



COMMENT

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Not bad for 132 years old

Next Thursday Canada turns 132 years old, young as countries go, although given the pace of events in Europe over the past decade there are many much less senior.

But, especially at this time, there may not be many that offer as much promise as Canada. There's a lot to celebrate on July 1.

The economy is performing briskly, the nation has been at peace for two generations and the threat of break-up from Quebec has abated.

The Toronto Maple Leafs look like contenders again.

After wrenching changes through the late 1980s and into the middle of this decade, the country seems to be on track in terms of offering promise for those willing to work hard.

Though many would call it a less benevolent state, at least a path has been chosen and largely adhered to, and the cadence is in tune with much of the rest of the western world.

Canada remains a point of ethical reference for many other nations, in such areas as peacekeeping. The latest evidence of that came when Syria, earlier this week, asked for Canadian peacekeepers on the Golan Heights if and when negotiations with Israel over the strategically vital tract bear fruit.

Most of the squabbles in this country -- and they by and large are that when set in the context of other people's difficulties -- are like family arguments. In a nice family. The kind you want next door.



OUR READERS WRITE

Deborah's Home

Thanks for all the support, everyone

Dear Editor:

The Oakville, Milton and District Real Estate Board held its Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner at Richview Golf and Country Club June 10.

The whole day was a lot of fun and an unqualified success — a culmination of the generous efforts of the real estate board's many dedicated volunteers and organizers.

We at Joyce Scott Non-Profit Homes Inc. (an organization committed to independent living for adults with physical

disabilities) are the very grateful beneficiaries of the tournament and dinner.

We offer our sincere appreciation to participants, organizers, volunteers and other contributors — all of whom helped make this event memorable and enjoyable.

On behalf of Joyce Scott Non-Profit Homes Inc., I thank the Oakville, Milton and District Real Estate Board for its kind support.

Maria Sewell

Joyce Scott Non-Profit Homes Inc.

Calling all students — volunteering with Allendale a great way to grow

Dear Editor:

As you know, Allendale is a long-term-care facility serving those of our citizens who are no longer able to live at home.

Residents of Allendale are able to participate in a wide variety of activities and outings arranged by the hard-working recreation staff and students. They're also able to take advantage of an excellent hair-dressing salon, or receive the services of a restorative therapist.

Residents live in either Martin House or the main building, and may participate in small or large group activities.

However, many of them need assistance in order to get the most enjoyment out of the programs, and that assistance often comes in the form of dedicated volunteers who come in once a week to help.

With the advent of summer, we are seeing a number of our regular volunteers, adults and students

both, who will be leaving us for summer vacations.

At the same time, we have a busy summer schedule, with all kinds of activities planned for residents. In order to meet their needs, we're starting up the Summer Student Volunteer Program, for students age 13 years and over who aren't working.

We're asking for a commitment of six hours a day, Monday to Friday, for a minimum of three weeks. In return, we will train the volunteers in a variety of settings, provide lunch every day, and present a certificate of participation and a reference letter to each student.

Gerontology is a career field that's going to grow enormously in the upcoming years, especially as the so-called 'Baby Boomers' age. Allendale can provide a window into a wide variety of career paths for young people. For those who

are unable to commit to such an intense period, but would still like to volunteer some time, we have a few shifts on a once-a-week-for-eight-weeks basis.

We are extremely lucky to have a lot of dedicated and loving volunteers who give so generously of their time. But like everyone, they need a break. So we're hoping that this new program will be not only a wonderful learning opportunity for young people, but also serve as a form of appreciation of the hard work done by our regular volunteers, by allowing them to take a break.

We're hoping that this new program will provide the means for them to do just that. If anyone would like to know more, they can call me at 878-4141, ext. 8025.

*Anthea Hoare, coordinator
Volunteer resources
Allendale*



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Pud

by Steve Nease

