

Character Community



E-News



A Town of Richmond Hill initiative.

A Town of Richmond Hill Character Community monthly e-letter

September is Courage

*I will stand up for my beliefs
and principles and face
challenges, fear and difficulty
with fortitude.*

September 2008

Town of Richmond Hill Character Community Organizations

- The Amici Centre
- Arts Richmond Hill Inc.
- Between Friends
- Catholic Community Services of York Region
- Community Living York South
- The Curtain Club
- Girl Guides of Canada York South Div.
- Helpmate Community Information
- Hill House Hospice
- Ja'fari Islamic Housing
- Learning Disabilities Association of York Region
- Lions Club of Richmond Hill
- Music to Care for Your Life
- Opera York
- Optimist Club of Richmond Hill
- Region Of York Recreationists (ROYR)
- Richmond Hill Aquatic Club
- Richmond Hill Canoe Club
- Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce
- Richmond Hill Community Food Bank
- Richmond Hill Community Sports Council
- Richmond Hill Lawn Tennis Club
- Richmond Hill Rams Hockey Club
- Richmond Hill Community Soccer Association
- Richmond Hill Social & Bocce Club
- Richmond Hill Training Centre
- Richmond Hill Winter Carnival
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch #375
- Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's of Richmond Hill
- St. Matthew's United Church Health Cabinet
- Stroke Recovery Network
- Top o' the Hill Co-operative Nursery School
- Volunteer Association of York Central Hospital
- Wilderness Lifeskills of Youth Inc.
- York Region Support Group of Parents of ADHD Kids

True Story of Courage and Love

by: D. Kuzminski

Walking down a path through some woods in Georgia, I saw a water puddle ahead on the path. I angled my direction to go around it on the part of the path that wasn't covered by water and mud. As I reached the puddle, I was suddenly attacked! Yet I did nothing for the attack was so unpredictable and from a source so totally unexpected. I was startled as well as unhurt, despite having been struck four or five times already. I backed up a foot and my attacker stopped attacking me. Instead of attacking more, he hovered in the air on graceful butterfly wings in front of me. Had I been hurt I wouldn't have found it amusing, but I was unhurt, it was funny, and I was laughing. After all, I was being attacked by a butterfly!



Having stopped laughing, I took a step forward. My attacker rushed me again. He rammed me in the chest with his head and body, striking me over and over again with all his might, still to no avail. For a second time, I retreated a step while my attacker relented in his attack. Yet again, I tried moving forward. My attacker charged me again. I was rammed in the chest over and over again. I wasn't sure what to do, other than to retreat a third time. After all, it's just not everyday that one is attacked by a butterfly. This time, though, I stepped back several paces to look the situation over. My attacker moved back as well to land on the ground. That's when I discovered why my attacker was charging me only moments earlier. He had a mate and she was dying. She was beside the puddle where he landed.

Sitting close beside her, he opened and closed his wings as if to fan her. I could only admire the love and courage of that butterfly in his concern for his mate. He had taken it upon himself to attack me for his mate's sake, even though she was clearly dying and I was so large. He did so just to give her those extra few precious moments of life, should I have been careless enough to step on her. Now I knew why and what he was fighting for. There was really only one option left for me. I carefully made my way around the puddle to the other side of the path, though it was only inches wide and extremely muddy. His courage in attacking something thousands of times larger and heavier than himself just for his mate's safety justified it. I couldn't do anything other than reward him by walking on the more difficult side of the puddle. He had truly earned those moments to be with her, undisturbed.

I left them in peace for those last few moments, cleaning the mud from my boots when I later reached my car.

Since then, I've always tried to remember the courage of that butterfly whenever I see huge obstacles facing me. I use that butterfly's courage as an inspiration and to remind myself that good things are worth fighting for.

Source: www.inspirationalstories.com

Where do you need to be courageous?

by: F. Haridan

Is it in a relationship?

Is it about your job?

Is it starting a new routine?

Is it something you need to leave behind?

Whatever the details, I know you have the courage to do what it takes. I know that within each of us is the courage to do what it takes.

Think back to a time when you did something that you never thought you would. The courage that allowed you to do that is there for you right now. It is within you waiting to be tapped into.

Each day we step out into the world, taking for granted the courage that it takes. How much easier it would be to just stay in bed.

We face cold dark mornings on the way to work, we face endless meetings and unruly bosses. Each of these things we face are a testament to the courage within us. Allowing ourselves the wisdom to know that have the courage it takes to face a new journey is what is called for right now.

We take for granted how much courage we really have within us. Somewhere we came to believe that all this stuff we do is no big deal. Well I am here to tell you it is. Each day we show up and do what is needed, it is courageous. We step in front of our fears, our



doubts and do what we need to do.

Today, courage is speaking to a friend about a tough situation in our lives. Another day, courage finds its face in putting your last dollar in the basket at church. While other days it is showing up for a work out when all you want to do is go to bed.

Each of us is faced with looking within us and finding courage. To find courage within ourselves or within the relationship we have with God and others firstly requires knowing it is there to begin with.

Know you have courage and you will find it. Know that you have used it before and it lies waiting for you. It is waiting to help you move forward, to fly and to soar!

Source: <http://gatheringreflections.blogspot.com>



Courage Quotes



"Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear – not absence of fear."
-Mark Twain



"Courage is the ladder on which all other virtues mount."
-Clare Booth Luce



"The bravest thing you can do when you are not brave is to profess courage and act accordingly."
-Corra Harris



Richmond Hill Theatre Celebrates Olympic Opening Ceremonies

Town of Richmond Hill Mayor Dave Barrow, Councillor godwin Chan and other dignitaries celebrated the Olympic Opening Ceremonies held in China by attending the Town's broadcast of it live at Silver City movie theatre. Over 3,000 people attended to witness the magnificent display of theatrics, fireworks and light displays and cheer on their favourite courageous athletes.

Character Community E-News is a monthly e-mail newsletter to share information about upcoming events within our organization and beyond. If you would like to contribute upcoming Character Community event information, story ideas or photos, please forward it to the Editor, Michelle Lipkus, at mlipkus@richmondhill.ca.

Next Month's Attribute:
October is Inclusiveness