

EDITORIAL

Vandalism: the crime that hurts us all

The letter below is an unbelievable example of how damaging vandalism can be.

A single mom tried to raise the spirits of her three children by buying a plastic Santa decoration.

Something as simple as a plastic Santa face can mean everything to people struggling through our current economic problems.

Yet the decoration was stolen.

Throughout the holiday season petty vandalism ruins the festivities for everyone.

People who take the time to raise spirits by decorating their homes with lights are the people who suffer the most from this most ridiculous crime.

Every year the Halton Regional Police process hundreds of reports about stolen lights or smashed lights from peoples homes. As well as the smashed lights, ornaments, are stolen, trees are broken and entire strings of lights often disappear.

Thousands of dollars worth of property is destroyed every year at this time by people who obviously don't care about their fellow man. Not much Christmas giving on the part of the vandals

It is a sad situation when people have nothing better to do than ruin some other persons Christmas spirit.

Obviously we can't expect the person to commit vandalism to find out about their victims...their mind does not have the capacity to care about their victims.

While child abuse, assaults and murders are all crimes that disturb us, for the most part they are crimes that take place in isolation.

Vandalism hurts us all. From increased costs for insurance to the time that a police officer is unavailable to take care of other calls while writing up a vandalism call.

It is also a senseless crime that can ruin the very spirit of good cheer and community that develops every year at this time

Vandalism is a crime that hurts us all.

Thieves steal Christmas spirit

To the Editor

I am a single mom of 3 children (aged 9, 7 & 4). I have moved back to Georgetown to help my father (aged 77) to care for my mother who is dying from lung cancer.

Last week my mom was hospitalized and my children were understandably upset when the ambulance arrived. To try to put some cheer and hope for a Merry Christmas we put up a few decorations outside.

Sometime between Friday night and Saturday morning, someone stole the Santa face.

I hope it made them feel good to take a \$3 Santa, they should have stuck around to see the faces of my three children when we noticed it gone.

I hope that they have a Very Merry Christmas. Oh! and a Happy New Year.

Linda Wintemute
30 McGilvray Cres.
Georgetown

Letters Welcomed

Halton Hills This Week welcomes your letters. Letters must be signed and include your full name and address. Names will be withheld on request.

Halton Hills This Week reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any letters on the basis of factual

errors, punctuation, spelling errors or as a result of space limitations.

Send your letter to:

The Editor
Halton Hills This Week
232 Guelph St., Unit 9
Georgetown, ON
L7G 4B1

Executive members



The Optimist Club of Georgetown recently selected its new executive. Here from left are Don Richardson, Alan Farmer, Bob Christie, John Horning, Peter Welling, Craig Booth, Warren Cridland, Rick Chambers, Tom Gibbs, Shel Lawr and John Fendley.

Photo by Scott Augustus

Readers' writes

Pleased to see interest in core

Dear Editor,

Re: "Downtown remains economically viable", Printed 2 Dec., 1992

I am writing on behalf of R.A.I.D.D. to comment on this article which appeared in last weeks edition of your paper.

We are pleased to see such interest in working to maintain the downtown core. It is an important feature of Georgetown which provides many services to local residents. Indeed, the invited speaker at our annual general meeting this spring was Mr. Stephen Lauer, Ontario Regional Director of Heritage Canada. Mr. Lauer described how his organization can work with local store owners to revitalize traditional downtown cores.

We agree with the BIA in the need for redevelopment of the downtown core to include new residential units and note with interest, the desire of the owners of the Municipal Trust property to redevelop the site to include 34 seniors apartments located above ground floor commercial space. It is this type of mixed-use development which will add to the vitality of the Downtown.

I would like to correct any misconception which your readers might make between the issue of Market Street extension and the

McKenzie-Ferraro proposal for a condominium complex. The need to extend Market Street through to James Street was first recommended to Town council in October, 1981, in the Acton/Georgetown Central Business District Policy and Business Improvement Study.

The matter came before Council again in April, 1990, in the Parking Study, Central Business Districts of Acton and Georgetown.

In both cases, Council of the day endorsed the recommendation. The third time the matter was considered was in 1990, in response to staff report P.D. 90-124, when the Planning Department recommended that Council proceed with the extension. This is not a new issue, dreamed up to impede a condo-

minium proposal. It is a planning step necessary to complete the grid of streets in the Downtown. The very street which will be necessary to support future development Downtown.

Finally, I must point out a misconception about the McKenzie-Ferraro proposal contained in your article. The proposal is for 83 units in four buildings, two with 4 residential stories, one with 5 residential stories and one with 6 residential stories. Each of the four buildings is to have two levels of parking, one below ground and one at ground level. The actual height of these buildings would be 5, 6 and 7 stories.

Sincerely yours,
Ken Thorn
Chair,
R.A.I.D.

Tories recognized "rip-offs"

Dear Editor,

In a pre-election mini-budget, the Federal Tories have to be complimented for at least recognizing one of many rip-offs associated with our Unemployment Insurance system.

How often have we heard that 10-42 is the best lottery in the world. Work (or hang around) a place of employment for 10 weeks, then quit and draw (or win) 42 weeks unemployment payments.

Whether a person is ripping off his employer or the government, it is the working person who is paying the price. If the company goes bankrupt, many jobs are lost. If the company survives, higher taxes have to be paid. There are no winners with incompetence.

The bottom line is - everybody has to work for the country to survive.

Mr. Rod Pinkney
Georgetown

THIS WEEK

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For Pete's Sake



by Roe