

# ESTHER THE WONDER PIG SHEDS LIGHT ON ISSUES WITH CFIA CHEMO REGULATIONS

VERONICA APPIA  
vappia@metroland.com

"Esther is officially cancer free!"

Steve Jenkins and Derek Walter, who formerly lived in Georgetown and now own the Happily Ever Esther Farm Sanctuary in Milton, took to social media on Sept. 10 to publish celebratory posts about their 650-pound companion pig, following her oncology results relayed by the Ontario Veterinary College.

The famous pig was diagnosed with breast cancer on Aug. 9 following a first-of-its-kind CT scan her owners fought for months to bring to Canada.

The equine scanner, which is being given permanent home at the Ontario Veterinary College in Guelph this month, will be instrumental in aiding other sizable animals, too large to be scanned by traditional equipment. Esther underwent a successful surgery on

Aug. 28 to remove the cancerous lump, but at that time, Jenkins and Walter were faced with a larger issue - the inability to provide Esther with chemotherapy, should that be an avenue she required.

"We've been told if she requires chemotherapy, which would be the next step if the cancer spread at all, she isn't allowed to receive it because of CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) regulations," Jenkins told the Independent on Aug. 31.

The regulations state that it is illegal to administer chemotherapy to animals that the CFIA deems to be used for food.



"My mind was blown when I started to realize the scope of the problem and how many people are dealing with the same problem," Jenkins said, adding that he also has a chicken on his farm that has been diagnosed with leukemia and was denied treatment for the same reasons.

Though Esther's oncology team has determined Esther will not require chemotherapy or radiation, Jenkins said this fight is not over.

"We won't let up on the regulation changes," he said.

Please  
keep our  
community  
clean!

**Michael's**  
MAKE CREATIVITY HAPPEN

**CORRECTION NOTICE**

In the ad beginning Friday, 9/7, Halloween Décor & Halloween Costumes & Accessories offers incorrectly printed with the word "ALL" in the descriptions. The correct descriptions should read "Halloween Décor Collections" and "Halloween Costumes & Accessories", because they exclude clearance items.

*We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.*

"We just got off the phone with OVC, Esther is officially cancer free!!!! The margins are all good, and the oncology team agrees that chemo and/or radiation are not required. #BreastCancerSurvivor," Walter and Jenkins wrote to Twitter.

Twitter/EstherThePig



By Cory Soal  
R.H.A.D.

## ... Lend Me Your Ears

### TINNITUS

Or ringing in the ears, does not cause hearing disorders, it may accompany decreased hearing and other ear symptoms such as pressure, unsteadiness or dizziness. Often, it occurs alone.

Tinnitus arising from the inner ear frequently indicates more permanent and serious disease. Exposure to a sudden loud noise - a gunshot or explosion, for example results in tinnitus that subsides to a low level of ringing for an extended period of time. Disorders affecting the cochlea (hearing center) of the inner ear can cause tinnitus. To find out more about this common problem call...

The Georgetown  
**HEARING CLINIC**  
*We care about your hearing!*

Professional Arts Building  
99 Sinclair Ave., Suite 210, Georgetown  
**905-873-6642**

*Serving the community of Halton Hills and surrounding areas since 1992*

**Churches & Temples**

HALTON HILLS  
**Family House of WORSHIP**  
familyhouseofworship@start.ca  
**Services EVERY Sunday**  
**16 Adamson Street,**  
**South Norval,**  
**Halton Hills**

**Services starting at 10am**

To advertise your church services or any other church event here please contact  
Kelli Kosonic 905-234-1018  
or email  
kkosonic@theifp.ca



# Ask the Professionals

Find local professionals here every Thursday!  
For advertising information please call 905-234-1018 or email  
kkosonic@theifp.ca

**SEPARATION & DIVORCE MEDIATION**

**PCCS** ACCREDITED MEDIATORS  
GEORGETOWN, BRAMPTON, BOLTON, MISSISSAUGA, ORANGEVILLE  
FLEXIBLE HOURS  
www.pccs.ca  
905-567-8858 **REDUCE COST & CONFLICT**  
1-866-506-PCCS (7227)

**DIVORCE WITH DIGNITY AND KEEP YOUR MONEY IN YOUR POCKET!**



**DR. ELAYNE TANNER**  
Registered Social Worker

Counselling & Psychotherapy

Milton 905-854-0801  
www.DrElayneTanner.com

**Q:** I have been through the most excruciating pain I can imagine. I have recently lost my little girl to an illness and I can't imagine going on, but I have to—she has younger siblings. How do I carry on when it hurts to even breath?

**A:** I am so sorry for your loss. I have written about grief before but nothing ever feels like enough to even lessen the horror you must be feeling. Over the years, much has been written about the "stages of grief" but that description really is inadequate. The loss of a child, whether through miscarriage or illness or accident, doesn't fit into nice little boxes of "stages".

The emotions often feel overwhelming and are frequently not understood by others. There is often anger and rage. Anger at God, at the medical community, at the perceived cause of this loss, and ultimately anger at yourself or your partner for not having been able to prevent the death of your child, can become immobilizing.

The anger can frequently turn into guilt or fear. Guilt that you were unable to prevent the death. Fear that the loss of your child was a punishment for something you did or did not do. You may experience guilt that you are still alive while your child is not, and guilt when you forget your pain for a split second and smile at something. You have the fear that you will forget the sound of your child's voice or call your other child by their name. You worry that you may also lose your other children. And of course you worry about how the others in the family, your partner, other children and extended family, will cope with the loss.

Profound grief is also the cause of physical ailments. You may feel generally unwell. You may find it difficult to concentrate or focus and find yourself becoming apathetic and withdrawn. You may be dealing with symptoms of PTSD and keep re-experiencing the moment when you first heard of the death. You may also be dealing with those who feel that you are not progressing through this journey fast enough.

These responses to loss can come between partners as each feels the other doesn't understand or they each feel reluctant to open the wounds by talking about the loss. There are so many dynamics to any unanticipated loss, but the loss of a child, no matter what age, I think is by far the most devastating. Counselling cannot alleviate the death, but it can provide a non-judgmental and safe place to deal with this most significant loss.

"HELPING YOU HELP YOURSELF"

Elayne Tanner Social Work Professional Corporation