

*Editorial*

# Honouring youth

**W**e've all read stories about troublesome youths— that's no eye-opener. However, it's important to remember that this community— like every other one across Ontario— has its fair share of extraordinary young people, those that, through a variety of initiatives, are committed to making Halton Hills a better place to live.

With that in mind, we're proud to once again support Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Awards, co-ordinated by the Ontario Community Newspaper Association (OCNA) and sponsored by the Tembec Paper Group. In conjunction with newspapers across the province, we're looking to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of outstanding youngsters, to showcase them and encourage others to follow their good example.

Please help by nominating a young person aged 6 to 18 years who's involved in community service, has performed acts of heroism, is contributing to the community while living with limitations or is a good kid who shows commitment to making life better for others.

The deadline for nominations is November 30, which should provide plenty of time to adequately illustrate just why a local boy or girl is worthy of distinction. Nomination forms and further information can be obtained from *The Independent & Free Press* office or by calling the OCNA at 905-639-8720.

Nominate a young person today.



## Letters to the editor...

### Rural trash pickup a 'devious tax grab'

Dear editor,

This letter is in reference to the letter in the Oct. 15 edition regarding a survey on trash pickup in the

hamlets of Norval, Stewarttown, etc.

I have lived in Ballinafad for more than 37 years and have watched the taxes and their addendums escalate at a much greater rate than the rate of inflation. I personally do not know one person, myself included, who received this survey on the rural garbage pickup. Just where was the survey circulated?

The initial cost per year for garbage pickup was in the area of \$350 per year but I guarantee this number will quickly move upward. This figure of approximately \$350 per year exceeds my annual cost of disposal by about \$250 per year— quite a difference. Is the town that desperate for extra revenue that it must stoop to the garbage cans of the municipality to find the ways and means of raising the cash?

Perhaps the town should look at ways of streamlining their own operations for more efficient ways

of doing things instead of this devious tax grab.

Henry Burnett, Ballinafad

### Coffee buddies

Dear editor,

After living in Toronto for many years I forgot what it was like to have kindhearted people around me. Recently my husband was in the line at the local (Acton) Tim Hortons drive-thru.

When my husband pulled up to pay for his coffee the cashier told him that the guy in front of him had paid for him. My husband then paid for the car behind him. Not only did it put my husband in a better mood than he usually is, but it restored my faith in human kindness.

So to the mystery coffee buyer, thanks for more than just the coffee, you will never know how grateful I am for the random act of kindness.

Wendy Kelly, Acton

### Hospital staff, doctors praised

Dear editor,

The Wainright family wish to thank the kind, caring staff and doctors at Georgetown Hospital for the support and care they have shown Tom Sr. and our family during his illness and passing.

We also wish to thank Dr. Halparin, whom we feel exemplifies the true meaning of family physician, for the concern he showed towards the patient and the family. He was there for us.

Lillian Wainright, Georgetown

### Smoking bylaw not 'undemocratic'

Dear editor,

To liken the non-smoking bylaw to being undemocratic is just plain silly. To me it is obvious that if smokers and non-smokers could come to an arrangement by now we wouldn't need the law. Tolerance works both ways.

We therefore vote in our representatives to deal with these kinds of situations. I, for one, vote. That is the definition of democracy. If it doesn't go my way I don't cry foul... I work for change. Perhaps some time in an undemocratic society would enlighten those who think otherwise.

It is democracy that allows us to complain about decisions without fear of reprisal. "Your right to smoke stops where my (and my children's) lungs start."

C. McIntosh, 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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