

Letters to the Editor

The Credit River 'Ka-Booms!'

- reader wonders about safety

To the Editor of The Herald, For your info. Report on Operation Dynamite.

Around 2 p.m., last Wednesday, I was awakened from a restful nap (I am working an evening shift) by a loud "KA-A-BOOM" and rattling windows. Being a bit concerned, I decided to check out the source of the commotion and proceeded to our sixth-floor balcony. I had no more than reached the balcony when I was met with another "blast" and rattling windows. After seeing the flying ice and water, it did not take me long to reach a conclusion as to what was happening at our back door no less.

Lo and behold, our recently (last summer) dredged, widened, etc., and supposedly corrected Credit River was now being ripped apart by dynamite. Why? Because of ICE JAMS!! Well, back to the drawing boards, fellas.

On observing the activity down by the riverside, I could see two individuals in red overalls dashing about rather hurriedly (but seemingly enjoying their mission) as well as several onlookers (supervisors? - hardhats) and a couple of photographers (local reporters, I bet). Then another "KA-A-BOOM" and another.

Every blast sent water and chunks of ice flying everywhere. However, one blast in particular sent chunks of ice (the size of a grapefruit) flying into and over the apartment parking lot, with one piece rattling off a balcony

rattling below me. At this point, I must admit, it started to get a bit scary. My yelling could be heard by those involved but little attention was afforded my remarks. Then, maybe I shouldn't expect that they should-would interrupt such important work to concern themselves with the safety of other human beings and personal property.

Well, I for one (and this is my reason for writing this letter) am very concerned that an operation of this nature can be carried out with such little

or no apparent site preparation or advance warning being exercised with regard to the safety and protection of innocent bystanders or private property. I think it utterly ridiculous, what with the number of (I gather on-the-job) supervisors present, that numerous charges of dynamite were, one by one, literally thrown into the river (attached to a live wire) and set off in a "let her blow where or as she blows" - fashion.

I doubt that I was the only bystander to witness (at least

a portion) this exhibition. However, I felt I should make my views known, in the hope they might be passed on (in whichever way) to someone of authority who would take it upon himself-herself to ensure that the planning and execution of future exercises of this nature are conducted in the presence of at least ONE safety-oriented and responsible individual.

Yours truly,
Fred G. Porter
115 John St. No. 607
Georgetown, Ont.

South Cayuga citizens appeal for civil rights

To the editor of The Herald: On Nov. 25, Harry Parrott, minister of environment announced that South Cayuga had been selected as the location for an industrial waste disposal facility destined to handle all of Ontario's industrial waste, currently estimated at some 60 million gallons a year.

As a citizen's group, our major concern is with the manner in which that announcement was made and the dangerous implications behind that announcement - implications which affect all of Ontario. For when the government announced its decision, it

stated that there would be no Environmental Assessment Hearings, nor Expropriation Hearings.

We are not saying, nor have we ever said, that we don't want the "dump" in our backyard. All we have ever asked for is our right, according to existing legislation, to a full Environmental Assessment Hearing in order that ALL the facts be brought out, both pro and con, so that Ontario will not have to deal with its own "Love Canal".

The number of organizations and associations endorsing our demands for such a hearing is growing, and while too numerous to list,

they include: Canadian Environmental Law Association, Pollution Probe, Greenpeace, Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Consumers Association of Canada (Ontario), Ontario Christian Farmers, plus some 250 Ontario municipalities.

We, as citizens, are being extremely reasonable about this issue - we are asking for nothing more, nor will we settle for anything less than a hearing under the Environmental Assessment Act. The Ontario government has chosen to circumvent its own legislation and refuses to listen to us.

We urge you to consider the seriousness of this problem - for while this particular topic is South Cayuga and an environmental issue - if the government's dictatorial attitude goes unchallenged - next time it could be YOU and YOUR COMMUNITY over another issue.

If the government cares so little for the rights of 40,000 people in our area - do you really think they will care or listen to you?

Think carefully before you cast your vote March 19.

Yours truly,
Rene Tunney, for H.O.P.E. (Haldimand-Norfolk Organization for a Pure Environment), P.O. Box 10, RR9 Dunville, Ontario.

Candidates blazing crosstown trails

They're off!

The three provincial candidates for the riding of Halton-Burlington are on the campaign trail, knocking on doors, cutting ribbons and kissing babies as they pursue a Mar. 19 election.

Incumbent MPP Julian Reed, who is seeking the riding for the third time on behalf of the Liberals, opened his riding headquarters in Milton and his Georgetown committee room in the Halton Hills plaza Saturday.

For the past two days, Mr. Reed has been canvassing in Burlington. Today (Wednesday) he's knocking on doors in Milton and tomorrow he'll be back in Burlington. Tomorrow evening he will be attending the annual meeting of the Norval Community Association at 7 p.m.

