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FRIGHT NIGHT: Eleven-year-old Janet James, dressed as a witch, reacts to one of the scary scenes that's part of an elaborate Halloween display in the barn of the Haynes' Second Line residence in Campbellville. The family has put the display together for the past six years and began work on this year's display — featuring a mad science theme — in early August. Janet was part of the 2nd Campbellville Guides, who held their annual Halloween party at the barn.

Decision voluntary, proactive, says Raitt

Will fully co-operate with conflict of interest investigation

By Tim Foran CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Halton MP Lisa Raitt says her decision to recuse herself from professional contact with a lobbyist who sold tickets for a Halton Conservative Association (HCA) fundraiser in her support was voluntary and proactive.

Raitt — in Milton Friday for a national roundtable on integrated community energy solutions — said she also intends to co-operate fully with Parliament's conflict of interest and ethics commissioner, who is investigating allegations made association's fundraiser on September 24.

Both the Liberals and NDP have criti-

cized the fact an e-mail for the fundraiser was sent out by an employee of the Toronto Port Authority, a government agency previously headed up by Raitt.

Liberal MP Paul Szabo, chair of Parliament's ethics committee, has also criticized the fact lobbyist Michael against Raitt in relation to the riding McSweeney, vice-president of industrial affairs of the Cement Association of

see RECUSES on page A20

Boy steers car to safety

But mom dies after passing out behind wheel on highway

> Dana Brown and Rachel De Lazzer METROLAND WEST MEDIA GROUP

A nine-year-old local boy is being lauded for his quick action in guiding a car to safety on Saturday when his mother blacked out at the wheel.

The pair from Campbellville was headed eastbound on the QEW when the 43-year-old woman went into medical distress near Maple Avenue in Grimsby around 9:30 a.m. She fell unconscious and the car continued to accelerate, said OPP Constable and media officer Graham Williamson.

The boy reached over from the passenger seat, turned off the ignition and guided the vehicle onto the shoulder of the highway where it went into a ditch.

The boy was not injured and the vehicle was not damaged.

Police said the woman was taken to Hamilton General Hospital but was pronounced dead late Sunday afternoon.

Williamson said a witness in another vehicle saw the whole thing unfold, pulled over and called an ambulance.

"(The boy) showed incredible presence of mind," he said. "He showed incredible resolve to rectify the situation in the face of seeing his mother in a medical situation, having lost consciousness, and he was able to keep in mind what he had to do... He did well. He's a little hero, actually."

When asked if the boy would receive a commendation, investigating officer OPP Const. Scott Whitehorne said it's too early to say.

"That will probably be a consideration later that I'll have to run through my supervisors. That hasn't been discussed," Whitehorne said.

Police did not disclose the mother's or boy's names, or the nature of the mother's medical distress.

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