

Editorial

We will never forget

On Sunday, Canadians everywhere should take a moment to remember the men and women who have fought wars to preserve that most precious commodity called freedom.

Today's fast-paced world can make it too easy to forget the human sacrifices made to ensure our right to be free remained intact.

To ask that we spend one day each year remembering those who fought and those who died on the battlefield, in the air or on the seas is certainly not an unreasonable request. It's the least we can do for generations of Canadians who travelled abroad to war—many of them never surviving to make the trip home.

If the events of Sept. 11 don't provide a wake-up call to what can happen when we take our freedom for granted, perhaps nothing will.

Today's enemy is far less identifiable in geographical terms and therefore harder to defeat, but poses no less a threat to our freedom. In 2001 Canadians have again answered the call to military action to protect us from those who would threaten our way of life.

Just as we should support the efforts of today's soldiers, we must never forget those who went into battle long before many Canadians were even born.

We would encourage all residents to show their respect for our veterans not just on Sunday, but anytime they should encounter them.

By wearing a poppy, attending a service or simply offering a heartfelt thank you to a veteran, we can spread the message we have not forgotten and never will.



Letters to the editor....

Nurses missed point of presentation

Dear editor,

It is amazing how a simple presentation to town council regarding the William Osler Health Centre's

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited.

Mail or drop off

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attempts to remedy a problem regarding physician recruitment can end up being a political debate regarding the value of Extended Class Nurses.

On September 26, this paper published a narrative of a presentation that was made to council on what the William Osler Health Centre was doing to attempt to solve the problem of physician shortages in Halton Hills. The presentation dealt specifically with physician recruitment and thus solutions to this problem dealt solely with ways to attract physicians to our community.

This presentation has resulted in two letters to the editor regarding Extended Class (EC) nurses.

I feel these nurses have not fully understood the point of the presentation. If the topic to council was supplying health care to this community, certainly the advantages and disadvantages of Extended Class Nurses would naturally have been discussed. I have worked in settings where EC nurses have been

a part of the health care team and am well versed in their role. Unfortunately, the mechanism of payment for EC Nurses has not been properly clarified by the government in the primary care setting. Thus, their participation in correcting the current primary care physician resource problem in Halton Hills is minimal.

I look forward to a time when they will play a larger role in primary care in concert with a health care team.

Dr. Jeffrey Sutherland,
Site Chief Family Practice
William Osler Health Center,
Georgetown Campus

Reader agrees that Christmas 'celebrations' begin too early

Dear editor,

Re: Do we need Christmas in October, Ted Brown's column Oct. 26.

Bravo! You deserve a lot of credit for telling it like it is. Christmas has, indeed, become an opportunity for the greedy merchandisers to become even

greedier. When I was a child no hint of Christmas (nativity plays, Christmas music, decorations, etc.) appeared until about a week or two before this beautiful Christian festival which celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ; resulting in the true meaning of Christmas filling

our hearts and homes.

Now, as you so rightly pointed out, it is pushed down our throats weeks ahead of time in order to "chase the eternal buck". I find it a very bad reflection on our society and the age in which we live.

Yvonne Sequens, Georgetown

Prayer vigil set for Sunday

Dear editor,

We have completed the first phase of The Gathering community church survey and wish to express our appreciation to those who participated.

As a result of the survey, we have decided to host a candlelight prayer vigil on Sunday, Nov. 11 from 6:30 -7 p.m. at Remembrance Park in Georgetown. This is to answer the overwhelming survey request that we pray for world peace. We invite the community to join us for a time of reflection, prayer and suggestions on how to help our families cope.

We are continuing with the survey in other parts of Georgetown. You can also participate through our Web site at www.thegathering.ca.

If you have any questions, please contact us at The Gathering 905-873-5433.

Rev. Marilyn and Rev. Noel Draper,
Pastors of The Gathering

The Independent & Free Press

Weekend Edition

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The Independent & Free Press is published every Wednesday and Friday at 280 Guelph St., Unit 29, Georgetown Ont., L7G 4B1. It is one of the newspapers published by Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd., which includes: Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Alliston Herald/Courier, Bancroft This Week, 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,

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