



Georgetown District High School Grade 11 students (from left) Holly Engstrom, Meghan de Chastelain and Grant Bradshaw are among the group who are working on creating a memorial in the school, in honour of the 21 students and one teacher who died during the two World Wars and the Korean conflict. The two plaques will be surrounded with photos and bios of the 22 soldiers who lost their lives. The students are in the process of contacting families of the war dead to acquire info and photos for the display.

Photo by Ted Brown

Remembrance project needs public's help Georgetown High students attempting to pay tribute to fallen students, staff

By **TED BROWN**
Staff Writer

During the 125 years of history behind Georgetown District High School (originally Georgetown High School), 21 students and one teacher marched off to war, never to return.

The 22 who gave their lives fought in the Great War (First World War), the Second World War, and the Korean conflict.

Years ago, their names were inscribed on two large honour roll plaques, to be displayed in the school as a reminder of the sacrifice these soldiers gave. But, as time went by, the plaques were moved to other locations, and not displayed prominently.

With the recent renovations at GDHS wrapping up, it was decided the time had come to properly honour those who had died, by displaying the original plaques on a prominent wall, opposite the main office.

GDHS teacher Randall Keast, International Baccalaureate program co-ordinator, has been working with a group of Grade 11 students as they are trying to research and eventually produce a biography and photo of each of the 22 who never returned.

When completed, the photos/bios will be hung on the wall with the two

honour rolls.

It has been a daunting job for some of the students, as locating family members from the Great War can be a challenge. In addition, other students have managed to locate family members, but the families were less than receptive to their requests.

Students have exhausted the databases at the National Archives of Canada, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and a number of other references, including local newspaper microfilm files.

But there comes a time when they require a photo and a more personal interview with the family members.

Students in the group are in the process of collecting the photos and data to be converted to stories, and eventually plaque-mounted for display.

But time is running out— they hope to have the display finished for Remembrance Day, the day when the entire staff and student body will pass by the display, and in doing so, honour those who died.

If you have any info about any of those whose names are inscribed on the GDHS honour roll, contact teacher Randall Keast, at GDHS at 905-877-6966. or email at keastr@hdsb.ca.

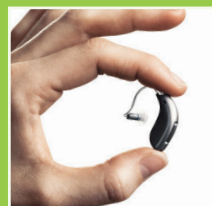
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