

THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

HEALTH, HOME & HAPPINESS
2014
THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS



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Thursday, May 1, 2014

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Phase Two opens

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Autism Awareness

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Home, Lawn & Garden
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Teens vie
for votes



Appreciating our docs

Halton Region and the local hospitals celebrate the efforts of Halton's physicians and recognize their contributions to our community with Physician Appreciation Week, which takes place April 28 to May 2. May 1 is also the third Doctors' Day in Ontario. Yesterday morning, Georgetown Hospital Emergency Department Dr. Mile Stefanac, (centre) received a round of applause from (from left) Denise Hardenne, Halton Healthcare Services Interim President and CEO Dr. Lorne Martin, Chief of Staff and Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette, along with other hospital doctors and staff as HHS held a Physician Appreciation Breakfast.

Photo by Jon Borgstrom

Woman banned from owning pets

The founder of a cat rescue and adoption facility must do community service and is banned for life from owning or caring for animals after 117 cats—including 10 dead ones—were found in her home last September.

Halton Hills resident Ruth Naccarato was charged in October with nine counts of animal cruelty under the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) Act in connection with the incident at the Steeles Ave. W. home.

In Provincial Offences court in Burlington last Tuesday Naccarato pleaded

guilty and was convicted of failing to provide the care necessary for an animal's general welfare, and also of being the person who owns or has custody of an animal(s) did fail to comply with the prescribed standards of care for such animals—did fail to provide the care necessary for its general welfare.

Along with the lifetime ban from owning or having care or control of any animal, Naccarato, founder of Kool Kats Rescue, also received two years probation and must complete 30 hours of community service. The other seven charges were withdrawn.

\$200,000 fire damage to Acton home

Halton Hills firefighters responded to the report of a two-storey structure fire on Somerville Rd. in Acton about 10:50 p.m. Friday. The first-in crews were faced with heavy smoke conditions and zero visibility but advanced into the home and were able to knock down the bulk of the fire very quickly.

As visibility improved, crews extinguished the fire and performed salvage and overhaul operations. It was determined that the fire started in the basement, extended into a main-floor family room and then into a second-floor bedroom. The estimated dollar loss has been set at \$150,000 for the structure and \$50,000 for contents.

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