

Editorial

We must never forget

There has been much media coverage of late about the upcoming municipal election. We encourage all residents to exercise their right to vote but, at the same time, remember the men and women who gave us that freedom of choice.

Tuesday is Nov. 11 and while we may don a poppy and offer a donation, our war veterans would also appreciate the priceless gift of remembrance. As time drifts by, there is fear among war vets that younger generations will not understand the reasons why so many brave souls willingly went to war for their country.

Will the children of tomorrow be able to recite *In Flanders Fields* and know that Canadian physician John McCrae penned this moving poem?

Will the children of tomorrow know that thousands of Canadian soldiers lost their lives in the D-Day campaign? Will they know where D-Day took place?

And will the children of tomorrow fully comprehend the atrocities of war and its ever-lasting effects on families. Will they remember?

It is our responsibility to ensure that the sacrifices made by armed forces and navy personnel are never forgotten.

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

Now members of the Canadian Armed Forces are committed to preserving peace in war-torn countries including Afghanistan.

Just as we support the ongoing efforts of today's brave men and women, we must never forget those who went into battle so long ago.

We should show our respect to our veterans not just on Tuesday, but anytime we should encounter them.

By attending an upcoming service or simply offering a heartfelt thanks to a veteran, we can spread the message we have not forgotten and neither will the children of tomorrow.

Freedom



NEASE

Letters to the editor....

Veterans have a right to have private club

Dear editor,

In regards to the article on the smoking bylaw exemptions in your issue of Sept. 24. (Legions fail

in bid for immediate exemptions).

To the councillors who did not approve this motion— shame on you. You said it was a hard-fought battle.

What about our veterans who fought for you, your children and this country? Do you not think that this was a hard-fought battle? And that many lost their lives or are disfigured in one way or another from the terror they went through, for you, your children and our country. Myself, I feel the veterans

are the backbone of our fine country. How dare we choose for them until we have walked a mile in their shoes.

The veterans have more than earned the right to have a private club (they did it the hard way). My dad and his comrades fought for this country.

They earned the right to have freedom of choice, without them we would have no choice.

**Trudie McNiven,
Georgetown**

Church thanked for program help

Dear editor,

We want to express our sincere thanks to the Georgetown Alliance Church for their kindness and generosity for the use of their facilities during our exercise and learning program for people with COPD.

This program is for people suffering from lung disease such as emphysema, asthma, chronic bronchitis and other types of lung

problems.

A special thank you to all of you who put so much time and effort into this worthy cause. I'm sure we will benefit from this great lung program. Thank you from all of us who participated.

**Mary Kavanagh and
other program participants,
Georgetown**

Flag's shape 'appalling'

Dear editor,

As a nation, we have grieved the loss recently of two Canadian peacekeepers. We are well aware that our young men and women around the world try to keep the peace with less-than-adequate equipment and understanding from our government.

This disappoints us as Canadian citizens.

Perhaps under Paul Martin's leadership and influence, this will change.

I was personally saddened recently when I spotted the Canadian flag on a Canadian government office in Georgetown. The location was the post office on Guelph Street. The flag had been lowered to half-mast, in honour of our dead soldiers. The condition of the flag though, was appalling. As if half-mast isn't sad enough, the flag was torn and frayed and only holding on by one loop. Didn't the person who lowered it see that?

Don't government offices, especially, need to fly or national flag with dignity? We should all be disgusted with the lack of respect shown by the Georgetown Post Office for the Canadian flag.

I know I am.

Cindy Woudstra, Milton

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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