

# Dogs won't be sent to research labs

**CYNTHIA GAMBLE**  
Staff Writer

A moratorium has been placed on sending unwanted Halton Hills dogs to research facilities.

Liz White of the Animal Alliance of Canada made the request of Halton Hills council at a recent meeting.

"You guys do an absolute fabulous job at getting animals back home. It's one of the best statistics I've seen anywhere— at almost 80 per cent reclaim rate in dogs," White told councillors. "Where you fall down is in your adoption. ... With a little bit of work, the adoption rate could be much improved and there would be no need to send animals to research."

According to a staff report, in the first year of operation (May 2007 to April 2008) by the Town's canine services provider, Halton Hills Canine Services (HHCS), operated by Rudy and Liz De Jong, 167 dogs were impounded— 11 of which were sent to research facilities and none were euthanized. HHCS was able to reunite 132 dogs with their families, seven were adopted, and 17 were donated to Humane Societies.

HHCS operates 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Last year, it received 309 complaints of dogs running at large, handled close to 1,500 calls, made 287 emergency responses, filed 313 lost dog reports, and filed 295 found dog reports.

Past Town statistics show that there were about 50 per cent more dogs running loose in the past year than in previous years. HHCS attributes that to an increase in the dog population in the newer subdivisions.

Statistics on canine euthanasia has dropped dramatically over the years from 60 dogs in 2004-05, 53 in 2005-06, and two in 2006-07 to zero last year.

The moratorium on sending dogs to research facilities will be in place until the Town checks out the legal ramifications of contravening provincial legislation— the Animals for Research Act— which states that an animal cannot be euthanized

if there is a research facility that wants it.

White's organization would rather an animal be euthanized than be sent to a research facility.

White said it is unfair of the Town to say no dogs were euthanized because the 11 that were sent to research facilities were likely euthanized but only after painful experiments.

While HHCS makes every effort to reunite dogs with their owners or find new homes for the dogs, there are some that become "the unwanted". These dogs are refused by agencies due to their breeds such as pit bulls or age, health that would require expensive treatment or lack of space.

HHCS keeps an animal for five days, and then offers it to, among others, Upper Credit Humane Society, Oakville Humane Society, Mississauga Animal Services and Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

According to the staff report, DeJong has kept some dogs up to two weeks, incurring all the pound costs out of his own pocket while waiting for space to free up at a Humane Society.

White asked that her organization, Project Jessie, be added to HHCS's list of places to call. The Orangeville-based group and DeJong are both willing to meet halfway to exchange the dog, the Town report said.

White also requested a number of other actions: setting up an animal services advisory committee on how to improve services; looking at what other municipalities do; following up on dogs sent to research facilities; setting up a protocol to aid residents to get their dogs back who had been sent to a research facility and reveal what is the revenue generated by sending dogs for research. Council took no specific action on these requests.

Halton Hills Canine Service's office phone number is 905-877-6235 (leave a message). The Crisis phone number is 416-706-3647. The office is open by appointment only. The HHCS deals with dogs only— for cats or any wildlife, contact the Upper Credit Humane Society, 519-833-2287.

# Don't pay for 2 Summers\* FINAL 6 DAYS!

## AIR CONDITIONER



- High Efficiency  
Up to 20 SEER
- New Puron Refrigerant  
cuts your cooling bills



## FURNACE

- 97% Efficiency
  - DC Blower motor  
variable speed...
- Save up to \$400/yr in electricity



Evolution Control  
for perfect control



Proud to be serving the  
Halton Community for 41 years!



5 YEARS IN A ROW  
Favourite Furnace  
& Air Conditioner



\*Must be installed by July 31/08. See store for details



## APPLEBY SYSTEMS 877-8990

Fireplace, Heating & Air Conditioning Sales & Service  
118 Guelph St. Georgetown (at Maple)

Hours: Monday - Friday 9-5; Saturday 11-4; Appointments available after hours upon request

# Queen of Credit

## I WILL FINANCE YOU!

Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere.

I'LL MAKE YOUR FIRST 3 PAYMENTS

100%  
APPROVAL  
RATING!

Vehicles from \$5000 - \$25,000  
whatever you need!

IF YOU HAVE AN INCOME  
...YOU'RE APPROVED!

YOUR JOB IS YOUR CREDIT

### PROBLEMS = SOLUTIONS

- On Disability
- Divorced
- Late Payments
- 0 Down
- No Credit
- Lowest Interest Rates
- Bankrupt
- Credit
- No Money
- Counselling

YOU'RE APPROVED!



### GIANT USED CAR CLEARANCE

- TRUCKS • VANS • SUVs • CARS
- WHATEVER - 2,500 TO CLEAR!

Low as \$37 per wk.  
\$0 DOWN! SAME DAY DELIVERY

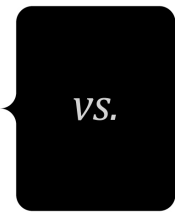
Specializing in 100% Credit Re-establishment

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT - WE WILL GET IT!

1-866-367-7390

# It's Your Choice

COMING SOON - EASY LIVING IN GEORGETOWN!



80%  
SOLD!

## THE GALLERY BENNETT VILLAGE

IMAGINE THE TIME AND FREEDOM TO ENJOY ...

- Maintenance-Free Living
- Art Studio / Workshop
- Landscaped Grounds
- Car Wash Bay
- Private Balconies
- Fireplace Lounge
- Outdoor Terrace
- Ravine Views / Spacious Living

ACT NOW. GOOD SELECTION OF SUITES AVAILABLE!

SALES CENTRE: 211 Guelph Street Georgetown  
Open: Tues. Wed. Thurs. & Sat. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
CALL 905.702.1247 • VISIT bennettvillage.ca

### WIN \$500 in FREE\* GAS

Fill out a ballot at these local retailers for your chance to win \$500 in FREE\* GAS.

#### GEORGETOWN RETAILERS:

Quick Auto Repair/Krown Rust Control  
354 Guelph St.

Little India  
78 Main St. S

Vision 2000  
328 Guelph St.

Outdoor Power Equipment  
61 Guelph St. at Queen

Turner Automotive  
20 Armstrong Ave.

Flooring Diva Designs  
128 Guelph St.

#### ACTON RETAILERS:

Acton Auto Tech  
45 Main St.

Acton Home Hardware  
362 Queen St. E.

\*NOTE: For no purchase entry simply pick up your ballot and enter at the Independent & Free Press office in the Georgetown MarketPlace Mall during our normal business hours (9 am - 6 pm Monday - Friday). Winner must be 18 years of age or older. Limit one entry per day per person. Selected entrant will be required to correctly answer a skill testing question. There is a total of one \$500 FREE\* Gas prize to be awarded during this contest. Odds of being selected to win depend on the number of entries received. Draw will be held on August 5, 2008 in Georgetown. Contest closes on Thursday July 31, 2008.