

OPINION

Goodbye Dr. Bob

He is forward thinking, a visionary if you will, and he knows precisely when to act for our own good.

He is vocal in his beliefs and innovative in his approach.

He is political when needed and community-minded always.

While he may not be a household name to all Halton residents, Dr. Bob Nosal — Halton Region's Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health — has served all of us well as the region's leader in health care.

But the good doctor has decided the time is right to retire.

We will sorely miss him for so many reasons.

He placed West Nile virus on the media's radar long before anyone else.

He made us roll up our sleeves for flu shots, especially during the H1N1 crisis in 2009. (He must have been proud seeing those long lineups at the region's vaccination clinics.)

He was the calm in the storm of the SARS outbreak, he challenged us to think about air and water quality, mental health and substance abuse issues, underage smoking, and just about any other health-related problem that emerged during his 25 years of service to Halton residents.

So, on behalf of the residents of Halton, thank you Dr. Bob for your commitment, dedication, passion and a desire to get the job done, and done well.

Enjoy your retirement.

WEB POLL RESULTS

(Go to www.theifp.ca)

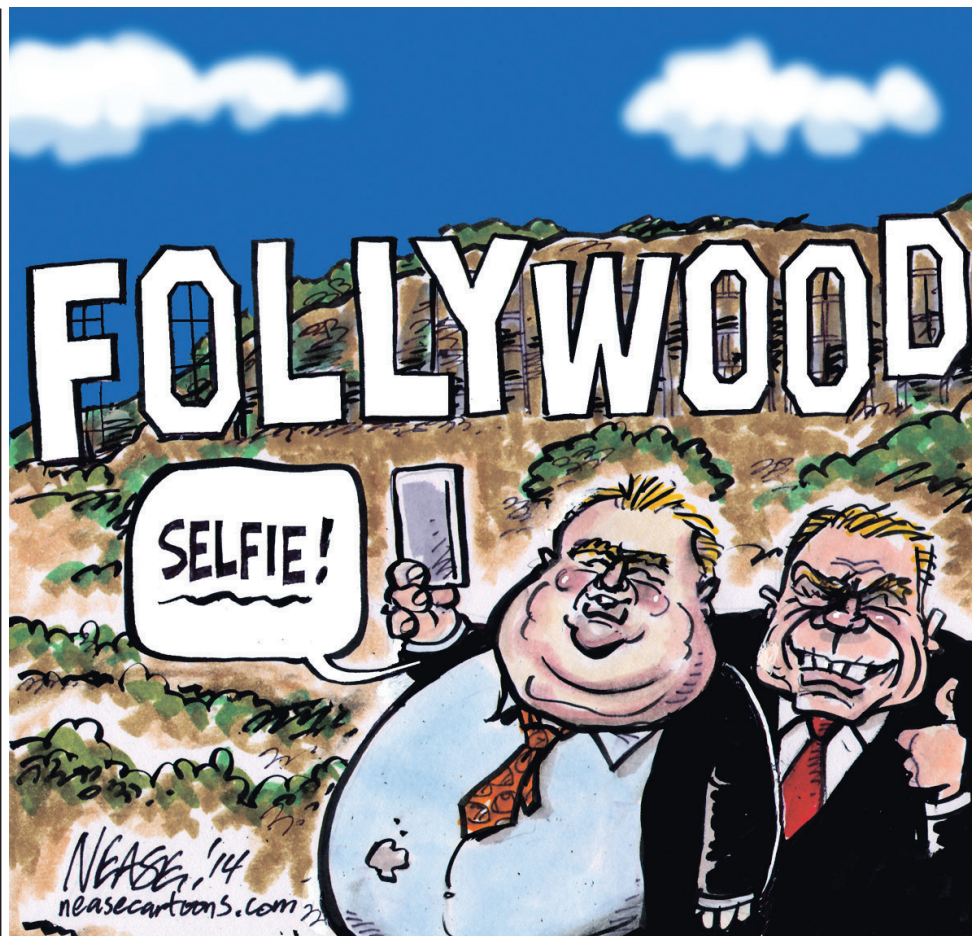
HDSB is considering adding extreme cold temps to its inclement weather policy. Do you support that move?

