

## Our Readers Write

### Soccer coach was a true inspiration We all have a role to play in mental health, says reader

When I was in Vancouver last week, I was devastated to learn about the loss of Eustace Collins.

He coached our two sons and thousands of other lucky boys and girls. What a fine man he was....the warmest and most dedicated coach that the youth of Georgetown have ever seen....and we have a lot of good ones!

We cannot let Eustace's contribution to Georgetown go unmarked. If you are interested in purchasing a bench and planting a tree in Cedarvale Park for him, please contact me.

I'd also like to investigate the possibility of getting a soccer field named in his honour.

It's the least we can do for this

lovely man, who helped thousands of our young people be the best people that they could be.

*Lois Fraser,  
Halton Hills*

### Community unity was 'wow'

Huge thank you to the folks that with smile, mountain of generosity, and a rake, did the work that would have taken me a year of Sundays to do.

WOW... what a program. Community Unity is greatly appreciated.

*Edward Cachia  
Georgetown*

May 5 -11 is Mental Health Week. It is important to note that mental health affects us all.

Although one in five of us will experience a mental illness in our lifetime, we are all impacted when our friends and families suffer.

When someone has a broken leg you don't blame him or her for not being able to run, right? So why blame people with a mental health issue for their problems?

If 1,200,000 children had cancer but only 1 in 4 received medical treatment, would this be acceptable?

We can do better than this.

We can put an end to the stigma by opening our eyes and arms to the people in our life and those currently suffering with a mental illness. Remember that these conditions are not permanent or forever. Recovery happens

when these individuals feel supported by community, police and our court system.

We've heard Guelph Police Chief Bryan Larkin advocate for a mental health court. And we continue to be inspired by others who give each day and pay it forward. All that one needs to do is take a look at the Spotted in Guelph or Uoguelph Compliments Facebook pages.

To honour Mental Health Week, encourage those struggling to keep going; thank someone you know who has recovered; and show appreciation for your friends, family, the great teachers, social workers, police officers, and psychiatrists who inspire our youth and keep this community together.

*Denis Farr,  
Guelph*

From our readers

### PICTURE THIS

Georgetown CFUW Club presented a plaque to Susan Loughheed of Royal LePage Realty to thank her for her support of the Fall Fashion Shows that the club has sponsored to raise money for local scholarships. For three years in a row, Loughheed has donated a certificate for a cruise for two that has been the grand prize at the show.

Got a photo you want to share?  
Email: [cgamble@theifp.ca](mailto:cgamble@theifp.ca).



### Helping the planet doesn't cost that much

Great news in the latest United Nations climate change report (April 14). It turns out that leaving our kids and grandkids a livable planet doesn't have to cost the Earth economically.

But there's a caveat: the UN climate panel says we need to start now with a significant roll-out of green energy solutions, replacing the polluting fossil fuels that drive global warming. The sooner we act, the less costly negative climate consequences will be. And the bonus is priceless - while renewables will allow Earth's climate to stabilize, we will avoid the worst of climate disruptions pre-

dicted to come our way by stubbornly sticking to fossil fuel-based business as usual.

What role will Canada play in the transformation to a low carbon economy? Will we keep our heads in the sand and continue to deny the climate change reality? Or, will we show the world we truly care about a healthy, stable future for this great planet (and all life on it) by rapidly shifting to green energy alternatives?

If you're not sure how to answer, ask your kids!

*Liz Armstrong,  
Erin*

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