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Pubic School
officially opens
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Mom competing in Ironman event to aid daughter Page 17



HOME, LAWN & GARDEN

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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'

Falton 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

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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.

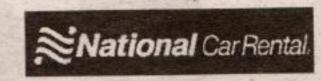
They searched the property at approximately 6:10 p.m. and found a sophisticated marijuana grow operation in a detached

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.



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