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# The Independent

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## Tips from Sparky

Michael Holmes, 3, of Acton, found a new friend in Sparky The Fire Dog, during the Fire Safety Event held at Canadian Tire Saturday. Canadian Tire co-hosted the event along with Halton Hills Fire Protection and Prevention Services. Visitors were given tips on making their homes fire-safe and other fire prevention techniques.

Photo by Yves Desjardins

## Staff fear for hospital's future

The pending closure of the obstetrics and pediatrics departments at Georgetown hospital has upset many doctors and nurses who work there, and some fear it could lead to further erosion of services at the hospital.

"This is the first brick out of the wall," said one nurse, who did not want to be identified.

She said the removal of obstetrics from William Osler's Georgetown campus, slated for July 5, will have a domino effect on other departments.

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For example, she said, the loss of obstetrics will impact the anaesthetists as much of their on-call income is related to obstetrics. She said without that work, there is a risk they could leave, which would then impact surgery, as the surgeon couldn't perform his services without anaesthetists, and if the surgeon and anaesthetists leave, that would negatively impact the emergency department.

See HOSPITAL, pg. 4

## Have your say on OB closure

The William Osler Health Centre has decided to permanently move its in-patient obstetrics and pediatrics services at the Georgetown hospital campus to Brampton July 5.

*The Independent & Free Press*, along with many community groups and residents, opposes this move and is inviting readers to voice their opposition to this plan.

If you oppose WOHC's decision to close Georgetown hospital's

obstetrics unit, fill in the ballot below and return it to *The Independent & Free Press* before 5 p.m., June 4.

We will ensure the ballots are delivered to WOHC CEO Bob Bell. Ballots can be dropped off at our

office in the Market Place Mall (Zellers end), mailed to *The Independent & Free Press* at 280 Guelph, Unit 29, Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4B1 or faxed by dialing 905-873-0398.



## Keep our hospital's OB ward open!

I believe Georgetown hospital's obstetrics/pediatrics ward must stay open.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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