Photographer/columnist has mixed emotions about leaving a '32-year habit'

By LISATALLYN Staff Writer

The entry in Ted Brown's diary in 1982 after he met with Georgetown Independent editor Hartley Coles about freelance writing and photography opportunities reads, "Time will tell if it's going to pan out."

It seems that meeting panned out in a big way for Brown, leading to a long, rewarding career at The Independent & Free Press as a photographer, columnist and reporter.

Tomorrow (Friday) marks Brown's last day at the paper as he's retiring after 32 years—looking forward to devoting more time to things he wants to do like tending to his sheep farm and checking off items on his bucket list.

He has mixed emotions about leaving what he refers to as a "32-year habit."

"I'm going to miss the camaraderie of my colleagues," says Brown. "I will also miss the social interaction with the general public, the readers.'

"Being the in know is kind of exciting," he added.

But he says he's also eager to experience life without deadlines, and won't miss the repetitive aspects of the job or

"having to go out and shoot major accidents in dangerous conditions."

Brown's interest in photography was sparked back in 1978 when his first daughter Lindsay was born.

"I wanted to get a good 35 mm camera to document the kids growing up."

Soon Brown had set up a darkroom in his Limehouse home and he was shooting, developing and printing photos. Freelance work for The Independent led to a temporary assignment filling in for the newspaper's vacationing darkroom technician. That led to a part-time job, and in 1984, Brown was hired on as the newspaper's full-time photographer.

At the time, he was also continuing to work as a dairy farmer alongside his father, but was experiencing breathing problems from an allergic reaction to something in the barn. His father had already suffered four heart attacks and Brown says they both decided, "it was time to stop killing ourselves and do what we wanted to do.'

For Brown, that was photography. Back then he was very keen on spot

news, monitoring the scanner for fire and police calls 24/7.

"I got to learn to read the scanner. You could hear it in the dispatcher's voice if it was a bad call." he says.

Photo assignments that made a lasting impression on him include the spectacular March 1986 James Snow Parkway bridge/truck fire. He rushed to the scene, but couldn't get close because police wouldn't allow it.

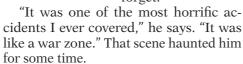
While looking for another way in, Brown met a Region employee he knew who offered to drive him into the scene in the Region truck, which allowed Brown to get the shot he needed.

That photo ran in numerous newspapers and earned Brown Metroland, Halton Regional Police and OCNA awards,

boosting his confidence.

"I was a relative newcomer, all of a sudden I had credentials, and ľm realizing I am a professional news photographer."

The June 1995 bus/gravel truck collision on Hwy. 7 that claimed the lives of five people is another assignment that Brown won't ever forget.



TED BROWN

Fortunately not every assignment was tragic.

Brown loved shooting events like the Georgetown Highland Games, fall fairs and he says he would "really get pumped" covering elections.

He also enjoyed writing local theatre reviews and shooting and laying out photo features for his Ted Bits page that ran in the 1980s.

The highlights of his career were two Keeping the Memory Alive tours of First and Second World War Canadian battlefields in Europe—the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands in 2005 and the 90th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge in 2007.

Photos and stories he filed on location from Europe ran in The Indepen*dent* and other community papers.

See BROWN, pg. 10

27 Quick and Easy Fix Ups to **Sell Your Home Fast and** for Top Dollar

Georgetown - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you'll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's a way to help you to be as prepared as possible.

To assist homesellers, a new industry report has just been released called "27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar." It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today's tough, aggressive marketplace.

Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your

situation, and make the best profit possible. In this report you'll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a commonsense approach, you will get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

Order your free report today. To order a FREE Special Report, visit www.freehaltonhillshomeinfo.com/27tips.asp or to hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-800-596-4198 and enter 1023. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW.

This report is courtesy of Shelly Butt, Sales Representative Ipro Realty Ltd., Brokerage. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright @ 2014



Did you know that Spousal RRSPs are an effective way to split your taxable income between you and your spouse?

By spreading the taxable income between the two of you, you may end up in a lower tax bracket, which can considerably reduce the amount of income tax your family pays.

For more information about Spousal RRSPs, contact our office.



the Riding Financial team

905-877-4579

Email: doug.riding@ipcsecurities.com Web: www.ridingteam.ca



RRSP DEADLINE IS MARCH 3, 2014