



**HOPE IN EVERY STITCH:** Canadian Cancer Society, Acton branch member June Tribe (left) and Liz Smith with the Halton Region Breast Health Network, admire the intricate handiwork of one of three panels of the Life Quilt for Breast Cancer that was on display last weekend at the Acton arena and community centre. Over 20,000 people helped make the six-inch quilt squares that frame three paintings depicting coping with an initial breast cancer diagnosis, subsequent treatment and life changes associated with the disease. -Frances Niblock photo

## Youth drop-in at old town hall

After a long frustrating search it looks like the proposed Acton Youth Centre has finally found a home in Heritage Acton's old Town Hall - Fire Hall building.

Although no lease has been signed yet, Rosslyn Dowell, executive of the Halton Hills Community Support and Information Service (HHCSI), which will run the Centre, is confident the search for affordable, suitable space is over.

"Negotiations are going well with Heritage Acton to locate the Acton Youth Centre within the Town Hall - Fire Hall complex," Dowell said following a meeting with Heritage Acton officials last week.

The concept for the Youth Centre is to have one-stop shopping for youth services during the day and a drop-in centre at night.

"We're looking to make this work together, as a partnership," Dowell said recently, adding that HHCSI wants to rent more of the building in a phased manner,

if anticipated grant money and other funding is available to both Heritage Acton and HHCSI.

Dowell said the next step is for Heritage Acton to determine how much it will cost to do its part to make the space ready for the Youth Centre. Heritage Acton spokesman Ted Tyler said once the flat roof over the Fire Hall is repaired - the contract could be awarded in early March - the Youth Centre will move into what was the fire chief's office and a lounge.

Until the downstairs of the fire hall is brought up to current building and fire standards and a new heating system installed, which could cost up to \$100,000, the upstairs auditorium and the fire truck bay area can't be occupied.

"I'd like to see everything completed this year. It's possible but how probable - I don't know, because we're looking for some funds to help us with this job and I don't know how soon those funds will be available, if at all," Tyler said.

### Daniel Varanelli

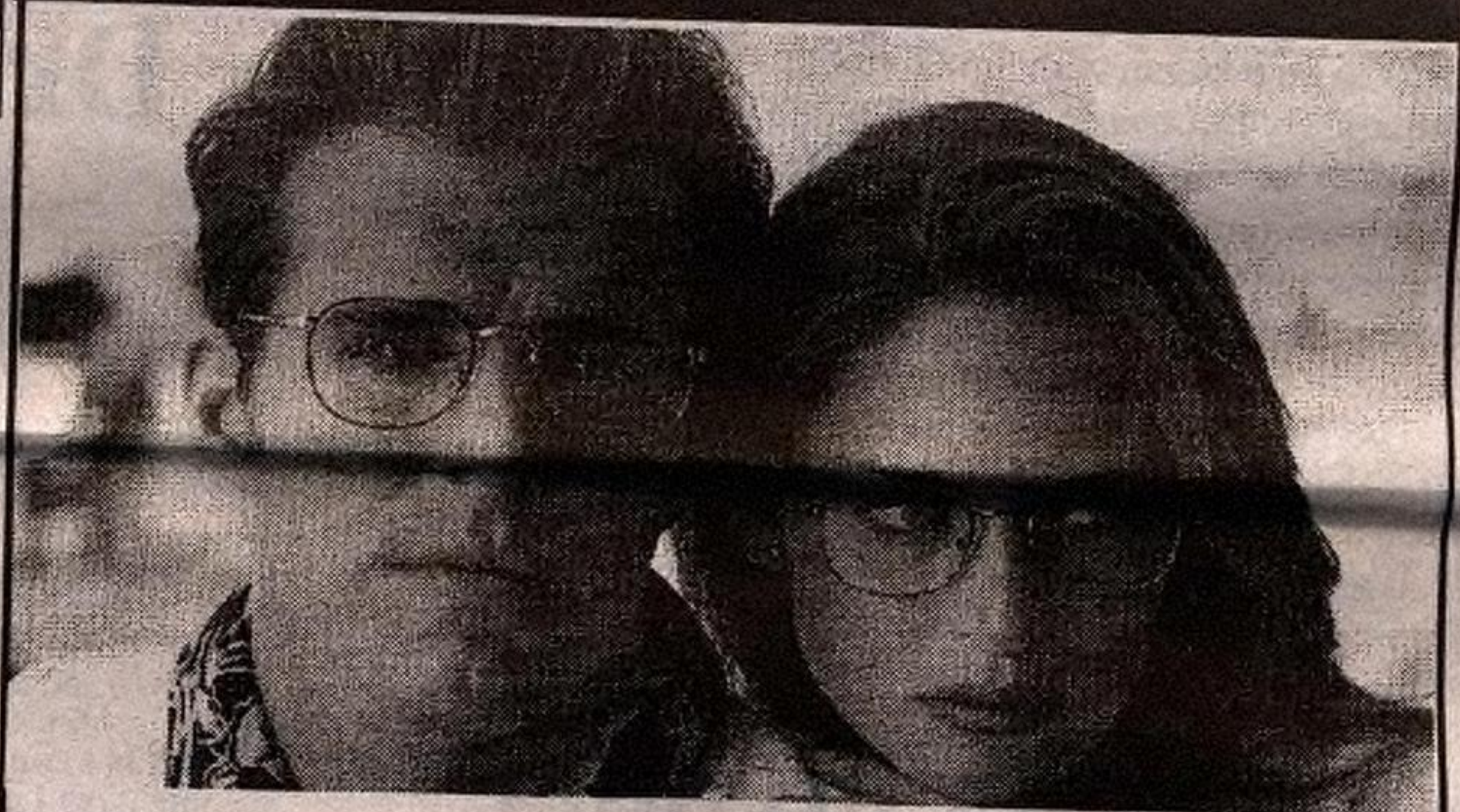
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### Ambulance service saved

Concerns the volunteer ambulance service in Halton Hills could be disbanded appear to be unfounded. At council on Monday night, Halton Hills CEO Steve Andrews said he expects a Regional staff report on the future of ambulance services, expected March 24, will recommend maintaining the volunteer service in Halton Hills.

That's great news for Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette who noted that a consultant hired by Halton Region came to the conclusion that the volunteer system is a closely knit group that forms an important part of the fabric of the community.

The province ran the ambulance service until it downloaded the responsibility to upper tier governments like Halton Region. Halton Hills is unique in Halton because it has a volunteer service, manned by 64 level 1 paramedics. The Acton ambulance station, located at the rear of Beckers, is staffed from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily



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