

the HERALD

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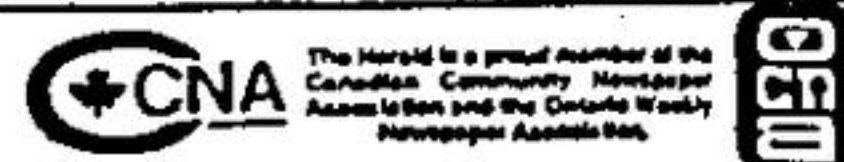
EDITORIAL— COLIN GIBSON
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A Canadian tragedy

An issue that had been conveniently-or possibly purposely-hidden from view for far too long in Canadian society, came tragically to the fore on December 6, 1989.

On that tragic day, 14 young women had their lives snuffed out at the University of Montreal by a gunman whose manifest hatred of women led to the senseless slaughter.

This wanton act sent shock waves through every level of Canadian society and brutally epitomized what had previously been only whispered about-male violence towards females.

December 6 has now been officially sanctioned by Parliament as a National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against women.

The issue concerns our society as a whole and must be dealt with in an open-even confrontational-manner.

Violence against women, in any shape or form, cannot be condoned.

Women have the right to feel safe and secure in their homes, their workplaces and in their communities.

It is truly unfortunate that it took a tragedy to bring forward something that should have, and could have, been recognized and rectified, ages ago.



Community Forum

Sunday shopping for or against?



BRENDA VANDERLEEST, ACTON: During the Christmas season it's good to have the stores open. I'd support Sunday shopping all year as long as employees have the choice whether to work or not.



DOUG LIVINGSTON, GEORGETOWN: The merchants want it but I think it will only be beneficial for the big malls. The guys who really need the business, the small businessman, won't benefit from it. I also think employees should have a day off.



RHONDA CREIGHTON, NORVAL: It doesn't matter to me. I hate shopping and probably won't shop on Sunday if the stores are open.



JULIE HATCLIFFE, GEORGETOWN: In principal, I agree with having a common pause day. But I think if they're going to open the stores on Sundays in December, they should allow them to open all year long.

People's Forum

Chamber defends its actions

To the Editor:

The election is now over and it is hoped that any controversy will die down and the people elected get down to business dealing with the serious issues that affect our community.

Allegations of impropriety were made everywhere and the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce did not escape these verbal assaults. It was alleged that our Meet the Candidates were biased against candidates and at the Georgetown event a question was asked from a member of the audience to Ward 3 candidates if they felt that this was true. It should be noted that all six candidates felt that the evenings were fair for everyone, some felt that the length of time allocated for the speeches was too short.

The history of the Meet the Candidates goes back over 20 years with the Acton Chamber of Commerce running an evening in Acton and the Georgetown Jaycees running the evening in Georgetown. These evenings have been run for elections at all levels of government. This year due to the number of community ratepayer groups more interest was shown by them in staging their own events and this led to conflicts in selection of dates and venues.

The Chamber made the decision to include ALL CANDIDATES for all positions where there was a race. In all 31 of the 32 candidates attended the two meetings that we sponsored. This in itself shows that the candidates themselves thought that the events were worthwhile to participate in. Many of the candidates also expressed their appreciation to the Chamber for running the events so fairly and impartially. Combined attendance for both nights was over 500 people.

Compare our response to other groups who operated these nights, one meeting had a limited attendance by candidates and those that did not attend were publicly ridiculed by placing pumpkins on the table, another group chose not to invite certain incumbents to participate and another evening ended up with a verbal joust between two candidates. Even with these problems no letters to the papers or questions asked about the im-

partiality of the host groups.

The Chamber's direct costs in doing these events was about \$750.00. This figure does not include the costs of sending three separate mailings to the candidates nor the time of our manager and staff to coordinate the events.

The purpose of this letter is to thank all the candidates who par-

ticipated and secondly to let the public know that the business community is committed to this Town and will continue to operate Meet the Candidates Nights for all elections in a fair and responsible manner.

Yours truly,
David Page,
President.

Bazaar a success

Dear Editor:

The Georgetown Parent-Child Centre would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved with the success of our November 2 bazaar.

To those local merchants who very generously donated to our lunch counter and raffle table, a heartfelt thank you. With your gifts, we were able to make over \$1100.00 this year.

To those members who stitched or stirred for our bake and craft

tables, manned tables, served chile, or just attended, your efforts are appreciated.

Special thanks to our fundraising committee and Derek Todd (our favorite clown). See you at our next major fundraiser - a Georgetown Little Theatre benefit performance, to be held on January 23, 1992!

Sincerely yours,
Lisa Hunziger
Fundraising.

Thanks from P.O.W.E.R.

To the Editor,

P.O.W.E.R. would like to thank all the local businesses who gave their support to our recent door to door campaign. This support was given through messages on the out door signs in Acton and Georgetown.

Many thanks to the following: Tuitman's Garden Centre, Acton I.G.A., Lakeview Carpets, Mr. J. Hurst, Target Food Stores, Outdoor Power Equipment, G.D.H.S., Autohaus Car Dealer-

ship, Town of Halton Hills - Gordon Alcott Acrean, and Bellamys.

Please support these businesses in your community. P.O.W.E.R. also has its A.G.M. coming up on Wednesday, December 4, 8 p.m. at the G.D.H.S. Guest speaker is Lois Gibbs of the infamous Love Canal in New York State. The draw for the three Robert Bateman prints will also take place at the A.G.M.

With thanks,
Linda Parker.

Write us a letter!

The Herald wants to hear from you. If you have an opinion you want to express or a comment to make, send us a letter or drop by the office. Our address is 45 Guelph Street, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 3Z6.

All letters must be signed. Please include your address and telephone number for verification.