

Our Readers Write

Invitation extended to observe Kindergarten programs

Dear editor:

A letter was submitted by Ms. DeeDee Haynes-Ridley (Sunday, December 3) stating that I had commented on the "superiority" of the Junior Kindergarten (JK) programs of the elementary schools over that of the programs available through private nursery schools.

When I was interviewed in September by a reporter from your newspaper, I did not state or insinuate that the

JK program was in any way superior to that of a nursery school program.

In fact, over the past ten years I have been a member of the Halton Association for Young Children, a networking group of E.C.E. teachers, J.K./S.K. teachers, parents, public health personnel and other groups advocating for the quality care and education of the young child in Halton.

We respect and applaud

one another's efforts. We share concerns and ideas and offer workshops/seminars bi-annually to interested groups.

I extend an invitation to Ms. Haynes-Ridley to visit our Kindergartens and perhaps get a more objective view on how we really shared the wonderful vocation of educating and caring for the young child,

Teresa Simons
Junior Kindergarten teacher

Constituent questions MP's pensions

The following letter to Halton Peel MP Julian Reed was filed with this newspaper for publication.

Dear Mr. Reed:

I'm sorry I could not attend your Town Hall meeting. I was working that day, as I do on many weekends just to make ends meet. I have to provide for

my family and put away some money for my retirement.

Herb Garbutt summarized that meeting eloquently in his article for *The Independent Free Press* (Nov. 29), making me wish that I was there. You stated that you were a MPP for 10 years. Did you also mention that you are now

receiving a provincial pension of \$1385 per month? Add that to your MPP's salary and the untaxed portion of about \$20,000 and what do you get, Mr. Reed? My question, Mr. Reed, is why can't you use that \$1385 to put into your own RRSP and opt out of the lucrative federal plan?

R.J. Semerko

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