Yes (70%)
No (30%)

The Independent & Free Press

The Independent & Free Press is published Thursday and is one of several Metroland Media Group Ltd. community newspapers. Editorial and advertising content of The Independent & Free Press is protected by copyright. Unauthorized use is prohibited.

The Independent & Free Press is a member of the Ontario Press Council, which is an independent ethical organization established to deal with editorial concerns. For additional information or to file a complaint, contact info@ontopress.com or call 416-340-1981.



THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

905-873-0301

Publisher: Dana Robbins

General manager: Steve Foreman
(sforeman@theifp.ca)

Retail advertising manager: Cindi Campbell
(ccampbell@theifp.ca)

Managing editor: Chris Vernon
(cvernon@metroland.com)

Distribution manager: Nancy Geissler
(ngeissler@theifp.ca)

Classifieds/Real Estate
Kristie Pells

(classified@theifp.ca or
realestate@theifp.ca)

Classified Call Centre

1-855-415-8237

haltonhillsclassads@metroland.com

Accounting

1-866-773-6575

Editorial

Cynthia Gamble: News editor

(cgamble@theifp.ca)

Lisa Tallyn: Staff writer

(ltallyn@theifp.ca)

Eamonn Maher: Staff writer/sports

(emaher@theifp.ca)

Get the latest headlines delivered to your inbox by signing up for our twice weekly electronic newsletter.

Go to www.theifp.ca and click on 'Newsletter sign-up' at the bottom of the homepage.

Letters to the editor

Wayward bird a U.S. defector

Dear editor,

In regards to the sighting by local photographer Greg Coman of the American Bald Eagle, it could be perhaps that it has flown the coop, so to speak. I feel it has defected the U.S. after being ashamed of the country's Olympic hockey performance.

I expect we will see more coming our way.

Wayne Best,
Georgetown

Bonspiel a great success

Dear editor,

On Feb. 21 Community Living North Halton (CLNH) hosted its fifth anniversary bonspiel at the Milton Curling Club. The event was very successful raising more than \$15,000.

The money raised will directly benefit individuals who have developmental

disabilities by supporting their recreation and leisure programs at CLNH.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all the people responsible for making this fundraiser so successful.

They are: Milton Oldstars Hockey Club, Kinsmen of Milton, Powell Insurance Brokers, Esaote, Hutchinson, Thompson, Henderson and Mott, KCK Teamwear and Key Centre, Rivenco Industries Ltd., Gallinger Ford Lincoln, KKP, Tim Hortons, The Flower Mill, and La Rose Italian Bakery and Delicatessen.

A special thank you to Sobey's and Fresh Start Foods for their very generous donation of food products.

To all our donors and friends who donated items to our silent auction or made monetary contributions, your generosity was very much appreciated.

Lastly, a heartfelt thanks to our curlers, your personal commitment is very much appreciated and directly benefits the people we support.

We look forward to another successful bonspiel next year.

Len Lee,
Community Living North Halton
Bonspiel Committee

Kettle campaign thanks

Dear editor,

The Salvation Army Georgetown Community Church would like to thank the people of Georgetown. With your help and support, we not only met, but surpassed our Kettle fund raising goal. We were also overwhelmed with the generous donations of new toys that were received. Your generosity not only went a long way in brightening the lives of many local families, but will continue to help throughout the year. We also want to say a big thank you to all the individuals, organizations, churches and businesses who supported us over the Christmas season and throughout the year. Once again, we say thank you and God bless.

Major Darrell Jackson

Letters policy

Letters must include the author's name, address and daytime phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 150 words and may be edited for content and/or length. Publication is not guaranteed.

Email: cgamble@theifp.ca

Mail or drop off: Independent & Free Press, 280 Guelph St., Unit 77, Georgetown, ON, L7G 4B1.