

ORONO Weekly Times

The Orono Weekly Times welcomes letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Opinions expressed to the editor and articles are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Orono Weekly Times. Letters must be signed and contain the address and phone number of the writer. Any letter considered unsuitable will not be acknowledged or returned. We reserve the right to edit for length, libel and slander. If your retail or classified ad appears for the first time, please check carefully. Notice of an error must be given before the next issue goes to print. The Orono Weekly Times will not be responsible for the loss or damage of such items.

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Orono eateries pass muster

Being a media outlet, and in the business of news, we receive a vast number of news releases from an array of sources daily. Only a small fraction of these releases ever contain information we would classify as news for print.

Such was the case on March 12th when we received a fax from the Durham Region Health Department listing convictions resulting from inspection of food premises from July 1st to December 31st, 2003. Of the 95 convictions listed in the news release, there were six convictions for two establishments in Orono. The offending parties were a B&D Family Diner and Pierre's Homestyle Burgers & Kountry Style Fries both at 6 Princess Street. Our inquiries led us to the fact that these incidents involved food vendors at last year's Orono Fair. Pierre's Homestyle Burgers & Kountry Style Fries were convicted of not having enough potable water, water not under pressure in food preparation area, and failure to provide hot and cold running water in utensil washing area, for a total fine of \$475. B&D Family Diner were charged with operating a food premise maintained in a manner adversely affecting sanitary condition for \$100, and failure to freeze food to 18 degrees celsius for storage for \$50.

Fair Manager Gord Robinson informed us that both vendors were escorted off the premises immediately when they failed the health department inspection.

Being satisfied that our residents were at no risk of eating contaminated food in Orono restaurants, The Orono Times decided to file that press release in the recycling bin - which should have been the end of that story until another media outlet servicing this area, ran portions of that press release. They listed only the names and the locales of the food outlets charged leaving readers wondering which of the Orono restaurants were charged by the Health Department, when in fact none of the three eating establishments in the village were involved in any health department violations.

The only restaurant with an Orono address that did not pass the inspection was Kirby Burger Bakery on Old Kirby School Road. They were charged \$160 on October 30th for failing to clean multi-service articles after use, and using food preparation articles not in good repair.

We can now all rest a little easier knowing that our local eating establishments are complying with health regulations, and abiding by the standards of the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

Letters to the Editor

Kudo's to Town Hall Board

Dear Editor,

Congratulations to the Orono Town Hall Board. You did it again—another successful Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser.

As a member of the community, I wanted to say how

much we all enjoyed the events of the evening plus the social time all for the preservation of the beautiful and historic Orono Town Hall. Thank you so much.

Bonnie Reid
Orono

"The silent majority speaks"

