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News

Digest

No flu epidemic at the hospital

Georgetown and District Hospital remains open and there is no problem with a flu epidemic, inspite of news reports to the contrary.

Hospital executive director John Oliver said that there was a problem with stomach flu in the Bennett Centre around April 20 when two or three people became ill. But infection control treated people with antibiotics and got the situation under control very quickly. Georgetown Hospital was never closed, he said. The problem at other hospitals, including Joseph Brant and Oakville Trafalgar was more serious.

\$10,000 winners

Cristina Da Silva and her mother Filomena Da Silva are \$10,000 richer thanks to an Instant Bingo ticket bought at Cristina & Marques Variety store in Georgetown Wednesday. Cristina owns the store, and was the victim of a robbery in the store on Tuesday. She and her mom will share the \$10,000 prize and plan to pay off some bills with the money.

Power failure

Power was out in Georgetown for approximately an hour Wednesday night, according to Halton Hills Hydro manager Dave Colley. A lightning arrester weakened by Tuesday night's thunderstorms failed Wednesday at Georgetown High School's substation, knocking out the rest of the system. Areas affected between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. were Moore Park to Mountainview, River Dr. and Glen Williams.

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The Classic collection



Various Coca-Cola items are scattered throughout Rick Patenaude's home. He's been collecting for about four years now and already has collected about 500 different Coca Cola items. Patenaude is a member of the Ontario Cola Collector's club, and spends his spare time searching for Coke items at garage sales, auctions sales and flea markets. See the full story on page 20. TED BROWN Independent/Free Press

Quick action nabs duo

By LISA TALLYN
Staff writer

Cristina Da Silva, owner of Cristina & Marques variety store in Georgetown, was robbed at gunpoint in her store Tuesday afternoon.

Da Silva said she was shocked when a male youth, who came into the store with another youth, pointed a gun at her and demanded cash and cigarettes.

"I thought it was some kind of a joke," said Da Silva. "But I panicked as soon as I saw the gun and gave him the money."

Police say that the gun used in the robbery was actually a pellet pistol replica of a semi-automatic handgun.

Da Silva said that at about 5 p.m. Tuesday two youths entered her store and one attempted to buy cigarettes.

She said at this time she suspected his companion was stealing gum from the front counter, but then the youth pointed a gun at her and demanded cash and cigarettes.

"I opened my till and gave him \$100, but he said he wanted more, then he reached over and took all the rest of the money," said Da Silva.

After they took the money and cigarettes they fled the store. Da Silva pushed the hold-up button in the store (linking to police) and ran after the pair.

Da Silva was impressed by how quickly police responded to her call; they arrived within minutes.

Police searched the area extensively with the help of a K9 unit and area residents were notified of the robbery and provided with a description of the suspects.

Det. Sgt. Ron Welsh said the two suspects were arrested two hours after the robbery just south of Cedarvale Park. Police seized a handgun and the stolen money.

Two Georgetown youths, one 16 years and one 15 years were charged with robbery and use of a firearm. They were held in custody for a bail hearing on April 27.



CRISTINA DA SILVA

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