated water passed by a slim margin following Tuesday's marathon regional council meeting.

The words used during the 10 hours of delegations varied greatly, depending on who was speaking. Doctors, dentists and medical researchers described fluoride as a mineral naturally found in water sources; a great equalizer that levels the playing field between those who can afford dental care and those who can't and one of the most important health interventions of the last century.

However, those on the other side of the debate said the long-term effects of continued ingestion of fluoride are still largely

unknown, and they described the additive as a forced medicine and a cancer-causer.

Convincing arguments from both sides of the debate led to a narrow 11-9 vote in favour of continued fluoridation.

"We had a tremendous improvement in water fluoridation in Canada and at the same time we've seen a tremendous decline in tooth decay," said Health Canada's Chief Dental Officer Dr. Peter Cooney, who pegged that decline at about 30 per cent.

"This is a very, very safe practice," Cooney continued. "Some of the things you're going to hear about this is absolutely bizarre... stick with the work of health organizations and stick with the good science."

See **FLUORIDE**, pg. 11

Construction of outlet mall likely to start this spring

By CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

Construction will begin this spring on a \$170 million outlet shopping centre on the south-east corner of Steeles Ave. and Trafalgar Rd.

At a special afternoon council meeting on Monday, Halton Hills council voted to remove the "H" (holding provision) to allow the issuance of a building permit. Removal of the H means that the developer has complied

with site plan conditions. Those have included a variety of studies required by the Town, Region, Conservation Halton and the Province, such as stormwater requirements, traffic impacts and design guidelines.

Competing malls wage legal fight
page 5

Four homes have been demolished to make way for the development.

Calloway Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) Halton Inc. is developing the 45,875 sq. m. (494,000 sq. ft.) upscale outlet mall on 25.5 hectares (65 acres) in two phases. Summer 2013 is the targeted opening date for the first phase.

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette said this Smart Centre will not be a big box centre, but a high-end fashion outlet mall to be built by Simon Property Group, the

See **CALLOWAY**, pg. 3

Derek Dunphy
REALTOR
Call Derek.ca

Time to move?
I can help

Johnson Associates
REAL ESTATE LTD. - BROKER/AGENT
30.5-877-5165

42ND ANNUAL JANUARY SALE

LAST 3 DAYS!

Bergsma's
LIVE IN STYLE

PAINT • WALLPAPER • LIGHTING • HOME DECOR
GEORGETOWN MARKETPLACE MALL 905-877-4193

Sale Ends
Sat. Feb. 4th

SAVE ON PAINT • WALLPAPER • LIGHTING • HOME DECOR

**REFINANCING?
PURCHASING?**

2.99%
4 YR. FIXED CALL FOR DETAILS.

BOB WOODS, Broker

Assured
Member of IFAA
(905) 877-1490
360 Guelph St., Georgetown