

Forum

of Circulation
MacPherson

Director of Finance
Bonnie Taylor

Production Manager:
Paula Pike



perfect, but to devote this type of vitriol to a private company without giving them a chance to respond seems unworthy of your newspaper.

William Sommerville
Halifax

Keep story going

To the editor:

On behalf of countless friends and fellow teachers, I wish to express appreciation for the attention your newspaper has brought to the murder of Paula Gallant. I feel it is vital that this story remain in the news, so that it's never far from people's minds. Paula was an innocent person whose fate was decided by someone other than herself. How unfair and unjust.

Paula, to me, exemplified so much good. She respected her teaching profession and worked hard at it. Paula was a friend to many and created the bonds of friendship in so many ways. Paula's sisters — Lynn and Lana — have worked tirelessly to keep the story alive, and your support of this endeavour is appreciated.

A voice can be so much louder when it's supported by the media. Their voices need to be heard, and deserve support. It is appreciated when the story is reported honestly.

This is only more important when the story is about an innocent victim. It is these clippings that will become the information that Paula's daughter, Anna, can access in years to come.

Please keep this story on the front page.

Joanne Toole
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Readers' Forum

Plea for Gallant

To the editor:

Thank you for your continued support. Please continue to press for closure for Paula Gallant's family and friends.

If there is anybody with information, even though they might think it to be innocuous, please continue to stress the need for them to come forward. Let the investigative team decide whether or not their information has merit; all tips are anonymous.

Paula can speak neither for herself nor for her daughter, Anna. Please let yours be a voice to be heard; the voice that made the difference.

This could be anybody's sister, mother or friend, and people need to be reminded that if was their family member, would they, too, not want people to do as much as they could?

A killer(s) is/are still walking the streets, and needs to be held accountable.

Paula deserves to be remembered as somebody more than the teacher who was found in the trunk of her car.

Please, let her be remembered as the wonderful, young teacher and mother whose horrific murder was solved in 2007.

Lynn MacEachern
Glace Bay

Open 7/365

To the editor:

Re: Your Jan. 2 editorial, The Sunday Story.

I agree: the Sunday-shopping war is lost. So, if we can't have certain things closed on Sunday, then I want *everything* open on Sunday. In fact, everything should be open 365 days a year.

No time off or holiday closings. Government offices and banks have to stay open? Too bad. You get the same thought you gave the Sunday workers.

If you have the right to shop on Sundays, then I want the right to go to a bank or get my licence renewed on a Sunday.

Taxes will go up, as they're going to anyway.

Welcome to the brave new world.

You started it.

Robert Stull
Halifax

Repairs too smelly

To the editor:

This is in regard to the work on our new sewage that's been done on Barrington Street, mainly by the gas station close to Halifax Shipyard. Why does it smell like a septic tank there?

I don't know how the people living there can stand the smell. For curiosity's sake, next time you drive down Barrington Street, open your window and have a sniff.

It's been torn up there for years. By now, you would think it would be fixed. The people are not going to stand for it. It's only a matter of time.

D. Coneen
Halifax

How to write us

We welcome letters to the editor. They can be sent by:

● e-mail: letterstoeditor@hfxnews.ca
● fax: 422-5667

● post: The Daily News, P.O. Box 8330, Station A, Halifax, N.S., B3K 5M1.

To be considered for publication, letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification purposes only. All letters are subject to editing for length and clarity.

Keep writing stories, Gallant family urges

FEATURE LETTER

To the editor:

My name is Lynn Gallant-Blackburn. I am Paula Gallant's older sister (and mother figure for half her life, as our dad died at 49 and our mom died at 46 from cerebral aneurysms in Glace Bay). Paula Gallant is the 36-year-old school teacher who was murdered and found dead in the trunk of her car by my family in her school parking lot on Dec. 27, 2005.

I am writing this in the hopes that you will print my Letter to the Edi-

tor and take the credit for your respectful and accurate reporting. *The Daily News* (on the mainland) and *The Cape Breton Post* (our hometown newspaper) are keeping this story alive, and that is critical to the investigation and to my family.

Paula was a victim of a horrific crime, and the truth needs to be discovered. It could be that one story, one tip, one witness could lead police to the truth ... and put closure on this horror.

People need to know that Paula could have been anyone's sister: our

lives were that basic. We were raised with strong values and ethics: work hard, be honest, be kind, make people laugh, be respectful ... just try to live a good life.

And for her life to end, at 36, with a one-year-old daughter (her Anna, her Angel) in the way it did is simply wrong. Her family, friends, colleagues and students have lost so much and as each day passes, and people move on, we fear that you will forget her. So, please print my letter and please keep reporting the stories.

In closing, it is important for you to know that I appreciate your reporting integrity and speak very highly of this at every opportunity presented. Since the first day of this horrific tragedy, there has been so much speculation about the murder.

A reporter by the name of Dan Arsenault (who works for *The Chronicle Herald*) wrote a story the day after Paula's murder that was very disrespectful to our family. Suggestions of suicide, depression and unhappiness could not have been farther from the truth.

We spent the two weeks following her death defending her state of mind. But on the 14th day, when the police confirmed homicide, those

awful stories were still ingrained in people's minds. This type of erroneous and distasteful reporting is completely unacceptable, and I will never give *The Chronicle Herald* one minute of my time.

Their actions have insulted so many and when I tell my story (which I will do when this murder is solved), people like Dan Arsenault and *The Chronicle Herald*, will too, be highlighted for the wrongs they did to the Gallant Family in the days following Paula's murder.

With kind regards and respect for a job well done.

Lynn Gallant-Blackburn
St. Margaret Village,
Cape Breton

Waiting and worrying

It has been almost four months since our school became a crime scene with the murder of fellow teacher, Paula Gallant. Each day that passes without an arrest erodes our sense of security and our confidence in the police investigation.

In January, we were told by police that we had nothing to fear, as it had clearly not been a random act of violence. But, as a predominantly female staff of over 50, we have since been told nothing to allay our fears.

Despite the overwhelming support from our administration and the local community, we are still a grieving staff that continues to worry. Given that this remains an unsolved murder, do we still have nothing to fear?

Anne Shannon and Colleagues and Friends,

**Ecole Beechville-Lakeside-
Timberlea School**

Awaiting justice ^{03/22}₂₀₀₆

We are approaching three months since the murder of Paula Anne Gallant.

In many ways, Paula lived every day to the fullest; however, she in no way expected that Dec. 27 would be the last day she would ever gaze into her daughter Anna's eyes.

Three months, and Anna is without a mother.

Three months, and the person or persons responsible for Paula's murder has not been sent to justice.

We all have a role to play in seeing justice is served in this case

and we have to keep in mind that someone has to speak for Paula.

The police have to do their work and ensure all the evidence is gathered properly.

The press has to probe more, ask questions, keep this story in the forefront until all the answers are found.

Friends and family have to come forward if they have anything which could be helpful to the investigation. If anyone in the community saw or heard anything around the school or in the Timberlea area on Dec. 27, contact the police or Crime Stoppers.

We all have a role to play.

When there are no words, there are no truths. Who will speak for Paula Gallant, now that she is unable? Who will speak for Anna, too young to talk, too young to be without her mother?

Justice needs to be served.

Ted McInnis, St. Margarets Bay