

Editorial

# Halton's finest

They are there in times of emergency or when the answer to a simple question is all that is needed. They perform both the most mundane of tasks and ones requiring the greatest amount of courage. They are there to offer a friendly voice to a crying youngster or to provide stern words of common sense to an irrational person.

They are police officers. With this being Police Week 2002 (May 12-18) it is only fitting that we take a moment to thank the men and women of Halton Regional Police Services for the job they do.

Whether it be responding to an accident scene, directing traffic, investigating a serious crime, running a RIDE spot check or testifying in court, the hundreds of officers who are responsible for providing law and order to this region are often under-appreciated.

Police work is not for everyone, but it can be a very rewarding and challenging job. Ironically, the theme of this year's Police Week is Standing Proud: Careers in Policing.

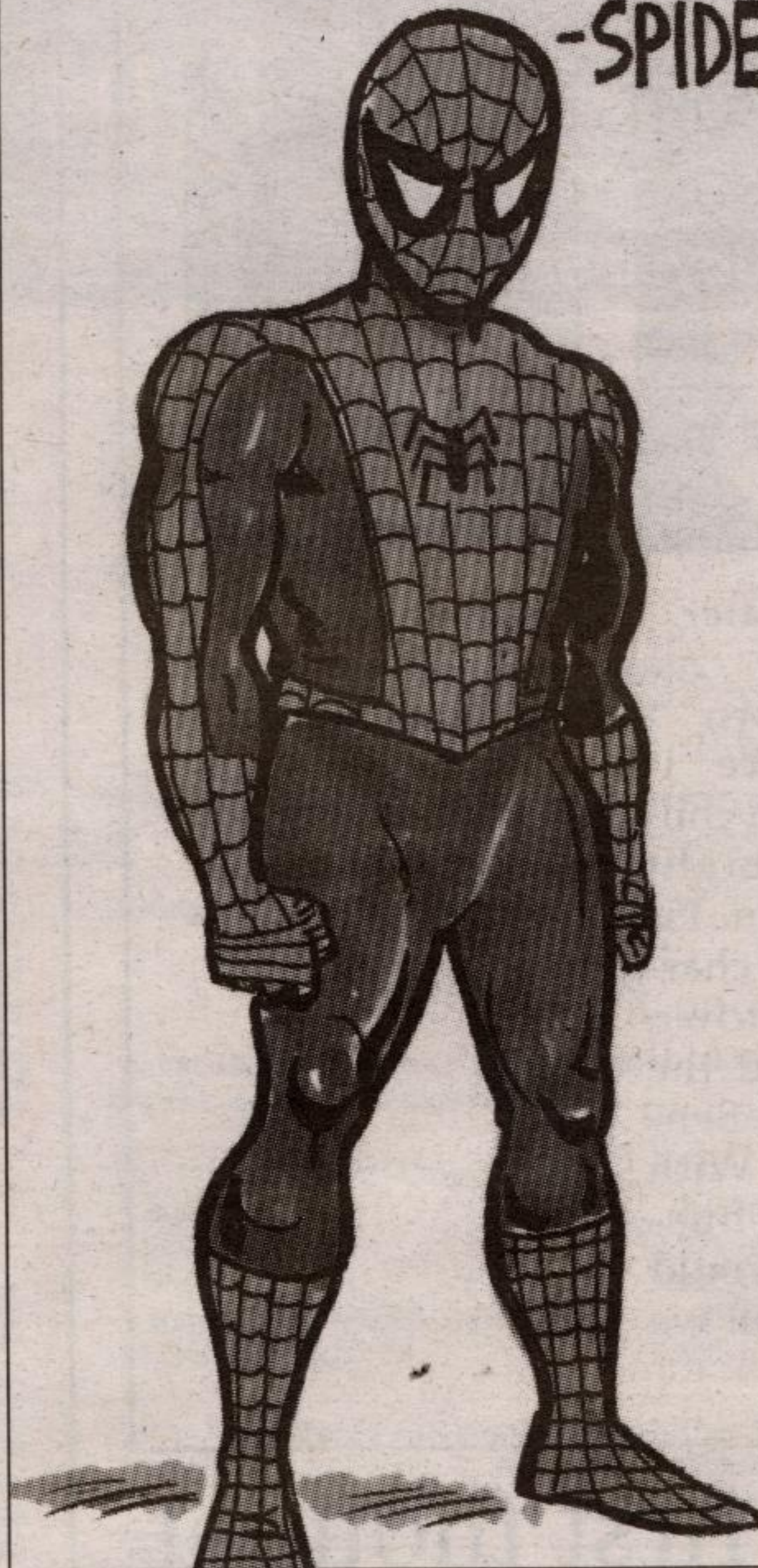
Due to current early retirement opportunities, police services across the province are having difficulty meeting their needs for officers. In short, police services are looking for candidates who are (a) at least 18 years of age (b) a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (c) of good moral character and (d) physically and mentally able to perform the duties of a police officer.

