



**NEWS**  
Silver Creek  
Pubic School  
officially opens  
Page 7

**SPORTS**  
Mom competing  
in Ironman event  
to aid daughter  
Page 17



**HOME, LAWN  
& GARDEN**  
16-page  
section



**cellar**  
Est. 1976  
Casual Fine  
Dining  
905-873-7402  
78 Main Street S.  
Located  
in Downtown  
Georgetown  
Check out our website at  
www.CellarRestaurant.com

# The Independent & Free Press

Wednesday, May 12, 2004 60 Pages Vol. 127 No. 8

**Lynn  
& John  
Drewry**  
"Exceeding Your Expectations"  
905-877-5165  
Johnson Associates  
WALTON LTD., REALTOR.  
www.lynnandjohn drewry.ca

50 cents (+ GST)

Serving Georgetown, Acton and the surrounding areas

20,200 copies



## Veterans thanked

School children and veterans united Friday as the second annual candlelight tribute was held at the three cenotaphs in Halton Hills. Above, Branch 120 (Georgetown) veterans Bob McNeilly (left) and Orval Paul prepared for more than 700 students who filed through the ranks, picking up their candles to place on the cenotaph, before shaking hands with veterans like Tom Clapham, (right) to thank them for their contribution to world peace.

Photos by Ted Brown



## Move angers mayor, MPP Decision to close obstetrics ward is 'not acceptable'

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette and Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh have expressed concern about the pending closure of the obstetrics ward at Georgetown hospital and Bonnette is calling for hospital officials to reverse their decision.

"I can't fathom the idea of a hospital not having an obstetrics unit," said Bonnette, who has voiced his concern in letters to William Osler CEO Bob Bell and Health and Long Term Care Minister George Smitherman.

"I just hope they can reconsider their position," said Bonnette. "This is just not acceptable."

Last week Bell confirmed to *The Independent & Free Press* that inpatient obstetrics and pediatrics at the Georgetown hospital will be permanently consolidated to William Osler's Brampton campus, effective July or August.

Bell said the approximately 318 births at Georgetown Hospital annually fall far shy of the more than 1,000 required to make the service economically viable, and estimated the closure of the units would result in yearly savings of \$850,000.

He added the removal of the services in Georgetown was one of

See MAYOR, pg. 3

## Police uncover grow house

Two Halton Hills men are facing drug charges after police found a sophisticated grow operation and 150 marijuana plants at a Trafalgar Rd. property Thursday.

Police responded to the rural property after receiving a 911 hang up call at approximately 5:50 a.m. Thursday.

While they didn't find anyone in distress at the home, they did find six lbs of harvested marijuana in a bedroom.

They also noticed the odour of fresh marijuana coming from a

locked barn on the property and after arresting two men in connection with the marijuana in the bedroom, obtained a search warrant for the entire property.

They searched the property at approximately 6:10 p.m. and found a sophisticated marijuana grow operation in a detached barn.

Charged with production of a controlled substance, and possession for the purpose of trafficking Dominico Panetta, 31, of Trafalgar Rd. and Amedeo Panetta, 27, of Winston Churchill Blvd.



Your "Hometown" General Motors Dealer ...for over 40 years.

•PARTS •SERVICE  
•BODY SHOP

SALES  
LEASING

Optimum  
USED VEHICLES

National Car Rental



**ANDREW MURRAY MOTORS LTD.**

33 MOUNTAINVIEW RD. N., GEORGETOWN - 877-6944

WEBSITE: www.gmcanada.com •E-MAIL: andrewmurraymotors@gmcanada.com

CHEVY TRUCKS  
LIKE A ROCK

