

*Editorial*

# Nothing to cheer about

In trying to decipher the good, the bad and the ugly in the latest provincial Liberal budget the best we can say about Finance Minister Greg Sorbara's effort is...

*How about those Raiders!*

To hear Sorbara spin it, this budget was all about "fiscal discipline" with motherhood issues such as education and health care getting a helping hand. However, the Ontario Hospital Association says the 5.2 per cent hike hospitals will receive isn't enough and the group foresees service and job cuts.

*But, how about those Raiders?*

The Liberals may want to boast about their \$6.2-billion, five-year fix for higher learning, but the Liberals' education plan remains fuzzy with no one knowing what will happen to tuition fees when the current two-year freeze ends in 2006. In the meantime they have followed many of the Rae Report recommendations for improving higher education, but will take a longer period of time to implement them than the former premier suggested.

*Go, Raiders, Go!*

Locally, Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce president Norm Paget said Sorbara missed a chance institute smart tax policies with this budget and "failed to answer the door" when opportunity was knocking.

*Bring the Cup home, Raiders!*

Sorbara also turned a deaf ear to farmers with this budget and admitted he had to push back his promise to balance the books by another year. All in all, it was a budget few could get excited about. But then we may have been thinking of other things.

*Let's go Raiders, let's go!*



## Letters to the editor...

### Vandalizing of veterans' park disgusts reader

Dear editor,

I was disgusted on Wednesday (May 4) as I read the story about the vandalizing of Remembrance

Park in Georgetown.

I have never understood the thrill or satisfaction that people get out of damaging other's property. I find this particular incident very troubling. I have had many meetings with veterans of the Second World War and I am grateful for their sacrifices. I am bothered by what seems to be a lack of appreciation by some of today's youth for the efforts made by the veterans for whom this park was built to commemorate.

Where has our system broken

down in not properly educating our youth on what these common citizens did 60 years ago to allow us to have the many freedoms that we enjoy today?

Perhaps when the perpetrators are caught their punishment should be to experience, for just a brief period of time, what life would have been like had the veterans not made the supreme sacrifice on the land, in the air and on the sea during the dark days of the Second World War.

Greg Siekierko,  
Terra Cotta

### Do you know where your children are?

Dear editor,

Over the last few weekends various acts of vandalism have taken place. Benches and garbage cans were overturned at Remembrance Park and trees were broken off along Argyll Road in Georgetown South.

Although one should not jump

to conclusions, I have noticed kids in the 10 years-old and up range, still roaming the streets, as late as 1 a.m. on weekends.

Do parents not wonder where their children are at that time of night?

Rein Pater,  
Georgetown

### Thank you would have been nice

Dear editor,

Recently a young man was driving along a road during a bitterly cold day when he noticed a little brown head peeping out from under a bush.

He wasn't sure if it was a wild animal in trouble but he stopped his car to take a look and as he got closer discovered it was a small old dog which looked very frightened and was shaking with cold.

The man put the dog in his car, picked all the ice off the animal, wrapped it in an old jumper and turned the heater on full for an hour.

He later took the little dog home where his mother phoned the Humane Society, but being 6 p.m. on a Saturday the office was closed until the following Monday. The family looked after the dog for the weekend and Monday the Humane Society people came and picked up the dog. They phoned later to say they found the owners of this 15-year-old dog.

I know all this because I am the grandmother of the Good Samaritan. Without my grandson, this dog may not have survived and I think it would have been nice if the owners of this dog had put a little thank you in the paper.

My grandson feels very happy that the dog is safely home and feels good he helped save its life.

R. Court, 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.

**Mail or drop off**

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

**Fax**

905-873-0398

**E-mail**

jmcghie@independentfreepress.com

**Editorial e-mail addresses**

John McGhie

jmcghie@independentfreepress.com

Cynthia Gamble

cgamble@independentfreepress.com

Lisa Tallyn

ltallyn@independentfreepress.com

Herb Garbutt

hgarbutt@independentfreepress.com

Ted Brown

tbrown@independentfreepress.com

# The Independent & Free Press

Weekend Edition

Address: 280 Guelph St., Unit 29, Georgetown, Ont. L7G 4B1 (Georgetown Market Place)

Telephone: 905-873-0301 Fax: 905-873-0398

E-mail: production@independentfreepress.com

Web site: www.independentfreepress.com

Ken Nugent, Publisher

Steve Foreman, Advertising Director  
John McGhie, Managing Editor  
Carol Young, Business Manager  
Nancy Geissler, Circulation Manager

Distribution e-mail: distribution@independentfreepress.com

News Editor: Cynthia Gamble  
Staff Writers: Lisa Tallyn, Herb Garbutt  
Photography: Ted Brown  
Retail Advertising Manager: Cindi Campbell  
Advertising Sales: Dianne Fascinato, Jennifer Spencer,  
Adam Spinney, Aaron Chiasson, Brendan Louth  
Real Estate: Sue Spizziri  
Classifieds: Mary Watson, Kristie Pells  
Accounting: Pat Kentner, Rose Marie Gauthier  
Production: Mary Lou Foreman, Kevin Powell,  
Shelli Harrison, Dolores Black, Debbie MacDougall

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, Barrie Advance, Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Shopping News, Burlington Post, City Parent, Collingwood/Wasaga Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Guardian,

Flamborough Post, Georgetown Independent/Acton Free Press, Huronia Business Times, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, Midland/Penetanguishene Mirror, Milton Canadian Champion, Milton Shopping News, Mississauga News, Mississauga Business Times, Napanee Guide, Newmarket/Aurora Era-Banner, Northumberland News, North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Shopping News, Oldtimers Hockey News, Orangeville Banner, Orillia Today, Oshawa-Whitby/Clarington Port Perry This Week, Owen Sound

Tribune, Peterborough This Week, Picton County Guide, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Stouffville/Uxbridge Tribune, Forever Young, City of York Guardian.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the acceptable rate.

In the event of typographical error advertising goods or services at wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell which may be withdrawn at any time. Editorial and advertising content of The Independent & Free Press is protected by copyright. Unauthorized use is prohibited. Price: Store copies 50c each; Subscriptions \$26.00 per year by carrier; \$92.50 per year by mail in Canada; \$130.00 per year in all other countries. Plus G.S.T. Second Class Mail Registration Number 6869. The

Independent & Free Press is a member of The Canadian Community Newspaper Association and The Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

