CHAMPION TRACKS

Steven Stokes takes in an Aussie football game in Perth, Australia. Going on vacation? Be sure to pack a copy of your Metroland Halton newspaper and send it to sleblanc@metroland.com and send us a photo with it to sleblanc@metroland.com. Please include destination information and everyone's name left to right.

Steven Stokes photo

OPINION

WE NEED TO PROTECT OUR BIRD POPULATION

The American Bird Conservancy Group at Cornell Labs, in its most recent report, has highlighted the serious 2.9 billion losses of birds of all types in North America since 1970.

These include the large flocks of backyard birds that existed in Milton till 1990, when urban development began to replace the green agrarian fields.

We need to acknowledge that the ecosystem must be restored. It is in everyone's interests to do so.

I suggest that the land already owned by the town in the vicinity of public libraries and leisure/sports centres be designated as conservancy centres.

I propose a plan detailing the trees for shade, the bushes for berries, solar fountains for water and squirrel-proof feeders be developed, and the public invited to make a designated contribution to one element of a specific plan for each location.

In due course, as the birds come back, these conservancy centres could be excellent fee-paying sites for locals, visitors and our own students to see and learn about our backyard birds.

DOUG DEANS
MILTON

CAN WE TRUST CLIMATE CHANGE DATA?

Kudos to John Challinor for not jumping on Town council's climate hysteria bandwagon in declaring a 'climate emergency.'

Council has effectively cheapened the meaning of 'emergency.'

Anyone knowledgeable in data and statistics knows they can be manipulated to show desired results.

Climate change models have been shown to be biased, and with this issue so heavily politicized, can any information or 'facts' be trusted?

Perhaps council should consider the effects of its rampant development plans on climate change. Action there might be much more effective.

Consider plans (now on hold) re: satellite university campuses in Milton. Are they really needed? Has nobody heard of online learning?

Don't we live in the digital communication age? Shouldn't politicians question the need for bricks and mortar schools if they are really serious about climate change?

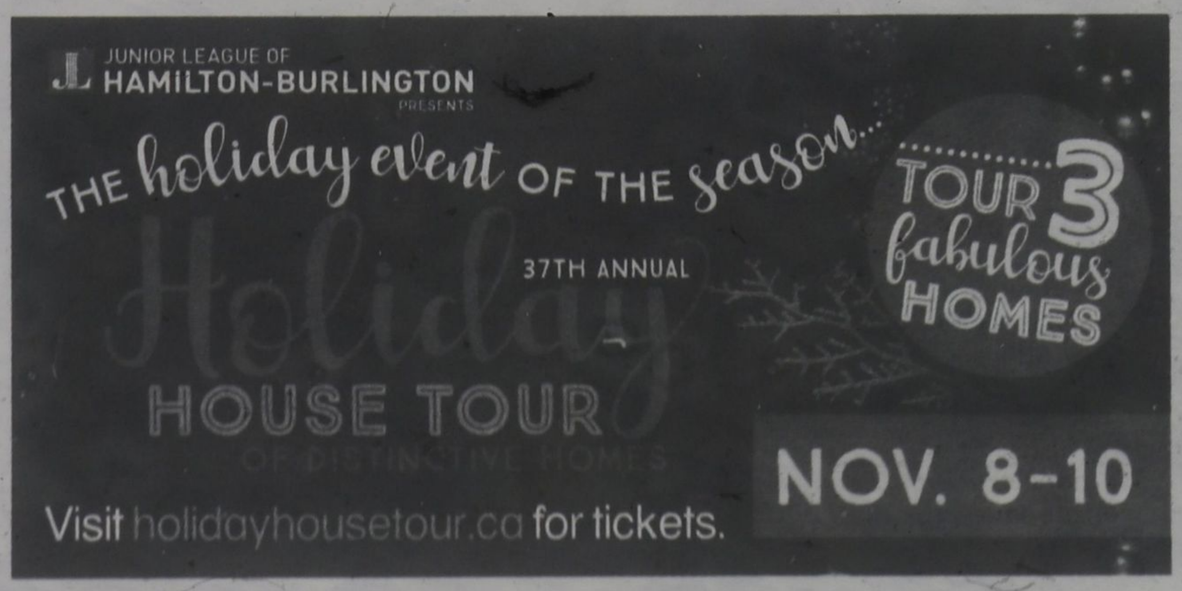
We need to think outside the box in living sustainably and within our means, or else we will be (or are already) at the mercy of governments increasingly reaching into our pockets to react to crises they create to pay for their obscene spending, or even the Champion trying to tell us what we need to eat to avoid this crisis.

Consider the recent $20-million CC Summit at Google Camp, attended by environmentalists like DiCaprio and Obama, arriving in 114 private jets and megayachts.

What hypocrisy.

I will view with skepticism any CC data, facts or conclusions made by activists, intellectuals, politicians, Hollywood do-gooders or the complicit media until I see them actually acting on what they believe.

FRED NICKEL
CAMPBELLVILLE



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