Dear Editor,

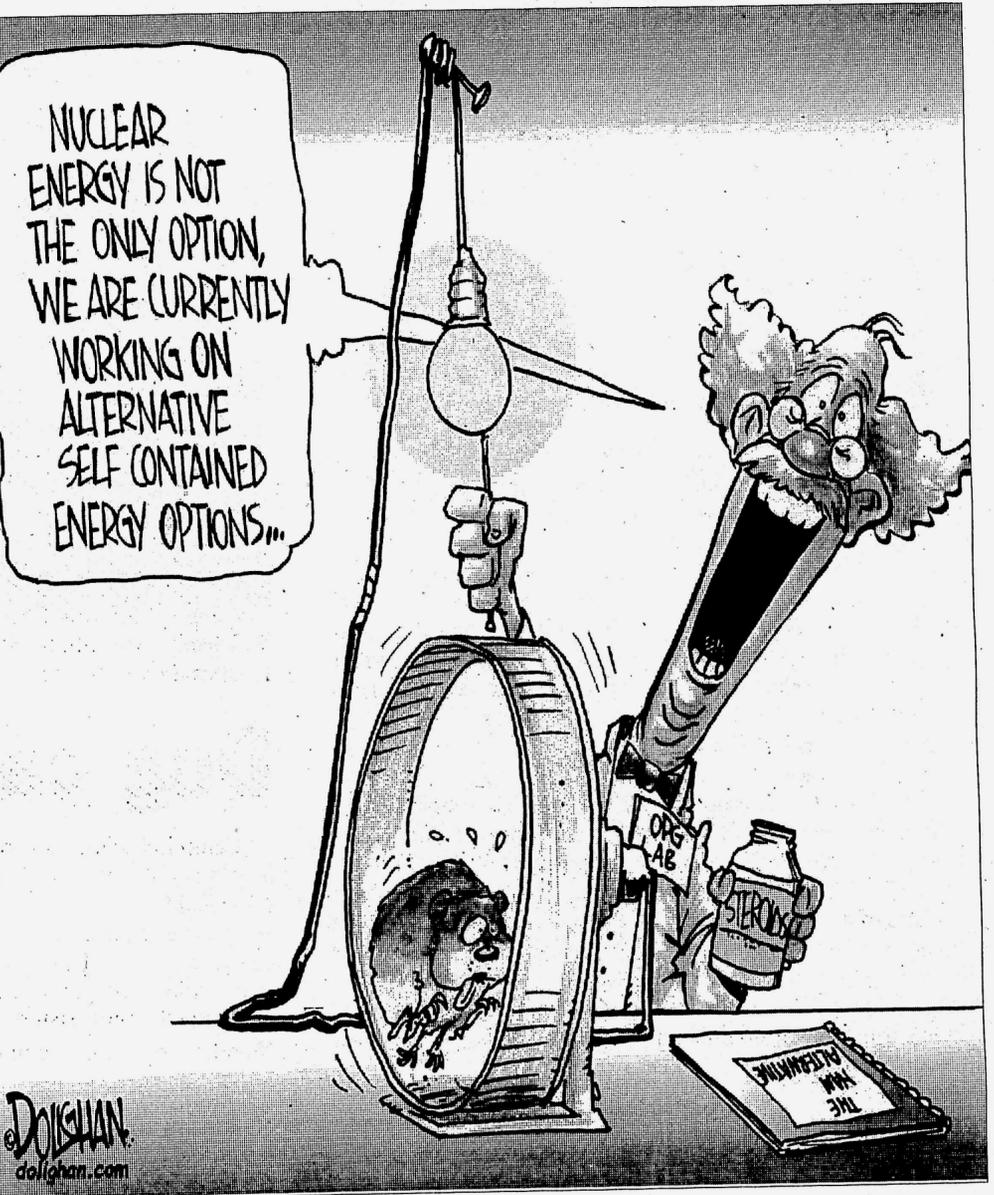
Government and "Big Business" blatantly and totally... disregard the honour... the trust... the integrity... that their position demands. Our ridiculous injustice system encourages white collar crime by providing a "no appropriate punishment" safety net.

Nortel announced recently a "restatement of a restatement" was forthcoming and sent two of "their own" on "paid leave" to appease transparent corrupted management. This is absolutely outrageous and positively unacceptable.

How devastatingly embarrassing it is... to be part of the herd... stampeding to the financial slaughter house... duped again by the same crooks that cooked the books a few months ago. How can we be so naive? How can our democratic system support such a rotten, lying, cheating format?

Now the lawyers—members of the same fraternity, get their turn at the shareholder's trough. The bleeding continues.

Investor confidence and faith in BB and government in non-existent and even worse...



Viewpoint

by Alex Shepherd, MP Durham

Taiwan

Taiwan may yet achieve one of its central goals and take over mainland China.

This won't be by military force, but by sponsoring an

environment for political change—a shift toward a true republic where people have political choice. Sponsored by the Taiwan Chamber of Commerce, I was invited to Taiwan to observe the presidential election.

In Taiwan democracy is in its infancy having only been initiated some ten years ago. Taiwan's history is a remarkable one. Having loose associations with the many feudal dynasties of the mainland, the Japanese decided to colonize the Island in 1925.

Unlike the British, the Japanese actually built infrastructure and educated the people. Some suggest this is the real foundation of Taiwan's remarkable march to prosperity.

However, after World War II, the mainland was once again put in charge of Taiwan. By this time, the Taiwanese all spoke Japanese so the mainland Chinese were seen as foreigners.

The mainland Chinese had suffered at the hands of the Japanese and therefore, could not understand why the people of Taiwan liked the Japanese and embraced their language.

The arrival of Chiang Kai Shek of course changed things forever. He believed he was only waiting his time to return to his rightful place as ruler of all of China. Of course history has written a different story for him.

The presidential election I was invited to observe was anything but ordinary. President Chen Shui-bian, who won the election, heads a party which espouses a Taiwan-first approach. His party is even toying with the idea of total independence. At the same time, mainland China has over 500 missiles pointed at Taiwan just in case the island forgets just where its destiny lies.

Four years ago Chen won
TAIWAN see page 3