Mr. Reed will be attending the Georgetown Lions Club's Citizen of the Year banquet Friday evening at the Lions Hall.

Progressive Conservative

candidate Fran Baines has a busy week lined up for her first time out as a candidate. She spent Monday in Milton and attended the Acton Chamber of Commerce dinner that evening. Yesterday (Tuesday), Mrs. Baines knocked on doors in Burlington, accompanied in the afternoon by Burlington South PC candidate George Kerr.

Mrs. Baines will be in Georgetown today, knocking on doors all day, with a break for lunch at the monthly luncheon served by the Daughters of St. George's at the church hall. Tomorrow she'll be returning to Milton, and she rounds up the week in Acton knocking on doors and visiting Frank Heller Ltd. Friday evening, Mrs. Baines will be attending the Rotary Club Super Dance at St. George's.

On Saturday, Mrs. Baines will embark on a motor home or bus rally through the riding, stopping in Georgetown on Main Street and at the plazas between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.,

and in Acton between 11 a.m. and noon. From there, it's on through Milton, Campbellville and Burlington.

Mrs. Baines will be attending a pancake breakfast at the Brookville Hall in Nassagaweya at 10 a.m. Sunday, and a committee meeting at 2 p.m.

NDP candidate Chris Cutler will be in Acton tomorrow (Thursday) for the opening of his committee room at 7:30 p.m. The committee room is

located in the home of Allan Foster on Lakeview Road. The Georgetown committee room, located in the home of John Nichols at 53 Byron Street, will be officially opened Saturday at 2 p.m.

ELECTION CENTRAL



Halton-Burlington Incumbent MPP, Julian Reed, opened his Georgetown campaign office at the Halton Hills Shopping Plaza Saturday afternoon, cheered on at the ribbon-cutting ceremony by a sizeable crowd of admirers and campaign workers. Helping out in the ceremony were (left to right) former Liberal MP Ross Milne, Janet Hodge, Rita and Jim Barrett, Mr. Reed, young friend Isabelle Smigeliski, Julian's brother and campaign manager Laurie and Al Martin. (Herald photo by Dave Rowney)

Belleghem quits but not over PC controversy

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald Staff Writer

Jack Belleghem has denied a report in last week's Acton Free Press linking his imminent retirement from the presidency of the Halton-Burlington Progressive Conservative Association to the controversy over the party's nomination meeting Feb. 9.

He denied that his decision had anything to do with the decision by the party executive rendering a number of new party members ineligible to vote for a candidate. He nevertheless expressed frustration about having to take "flak" for a decision made by the whole executive.

When the executive decided to move the date of the nomination meeting ahead to allow more time to mount a campaign, a number of memberships were made ineligible because of a clause in the association constitution which says members must be paid up 14 days before the nomination in order to vote.

The executive chose to uphold the clause, rather than making an exception. Some members of the association have been critical of what has been construed as prejudice on the part of Mrs. Baines, chosen the candidate over Milton Coun. Brian Penman.

"I don't have any qualms, any reservations in the least, about what we did," Mr. Belleghem said. "If you know what you're doing, and you're doing the right thing, it comes as a surprise to be criticized."

"The whole thing is blown out of proportion. If the nomination had gone the other way, there's no doubt in my mind that I would have been dumped on by the losing side."

Mr. Belleghem said there was no choice but to move the date back because it would otherwise have been impossible to run a campaign in three weeks.

"The rule applied equally to Mrs. Baines and Mr. Penman," he said. "I can't concern myself with who the candidate is going to be. I have to worry about the campaign."

Mr. Belleghem said he has been involved in politics since he was six years old, carrying signs for a candidate in Cooksville. He has been a director of the Halton-Burlington PC Association for about three years.

"I'm not retiring because of any criticism of Fran or Brian, both of whom I think would make excellent candidates, and either of whom could beat Julian Reed," he said. "When I'm trying to do a job for the association, and other members of the association sit back and criticize, but won't do the work..."

Mr. Belleghem emphasized that buying a party membership is not simply a matter of buying a vote, but is showing support for the party and working on its behalf.



Premier Bill Davis and Halton-Burlington Conservative candidate Fran Baines were all smiles Wednesday morning when approximately 150 party supporters showed up for breakfast at the North Halton Golf and Country Club in Georgetown. Premier Davis praised Mrs. Baines for her keen sense of the "concerns of the people in her riding" and said she will be a welcomed asset in Queen's Park if local Tories win the March 19 election.

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTRE



First curtain call signals new GLT era

Herald Special

When the curtain goes up on the first Georgetown Little Theatre production in the new Halton Hills Library-Theatre Arts Centre, it will signal a new era in the group's 20-year history.

