

# Comment & Opinions

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EDITORIAL

## We did it for Terry

Terry would be proud. Generous and public-spirited residents of Stouffville and Uxbridge made this year's Terry Fox Run the best ever in both communities.

Stouffville's annual fundraiser to fight cancer boasted 563 participants, well up from last year's 480 participants. Just as important, they raised more money than last year, some \$28,667, as compared to \$25,000 raised in 1996.

In Uxbridge, there were about the same number of participants in this year's Terry Fox Run as compared to 1996, but they raised a staggering 22 per cent more.

More than \$15,350 was pledged, with \$4,400 of that from one family — the Davis family, who participated in memory of their grandfather. Another participant who deserves accolades is 78-year-old Ollie Barton, who walked the entire route to single-handedly raise more than \$2,400.

Mention must also be made of the local run organizers and volunteers behind the scene. There's no way Stouffville and Uxbridge runs could consistently be more successful without their hard work and selfless donation of time and energy.

It's this kind of commitment to the cause which would have made Canadian hero Terry Fox proud, were he alive today.

Yet his spirit IS alive, resurrected every year on one day in September, when Canadians — and people around the world — put his vision and commitment into action and raise money to fight a dreaded disease which touches so many lives.

As his brother Darrell Fox, national director of the annual run, said Sunday at a Toronto run site which he and his family walked: "Terry's message was to fight, never to give up and have hope." Thanks to all who believe in that message.



## Searching for perfect place for golf trophy

The accolades just keep pouring in for Mr. Wallethead.

First he makes the cut as Athlete of the Week in *The Tribune* for his selfless devotion to the great game of golf. Next he returns victorious from a tournament in Lake Placid, clutching a gold plastic trophy awarded for his prowess on the playing fields of North America.

Thrilled though I am to learn of his accomplishment, I find myself faced with a dilemma when it comes to accommodating the statuette with which we have been saddled in acknowledgment of his sterling efforts. I am presently considering several options.

When my son moved to the mean streets of Toronto in July, he somehow persuaded his father (unbeknownst to me, engaged as I was in a wine-tasting tour of France) to part with my most precious artistic treasure — an eye-catching bust of Elvis.

Mr. Wallethead's unseemly haste in acquiescing to Malcolm's request left a gap, not only in my life, but also on the plinth where the king's likeness had hitherto held court.

On the other hand, its departure made available a possible perch for our new acquisition. The case against this rather visible venue is that not everybody may realize I am being wittily ironic.

Indeed some people may even imagine that I have taken a shine to our gaudy golfer, and where will that leave my image in the critical eyes of the Martha Stewart set?

My next thought was to mount the shiny, club-wielding athlete-on-a-cup on the hood of my historic Tercel wagon, thus creating a fitting marriage of questionable taste — the rusting-out wheel rims standing out in stark contrast to the sheen of genuine



### Kate's Corner

Kate Gilderdale

gold substitute. Besides, knocking off hood ornaments is a popular leisure time activity in some circles.

Fortunately, my family has been

slow to embrace the sporting life with its attendant accumulation of trophies. Nonetheless, we have acquired a few gongs, figurines and other less-than-lovely tributes to our involvement in various pursuits over the years.

We even have medals for soccer, awarded to our children many moons ago at the end of a dismal season in which their team, having lost all year, somehow contrived to win the final game!

The medals are about somewhere in a safe place in company with a slew of red felt academic awards, but none of the above compares with Mr. Wallethead's contribution to immortality, which is residing on the toilet tank in the downstairs washroom while I consider its future.

At least I finally understand what Vince Lombardi meant when he made his famous assertion — "Winning isn't everything — it's the only thing."

## There's a time and a place for everything

It's been a busy week. We're being asked to fire the Queen, get rid of land mines and save the children.

Federal Industry Minister John Manley and another federal cabinet minister are playing copy cat. Last year, Uxbridge MP Alex Shepherd ruffled a few feathers when he suggested we turf the Queen along with the rest of her family. At the time, fellow Grits were quick to douse the fire, fearing it could spark yet another crisis.

Since we were busy with the Quebec issue, we had no time to hate the Queen. One pending civil war at a time, thank you.

It's apparent, sleeping dogs don't lie. The former Uxbridge and now Durham MP was noticed. This past weekend in Vancouver, Manley said Canada should cut all ties with the monarchy before the British beat them to it.

One of the good things about the Liberals is they're not good at muzzling themselves. A few months after Shepherd recommended we change the relationship between the monarchy and Canada, Immigration and Citizenship Minister Lucienne Robillard said she'd like to modernize the Canadian oath of allegiance, possibly



### Off the Record

Joan Ransberry

by dropping all reference to the Queen.

Here's my take on all this — there's a time and place for everything. Taking into account the recent death of Diana, the Princess of Wales, this is neither the time nor the place for this.

The move to destroy Canada's stockpile of anti-personnel land mines is getting support from Stouffville.

The Christian Blind Mission reminds us all that land mines kill or injure 26,000 people each year.

As well, land mines render land unusable, drain vulnerable economies, and strain the resources of humanitarian groups which assist the victims. Already some 110 million devices are buried in 64 countries. Another 100 million land mines lie in stock ready for use.

Again, there's a time and a place for everything. Since land mines were on Diana's agenda, this is the time to take

up the cause.

I commend the Christian Blind Mission for joining this most important of causes. It's obvious this local organization knows the value of preventive measures and is willing to help prevent unnecessary disabilities throughout the developing world.

The Day of The Child, celebrated around the world, will be marked in Stouffville and Uxbridge Oct. 5.

The United Nations, in partnership with the Baha'is, is setting the wheels in motion to mark this very special day here on the homefront.

A Day of the Child Conference will be held at Latham Hall in Stouffville on Oct. 5 from 2 to 5 p.m. It's free and open to every resident of Stouffville and Uxbridge.

Doctor Farzad Katirai, event spokesman, points out that the local Baha'is in conjunction with the UN, have put together an impressive lineup of speakers.

This conference will be well worth attending as it gives us a chance to learn more about our most precious resource — our children.

The Princess of Wales reminded us that children always have a place and the time is always now.

## STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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