

Editorial

Terry's dream

This Sunday communities across Canada, including Georgetown and Acton, will stage Terry Fox Runs in honour of Terry Fox and his 1980 Marathon of Hope—a fund-raiser for cancer research.

The following poem was written for Terry by Elizabeth Stokes of Georgetown when he ended his run in Thunder Bay. The poem was put to music and money collected from record sales and royalties were donated to the Cancer Research Foundation.

The lyrics remain timeless and we urge everyone to participate or make a donation at the local runs Sunday.

Song For Terry

It doesn't end in Thunder Bay
only the dawn of another day
the road a little harder, more hills
to climb

It's just a place in the space of time

A place to stop and rest
while you gather strength anew,
remembering all of the smiles
you saw

and the love that follows you.
If faith can move the mountains
then "Love" will bridge the
streams

It's time for us to carry the torch
that burns with all your dreams

You have given us inspiration
and courage to rise above
Cancer can be conquered
The testimony of your love

You've taken the first step Terry
Let us go on from there
With every mile we pledge new
hope,
and carry your dream in our
prayers.

"May the road rise up to meet you"
until your task is done
May God hold you in the palm of
his hand"
Run Terry, Run



Letters to the editor...

Board is mismanaging taxpayers' money

Dear editor,

If Toronto's school board is called "dysfunctional", what name can we call the Halton District

School Board? I have a few in mind, but they would be unprintable.

Last month I was angry about the raises that education director Dusty Papke is receiving. I asked why "(Board chair Ethel) Gardiner is adamant it should be a non-issue that Papke was given a 8.5 per cent boost in base pay...". And Trustee Kelly Amos stating "any controversy about the director's pay is unfounded."

Now in The Independent & Free Press (Aug. 28), Ms. Gardiner said that the board will experience difficulties "if more money isn't poured into public education." Where is this "pouring" to come from? The bottomless well of taxpayers' blood?

Recently the principals had themselves a little party at the Talisman Mountain Resort, spending \$48,000 of our money. Ethel Gardiner could only defend herself by saying, "It was in our budget." Where did that money come from?

There were many empty auditoriums and gymnasiums that they could have used. Heck, I would

have supplied their meals out of my own pocket. This year she wants to spend between \$700,000 and \$800,00 on professional development and has the audacity to say "Frankly, I wish it were double that." Again, who will pay?

The kind folks at Talisman are sending me the menu that this bunch had. I'll bet it was better than I could ever afford.

Now would be a good time to reflect on our need for these types of trustees. Most of them couldn't balance their chequebooks, and we trust them to manage over \$200 million! What qualifications do you need to become a trustee, besides being able to afford a few lawn signs come election time?

We need professionals in money handling. We need people who understand that there is only so much money to go around and work with what they have. How many books could we buy with \$48,000?

Ron Summers,
Georgetown

Retreat cost not excessive

Dear editor,

Re: August 30 editorial: A last resort?

I have a better suggestion for present financial educational troubles. Why not close all publicly funded schools for 10 to 15 years until we figure out why they are so important to our society!

The \$300 cost per person for principals to attend a "team building" conference in a local Ontario resort is very cheap by my standards. The Talisman Mountain Ski Resort is not "swanky"!

I watch what private industry allows for professional development for their employees and it is huge compared to this modest cost for a cheap weekend \$300 retreat. Get with it!

Ken Tazzman, Georgetown

More West Nile warnings needed

Dear editor,

I live on Charles St. and recently a dead crow was found by my neighbour in their backyard. Was this West Nile Virus? We'll never know because the Halton Region Health Department wants you to report the dead bird, then bury it.

With events at night during the fall fairs and other activities at the fairgrounds in the near future, I certainly hope the health department sends out some kind of warning to all living in, and visiting, this area to use proper protection.

Peter Wilson, Georgetown

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.

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