Tonight (Wednesday) at Halton Regional Headquarters, six Halton Police officers will receive an Award of Excellence and 12 will receive Chief's Commendations.

We congratulate them, and all Halton officers, on a job well done.

"WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY."

-SPIDERMAN



"WITH GREAT POWER COMES ZERO ACCOUNTABILITY."

-LIBERALMAN



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## Letters to the editor...

### Greece trip was an experience of a lifetime

Dear editor,

Re: Charlene Humenick, May 1 letter to the editor.

To begin, I would like to clear

#### 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 Unsigned letters will not be published.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**

Independent & Free Press, 280 Guelph St., Unit 29, Georgetown, Ont., L7G 4B1  
Georgetown Market Place

**Fax**

(905) 873-0398

**E-mail**

jmcmhie@independentfreepress.com

**Editorial e-mail addresses**

**John McGhie**

jmcmhie@independentfreepress.com

**Cynthia Gamble**

cgamble@independentfreepress.com

**Lisa Tallyn**

ltallyn@independentfreepress.com

**Herb Garbutt**

hgarbutt@independentfreepress.com

**Ted Brown**

tbrown@independentfreepress.com

up some obvious misunderstandings. Firstly, Halton was one of very few school boards in Ontario to cancel all overseas trips for their students. I suppose this means we have plenty of irresponsible school boards in Ontario.

Secondly, the students' trips were not as much as Mrs. Humenick stated, they were a few hundred dollars less than that, and very reasonable for what we were offered.

Thirdly, the chaperone's trips were not free and I have the utmost respect for those who put themselves on the line for students, like myself, so that we could have such an opportunity.

I feel so much sympathy for the children of families such as those of Mrs. Humenick. If every parent felt and acted as she did we would all grow up never leaving southern Ontario for fear that something would happen and therefore never seeing the diverse

and beautiful world we belong to.

I can readily understand this mother's concern for her daughter's well-being as my parents experienced the same fears. I suppose they took into consideration the number of safe flights there have been from Canada to European countries such as Greece within the last seven months. I know that if my parents had passed up the opportunity for me to travel to Greece because they had been too scared and felt the risk too great I, most likely, would never have another chance like it. Being a student and lacking the responsibilities of an adult, this is a perfect age to travel.

Mrs. Humenick said she would have felt responsible if anything had happened to her daughter. I wonder how she feels now that her daughter has missed the experience of a lifetime.

Carly Griffith,  
Glen Williams

### Youngsters praised for concern

Dear editor,

Recently, while delivering *The Independent & Free Press*, Jennifer and her friend Price noticed a dead bird on the sidewalk near the front of my home.

They came to my door to ask for a bag to dispose of the body since they were very concerned that a small child might be at risk of a health hazard by handling it. The bird was obviously attacked, not diseased, and was disposed of.

Yesterday, these two young ladies were out canvassing for the Heart & Stroke Foundation. Simple things—sure—but taking the time in their concern for others is certainly worthy of praise.

W. Haid, Georgetown

### Wal-Mart staff should be proud

Dear editor,

Congratulations to the Wal-Mart staff for their tireless efforts to raise money for the children of a past employee.

This is a positive story which reinforces "a small town" community despite rapid growth over the past few years. Way to go! You should be very proud of yourselves—big hearts. I applaud you.

Lynne Barclay, Georgetown

# The Independent & Free Press

Mailing Address: 280 Guelph St., Unit 29, Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4B1  
Telephone: (905) 873-0301 Fax: (905) 873-0398  
E-mail: production@independentfreepress.com  
Georgetown Market Place

Ken Nugent, Publisher  
Steve Foreman, Advertising/Production Manager  
John McGhie, Managing Editor  
Lorne Drury, Editor-in-Chief  
Carol Young, Business Manager  
Dave Coleman, Director of Distribution  
Nancy Geissler, Circulation Manager  
Distribution e-mail: distribution@independentfreepress.com

News Editor: Cynthia Gamble  
Staff Writers: Lisa Tallyn, Herb Garbutt  
Photography: Ted Brown  
Advertising Sales:  
Dianne Fascinato, Cindi Kerklain, Alexandra Stabins,  
Christina Marshall, Angela Reynolds, Elaine Petkoff  
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