

Celebrate responsibly

It's been said time and time again — in this very space, in fact. Drinking and driving don't mix.

How is it that some people (and you likely know at least one or two of them) don't get the message? We see it everywhere.

Perhaps more importantly, why don't you get the message? Party hosts, or rather poor party hosts, share in the blame when a guest indulges and then gets behind the wheel.

In an effort to prevent these dangers from taking to our streets, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario urges hosts to take more responsibility for the problem, instead of ignoring it.

Suggestions for your New Year's party, or any other occasion when alcohol is served, include:

- have the phone number for a taxi handy, or even programmed into your phone;
- keep the home addresses and phone numbers of all your guests at the ready, so you may give them to the taxi driver;
- have cab fare for anyone who needs it;
- provide a selection of non-alcoholic drinks;
- have at least one designated driver who can take people home;
- ensure additional overnight parking is available, and direct guests to those spots, or—better yet— recommend guests leave their vehicle at home;
- have extra tooth brushes, blankets, etc. around;
- Serve snack foods such as cheeses, fruit and sandwiches;
- limit your own drinking, or don't drink at all, so you can be aware and alert to handle any issues that arise.

As we head into the final stretch of the year, and New Year's celebrations, think of the consequences your choices have on others. And please, be a good host by taking an active interest in preventing anyone from endangering others.

From all of us at the *Independent and Free Press*, have a safe and happy holiday season.

The Independent & Free Press

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THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

905-873-0301

Publisher: Dana Robbins

General manager: Steve Foreman
(sforeman@theifp.ca, 905-234-1011)

Retail advertising manager: Cindi Campbell
(ccampbell@theifp.ca, 905-234-1012)

Managing editor: Chris Vernon
(cvernon@metroland.com, 905-234-1020)

Distribution manager: Nancy Geissler
(ngeissler@theifp.ca, 905-234-1019)

Classifieds/Real Estate

Kristie Pells
(realestate@theifp.ca, 905-234-1016)

Advertising Sales

Jenny Hawkins
(jhwkins@theifp.ca, 905-234-1014)

Jennifer Spencer
(jspencer@theifp.ca, 905-234-1013)

Rachael Scutt
(rscutt@theifp.ca, 905-234-1015)

Kelli Kosonic
(kkosonic@theifp.ca, 905-234-1018)

Classified Call Centre

1-800-263-6480, Fax 1-866-299-1499
classifieds@metroland.com

Accounting: 1-866-773-6575

Editorial

Cynthia Gamble: News editor
(cgamble@theifp.ca, 905-234-1021)

Eamonn Maher: Staff writer/photographer
(emaher@theifp.ca, 905-234-1023)

Kathryn Boyle: Staff writer/photographer
(kboyle@theifp.ca, 905-234-1022)

Composing

Shelli Harrison (sharrison@theifp.ca 905-234-1017)

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Letters to the editor

Where's the change we voted for?

Canadians voted for change. They obviously will not get it.

This idea of not knowing where food comes from only benefits large corporations. You and I, as consumers do not matter to these people, just as long as you keep buying their products.

Who cares if you eat polluted fish, who cares if you eat food grown in human waste?

Nobody needs to know this, do they? It might disrupt buying habits.

John Shadbolt,
Canadian Action Party
Acton

Pizza appreciation

Earlier this month, volunteer members of the St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog Programme gathered for a Christmas

function at Boston Pizza in Georgetown.

We enjoyed good food, excellent service, and thanks to a gift card previously donated to us by Boston Pizza, we were able to have complimentary appetizers.

Great job Boston Pizza and our sincere thanks for your generosity.

SJATD volunteers,
Milton-Halton Hills

OMG, thanks for the support

Re: Halton OMG (Oh Mighty Girls) thank the community for donations.

Thank you to our friends and family and generous residents of Georgetown for your donations to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada in 2015.

Recently, Leslie and I travelled to San Francisco to successfully run in the Nike Half Marathon on Oct. 18.

This was our first half marathon race. In addition to completing the race we also raised \$6,072.72 for the Leuke-

mia and Lymphoma Society of Canada through various fundraisers during the year. We were one of 44 Canadian participants.

We want to thank the local businesses: Latitude Food & Drink, Swiss Electric Ltd., Walmart Georgetown for your generous donations. We also want to thank Gerry and his staff of Ross Physiotherapy, and Dennis and the staff of Nike Halton Hills Premium Outlet Mall for your additional encouragement and personal learning about the sport of running.

You were all instrumental in us successfully running our first half marathon race injury free.

We will always have great memories of this event, but the best part of this challenge is the money we raised stayed in Canada to benefit those suffering with leukemia and lymphoma.

We also personally would like to thank the two women customers who initially inspired us to take on this challenge by telling us about this race, and saying, "You can do it!"

Leslie Taylor and Lynn Wepf,
Georgetown