

THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

THURSDAY
MARCH 17, 2022



\$2.00 | CONNECTED TO YOUR COMMUNITY | THEIFP.CA

Lisa Hartsink
BROKER
905-873-9944

HARTSINK
ROYAL LEPAGE

LISAHARTSINK.COM



IMPACTING YOUR
COMMUNITY

Graham Paine/Metroland

Pastor Steve Boose and wife Kathleen run a Nar-Anon group to help those impacted by addiction.

DRUG OVERDOSES ON THE RISE IN HALTON

POLICE TARGET TRAFFICKERS CONTRIBUTING TO OVERDOSE CRISIS

MELANIE HENNESSEY
mhennessey@metroland.com

The following is part two in a four-part Halton series on crime in the region. Next week, see part three focusing on frauds and scams in the region.

Halton police are sounding

the alarm as the number of drug overdoses being reported in Halton Hills and across the region continues to soar.

The local department says they attended 50 per cent more suspected drug overdose — or drug poisoning — calls last year versus 2020, jumping from 241 to

361. This includes opioid and non-opioid overdoses that were both accidental and intentional.

There was also a notable increase of 37 per cent in how many of those calls turned fatal, with police reporting that 52 Halton residents lost their lives to suspected drug poisoning in 2021 —

the first full calendar year of life in the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It's absolutely crisis level — capital C on crisis. That's certainly not an overstatement," said Jennifer Hartman, Halton Regional Police Service's manager of corporate communications.

"Everything you hear about

See PANDEMIC, page 7

CHRISTINE MONCKTON
KELLY MACDONALD WILSON

MONCKTON
REAL ESTATE GROUP

TOP 1%
IN CANADA

289.642.2655
WWW.MONCKTON.CA

KRAUSE MORRIS

Dave Krause REALTOR®
Melissa Krause REALTOR®
Darren Morris REALTOR®
Matt Quinn REALTOR®
Jennifer Holloway REALTOR®

Office: 905.877.5211
Direct: 416.878.0436

TRAFFIC

WEATHER

CRIME

CRIME SCENE DO NOT ENTER

READ THE NEWS AS IT HAPPENS AT
THEIFP.CA

Metroland Media Group Ltd.,
1 Yonge Street, 4th floor,
Toronto, ON, M5E 1E6

Speedy Glass

We handle all insurance work.

• Truck Accessories • Upholstery
• Heavy Equipment Glass
• Window Tinting

354 Guelph Street, Georgetown
905-873-1655

GENESIS PHARMACY COMPOUNDING

WALK-IN & FAMILY CLINIC
Open 7 Days a Week

NEW FAMILY DOCTOR ACCEPTING PATIENTS
In-Person & Phone Appt Avail

905-873-1001 221 Miller Dr., Georgetown
GenesisHealthTeam.com

THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS
READERS' CHOICE 2021
PLATINUM WINNER

Visit our showroom

BuyWise
WINDOWS & DOORS

• your window & door professionals •

11 Mountainview Rd., N. Georgetown, ON L7G 4T3
905.873.0236
www.buy-wise.ca info@buy-wise.ca

• awarded readers choice 35 times •