

# The Independent & Free Press

Ken Nugent, Publisher

Steve Foreman, Advertising/Production Manager

Lorne Drury, Editor-in-Chief

John McGhie, Managing Editor

Carol Young, Business Manager

Dave Coleman, Director of Distribution

Nancy Geissler, Circulation Manager

News Editor: Cynthia Gamble

Staff Writers: Lisa Tallyn, Herb Garbutt

Photography: Ted Brown

Advertising Sales: Dianne Fascinato, Sharon Pinkney, Pat Tosh

Cindi Dermo, TerryLynn Guest, Jeanette Cox, Mary O'Brien

Classified Manager: Carol Hall

Accounting: Pat Kentner, Rose Marie Gauthier

Production: Mary Lou Foreman, Kevin Powell, Shelli Harrison, Dolores Black, Debbie MacDougall

The Independent & Free Press is published every Wednesday and Sunday at 211 Armstrong Ave. Georgetown Ont., L7G 4X5. It is one of the newspapers published by Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd., which includes: Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Alliston Herald/Courier, Barry's Bay This Week, Barrie Advance, Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Shopping News, Burlington Post, City Parent, Collingwood/Wasaga Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Guardian, Flamborough Post, Georgetown Independent/Action Free Press, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, Midland/Penetanguishene Mirror, Milton Canadian Champion, Milton Shopping News, Mississauga News, Newmarket/Aurora Era-Banner, Northumberland News, North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Shopping News, Orillia Today, Oshawa/Whitby/Clarington This Week, Peterborough This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Stouffville/Uxbridge Tribune, Today's Seniors, City of York Guardian.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the acceptable rate.

In the event of typographical error advertising goods or services at wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell which may be withdrawn at any time.

Editorial and advertising content of The Independent & Free Press is protected by copyright. Unauthorized use is prohibited. Price: Store copies 50¢ each; Subscriptions \$26.00 per year by carrier; \$92.50 per year by mail in Canada; \$130.00 per year in all other countries. Plus G.S.T.

Second Class Mail Registration Number 6869. The Independent & Free Press is a member of The Canadian Community Newspaper Association and The Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

Mailing Address: 211 ARMSTRONG AVE. GEORGETOWN, ONT. L7G 4X5  
Telephone: 905-873-0301 Fax: 905-873-0398  
e-mail: independent.freepress@aztec-net.com



## 'Village' failed young Randolph

There is a wonderful African proverb that says it takes a village to raise a child. But unfortunately in the case of seven-year-old Randolph Dooley that village failed him.

Randolph died late last month following severe, prolonged physical abuse. His step-mom is now in jail facing a second-degree murder charge.

This Toronto tyke, with large sunken eyes, only knew pain in his last months of life. His frail body was covered with scars, his ribs fractured and liver lacerated. This was child abuse at its very worst and sickened even the toughest of police officers.

As we sit in our comfortable homes in Halton Hills shaking our heads in both sadness and disgust as to what befell young Randolph, we must never forget that cases of child abuse happen all the time—everywhere.

Whether it is through neglect, sexual, physical or verbal abuse, there are youngsters in Halton suffering the unimaginable. Just ask the folks who work for agencies which deal directly with children in need. They know child abuse isn't just a big city crime.

What is especially tragic about Randolph's case is that no one came to the aid of this youngster. Where were his immediate relatives, neighbors, teachers and friends? Surely someone must have noticed the suffering this poor child endured. Is it possible that all members of Randolph's "village" turned its back on him? How could they?

All children deserve to be raised in a kind and caring society. They need to know that society will not abandon them in time of crisis. Randolph's death should serve as a lesson to all of us.

Turn your neighborhoods into those "villages" and provide our children— all of them— with a loving and nurturing environment. And if you suspect abuse, for God's sake, speak up.

One more Randolph is one too many.



## Extra-curriculars are important

Dear editor,

There has been a lot of media attention surrounding the teachers' strike.

A few weeks ago I read a letter to the editor written by a student from Robert Little School. In this letter there was mention of several activities being canceled due to the problems between the government and the teachers. I also read about the cancellation of the cross-country running teams.

I think it is extremely unfortunate that the children in these schools are missing out on one of the most enjoyable and memorable parts of their academic lives. I was fortunate to have been a member of several different teams throughout my time in school, and these opportunities provided me with some of my fondest memories and closest friends.

I would like to commend the teachers and staff at St. Joseph's School in Acton. None of the extra-curricular activities or functions have been canceled at this school. The fact that these individuals would put aside the arguments that they have with the government in favor of doing what is in the best interests of the students in their school is more commendable, it illustrates the commitment that they have to the children.

Like many other parents, I am not sure what the issues are, but I am much more willing to support the teachers and staff at St. Joseph's because they have demonstrated to me that they are willing to put my children's interests first. Well done.

Linda Robson  
Acton

## Letter of the day

### Support increases for Fox run

Dear editor,

My committee and I would like to congratulate and thank all the participants who supported the Terry Fox Run in Georgetown. It was great to see a lot of familiar faces and some new ones. We had less participants, but we did increase our revenue for cancer research.

We would like to thank the Royal Canadian Legion, Georgetown Branch for their financial donation to the Terry Fox Run Committee in Georgetown. Special thanks to the Halton Regional Police Auxiliary Officers who did the marshalling for our run and to the Halton Hills Fire Department who supplied the rehab unit for our refreshment centre.

We would like to thank our generous donators, too numerous to mention individually, that donated refreshments, coupons, and various other items for our run. Thanks to the businesses that advertised our run on their marquees. Thanks to Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson, Councillors John Day and Bob Inglis for their support, and we were happy to have our Terry Fox team member, Lee Erskine help start our run. Special thanks to The Independent & Free Press for all their coverage.

To all of the businesses who provided space for pledge sheets and posters, to all individuals that sponsored participants and to all businesses that were aforementioned, I would like to personally thank each and every one of you. It shows what working together as a community can accomplish. Last year we raised \$6,000, this year we raised over \$8,000.

I would like to thank my committee and the volunteers that helped on the day of the run. All of you are very special people. My committee and I are looking forward to seeing our current participants and lots of new faces at next year's run on Sunday, September 19, 1999.

Bonnie Covert,  
Organizer, Terry Fox Run,  
Georgetown

More letters pages 7, 8

## Our Readers Write

The Independent & Free Press welcomes letters to the editor from our readers. All letters must be signed and include an address and a daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for content or length and can be mailed, delivered to our office address at 211 Armstrong Ave., Georgetown, Ont., L7G 4X5, faxed to us at (905) 873-0398 or e-mailed to: independent.freepress@aztec-net.com