

Healing hands

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Home, Lawn and Garden Inside



Gymnasts reach provincials

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The Independent & Free Press

Wednesday, April 23, 1997 56 Pages Vol. 121 No. 3

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NEWS AT A GLANCE

'Special' appeal

■ This Saturday off duty Halton Region Police Service and Ontario Provincial Police officers, and correction officers from Maplehurst Adult Training Centre will be armed with pails at two intersections in Acton and Georgetown collecting money for the Ontario Special Olympics.

The officers will be at the intersections of Main and Mill Streets in Georgetown, 10-11 a.m., and Main and Mill Streets in Acton, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. They will be asking drivers for loose change while the light is red. Donations are voluntary.

All money raised will go toward putting on the games which are to be held May 8-10, 1998 in Oakville.

Man burned

■ A Georgetown man was burned when he dropped a pot of burning cooking oil on his kitchen floor Monday about 9 p.m.

Ashley Cassar, was treated at Georgetown Hospital then transferred to Wellesley Central Hospital's burn unit. He was in stable condition there Tuesday. The dropped oil resulted in \$5,000 worth of damage.

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Double trouble

Park Public School Principal Al Zanatta (centre, left) and kindergarten teacher Mary Shier (centre, right) have their work cut out for them this year. They have five sets of twins in their kindergarten class. Clockwise (from front) Ashley Duguay, Jennifer Duguay, Doug Ettinger, Tim Ettinger, Aihlin Triggerson, Andrew Triggerson, Chris Kolomeitz, Brad Kolomeitz, Brittany Blanchard and Andrew Blanchard. See story on page 9.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

Ambulance service in state of flux

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
Special

Local ambulance officials are concerned that current levels of casualty care be maintained once the province shifts responsibility for paying for ambulance service to municipalities.

"We want to make sure that local residents get the service they need, regardless of who operates it," explained Halton Hills Ambulance Service president Bob Raine in an interview Thursday.

The recent purchase of the Halton & Mississauga Ambulance Service by Laidlaw Inc., the proposed purchase of eight other Ontario ambulance services by an Arizona-based company and the proposed provincial changes have sent the local rumor mill into overdrive.

"We're all hearing rumors of proposed sales but we haven't been approached by anyone, but the rumors do cause uncertainty," Raine explained, adding that he hopes to clarify the situation in a meeting with Halton Health Department officials in the near future.

One of the rumors circulating among some Halton Hills paramedics is that an American-based company claims it could operate the local service cheaper than the volunteers with a base in Brampton or Mississauga to serve this area.

"There's money to be made and when the province stops paying for ambulance services at the end of the year it will either have to be run by the region or by a private firm," Raine said.

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"You Get NO BULL"



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FOR FULL DETAILS