

Scouts and guides on patrol Nov. 4 for annual food drive

Georgetown and Acton residents are encouraged to set a bag of food on their front step next Saturday (Nov. 4) morning for annual food drives in both communities.

Boy scouts and girl guides will be going door to door in Georgetown to pick up the food for the Georgetown Bread Basket Food Bank between 9

a.m. and 3 p.m. In Acton, Limehouse and Acton scouts, guides and Christian Reformed Church cadets will be collecting food for Acton Foodshare.

Area residents are asked to have their donation out in a bag or box. If there is no food on the step the youths will ring the doorbell.

Darlene Moss, George-

town's food drive co-ordinator, said they are hoping to collect 22,000 lbs. of food for the Georgetown Bread Basket Food Bank, the same amount they did last year.

Moss said the youths will also have donation envelopes for those who would rather make a cash donation. A receipt will be mailed by the food bank.

"The kids get so excited," said Moss. "By 1 p.m. the food is stacked up everywhere."

Items most needed are canned juices, drinking boxes, peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, breakfast cereals, pasta, spaghetti sauce, tuna, canned fruits and vegetables, canned meat, stews, soups, baby food, coffee, tea, sugar and salt.

Volunteers are needed in Georgetown to help weigh, sort and box the food at St. Andrew's Church throughout the day. Volunteer drivers are also needed. Anyone interested should call 877-9976 or the Georgetown Bread Basket at 873-3368.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

Letters to the editor... letters to the editor... letters to the editor

Literacy test in students' best interest

Dear editor,

I am writing this letter in response to Chantal Whitter's letter in the October 13 edition of The Independent & Free Press. In it she made several references to the Mike Harris government, the increase in teacher workloads as well as the general consensus that the literacy test was a waste of time.

Ms. Whitter stated that a literacy test was generally a bad idea and even though it didn't count for anything it still stressed her out. I guess she felt filling out a literacy test that would ultimately benefit her was a bad idea. Maybe she doesn't want the extra help that is being offered through this test but with the use of sentences like "my grade was the guinea pigs," maybe she should reconsider.

This point should also be stressed to all the protesters who stood outside the school waving their ridiculous signs. The fact that they spelled guinea pig and education

wrong suggests that they take the test and get the help they require so they don't get stuck reading and writing at a Grade 3 level for the rest of their lives.

Also, Ms. Whitter suggested the government should be putting more money into Grade 3 testing because you can't teach anyone in Grade 10 (and presumably over) because it's too late. This is by far the most grossly generalized statement of this letter.

If this is true then, theoretically speaking, I must have learned everything I need to know about my OAC

history class back in Grade 10. If Ms. Whitter's statement is true, if it is not possible for her to learn anything more past her grade then I truly feel sorry for her.

I believe it would be in the best interests of all the Grade 10 students to fill out this literacy test. It can do nothing but help each and every one of them.

Nick Poirier,
OAC student, Georgetown
District High School

Heritage costs concern resident

Dear editor,

The council for the Town of Halton Hills has been asked by Heritage Halton Hills to designate the hamlet of Glen Williams a heritage district under a section of the Heritage Act of the Province of Ontario.

The Heritage Act of the Province of Ontario is very specific in its definition of what a homeowner may or may not do to or with their property once this designation is in place.

The cost of maintaining a property in heritage condition under the Heritage Act can be extremely expensive. If a homeowner cannot afford to repair their property in the way The Heritage Act specifies, then the Town of Halton Hills can order the work be done to preserve the integrity of the

heritage district and add it to the local tax bill of the property owner. My main concern is the added cost to maintain my property under this designation.

So far no council member has supported my request to help the homeowner and now the heritage district designation is being combined/buried under the Glen Williams Secondary Plan revision.

The literature from the Province of Ontario says, "Having your property designated under a heritage district does not mean that your property will appreciate in value."

Therefore, the homeowner should not expect to receive a bonus when they sell their property.

Michael James,
Georgetown

Limehouse Slo-Pitch League thanks supporters for great year

Dear editor,

The summer of 2000 marked the 20th year of operation for the Limehouse Men's Slo-Pitch League (formerly The Interplant Slo-Pitch League). In recent years the league has held a charity tournament to raise monies for a local organization. This year the Parent/Child Resource Centre of Georgetown received \$400 towards its operation.

The league would like to thank Bill Van Ryn and Ted Weatherall for donations on behalf of their teams and also want to congratulate the team reps for selling

50/50 draw tickets.

The tournament was won by Bill Van Ryn's Express and the consolation went to The Stones. Our home run hitting contest was won by Paul Larocque and the draw was won by the Brewers Ball Team.

Special thanks go to the Glen Williams Peewee Boys for their work during the tournament.

Thanks to all the executive: president Chris Stiles, Chris O'Reilly and Dave Ward.

Dave Ward,
Georgetown

Teachers give editorial failing grade

Dear editor,

Having read your editorial, "Testing, testing..." (Oct. 13), we are amazed that you have the nerve to denigrate a letter written by a Grade 10 student because "It was filled with mistakes in grammar, spelling and punctuation."

Fortunately, you never had to pass a literacy test or you would still be in high school earning your graduation diploma! Your editorial contains glaring examples of poor sentence structure, faulty punctuation, inaccurate word selection, incorrect pronoun usage, inconsistent style and vague innuendoes.

The paragraph in which you state that you'll "continue to believe teachers at GDHS are above that sort of petty behaviour (inciting students to protest) until you are convinced otherwise" accomplishes your real purpose. You have indeed articulated the suggestion that "students were prodded into this action by teachers." Teachers have variously been called lazy, childish and greedy in your publication; now we are also duplicitous and petty.

We, as teachers, are convinced that you, through your many abusive editorials, intentionally prod the general public to question, resent and criticize the teaching profession. Our hope is that the reforms in education, including the Grade 10 literacy test, will produce writers with both a firm grasp of the basics of grammar and inquiring minds which will look at all sides of an issue.

Enclosed is your evaluation on the "editorial literacy test".

Karen Sherlock and
Lynda Rodgers,
Georgetown

(Editor's note: We studied your evaluation of our editorial and found your grading highly subjective as well as not allowing for the basics of newspaper editorial writing.

However, your letter raises questions of your comprehension. We wrote we didn't believe GDHS teacher's prodded students into the protest yet somehow you believe we "articulated the suggestion" they did.)

Gerry Inglis was coach of Hardy Cup title team

Dear editor,

It was with great pride that I read your original Millennium Moment and now your recent A Place To Be telling the story of Georgetown's Hardy Cup chase. You brought back a flood of memories of all the exciting times and the countless people who participated in those heady Hardy Cup days.

I wish to correct an error in your coverage.

Gerry Inglis coached our Canadian Intermediate A Canadian

Championship Georgetown Raider Hockey Club.

Gerry is Georgetown's most successful coach as his name is on three OMHA championship trophies and an amazing 11 OHA championship trophies. Gerry is the recipient of the 1982 Georgetown Hockey Heritage Award, a recognition he received prior to his Hardy Cup win.

Ray played his minor hockey in Georgetown and played Jr. B in Brampton. Ray returned to George-

town to captain the powerhouse Norval Industrial League championship teams. Ray coached OMHA team for Georgetown and is a member of the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council.

Sharing a common surname and each with distinguished career, I understand the error. I apologize to both men for not writing sooner to correct this error.

Dave Kentner,
Georgetown