"Most people think, perhaps understandably so, that all Little Theatre's problems will be solved by having a proper theatre," said GLT president Pat Joyines. "In fact, the opposite is true. We face a whole set of new problems. However, we prefer to view them as challenges."

Anticipated new problems - or rather, challenges - include increased production costs, reduced set construction time, and limited rehearsal opportunities on the production stage.

Mrs. Joyines explained that, at present, GLT contracts with Sacre Coeur to rent its hall for all facets of a production.

"Not only do we rehearse on the same stage as we will ultimately perform, but through the excellent relationship we enjoy with Sacre Coeur, we're able to take three to four weekends to build our sets," she said. "When we move to the new theatre, we'll simply not have that luxury."

She said that Little Theatre long ago accepted that it would not be economical for the town to let GLT - or any other community group - monopolize the facility, particularly for non-revenue producing purposes. There are therefore no special features in the new theatre peculiar to GLT's needs such as "Green Rooms" (storage space for stage sets and properties).

Why then have Georgetown Little Theatre members been such enthusiastic promoters of a proper theatre?

Past president and chairman of the group's \$30,000 fund-raising drive, John Roe said GLT faced two basic choices three years ago when it was learned it would have to vacate Howard Wrigglesworth Public School:

"We could once more pick up our proppes and move on, again starting from scratch (which of course we had to do when we moved to Sacre Coeur) knowing the same thing could happen time and again, or we could take a positive gamble on the future."

Mr. Roe said the deciding factors for the group were the challenges afforded by working in a properly-equipped theatre and the comfort of its patrons.

"Over the years, the consistent complaint has been uncomfortable seating. Next to that has been restricted vision for those at the back of the hall and the inability to be seen

particular seats." With permanent, sloped, fixed seating, the theatre in the new facility will answer all these concerns, he said.

"Many people tell us that when they go out to a show they like to dress up and make an evening of it. No matter how much we 'fancy up' the halls in which we perform, they are still school- and church-halls."

Mr. Roe said that having been such strong advocates for a proper theatre, Georgetown Little Theatre felt it had a moral obligation to play a leading role in the public fund-raising.

"We have no illusions, however, that this means we will be 'looked after'," he said. "Rather we would expect that town council will develop a user rate and program calendar policy which will be biased in favor of community organizations as opposed to outside professional or commercial interests. GLT will have enough headaches tackling the new challenges posed by using the facility without having to radically reorganize its performing schedules because preference has been given to more lucrative, one-shot bookings."

He added that the group, having worked closely with both the recreation department and council in developing theatre proposals and now fund-raising, was confident that these concerns would receive attention.

As for some of those new challenges, Les Heed, a long-time backstage worker, said GLT recognizes that new stage set-building techniques may be required.

"No doubt it will mean us having to design and build light-weight sets in the rehearsal location which can be easily transported and quickly re-erected in the new theatre," he said. "It also probably means working longer hours putting up and tearing down sets - but of course we won't know fully until the time comes."

Pausing in between putting the finishing touches to the "Count Dracula" set (see feature story elsewhere in this issue), Mr. Heed added: "I'm sure when the time comes GLT will rise to the challenge."

In the meantime, GLT's fund-raising efforts are continuing. Most recent purchasers of a commemorative seat-plaque are: Mike, Sharon, Dara and Paul James.

Details of the group's unique scheme, which this week topped \$27,000, can be obtained from John Roe at 877-2824 or Mary Rae Main at 877-0605.

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Come to Church

<p>GEORGETOWN ALLIANCE CHURCH Sunday, March 1, 1981</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m.</p> <p>Come and Make Our Church Your Church</p> <p>Everyone Welcome</p> <p>P. RALPH 877-9816 853-3923</p> <p>WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THIS SUNDAY!!!</p>	<p>MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH PASTOR EDWIN H. MITCHELL 877-8885; 877-0320</p> <p>Sunday, March 1, 1981</p> <p>Every Sunday 9:45 a.m. Family Bible School 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Biblical Preaching, Praise and Fellowship</p> <p>Weekly Boys & Girls Clubs, Youth Activities, Ladies Coffee Hour, Recreation & Prayer Meeting</p> <p>Monthly Jolly Seniors - Missions Fellowship Visitors Always Welcome</p> <p>25 Years and Growing</p>
<p>ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH ANGLICAN Sunday, March 1, 1981</p> <p>8 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist Junior Church - Nursery 11 a.m. Morning Prayer</p>	<p>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Windsor Road at Carole St. PASTOR: REV. DR. J.M. DRICKAMER</p> <p>Sunday, March 1, 1981</p> <p>8:45 a.m. Church Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Church Service Church of the Lutheran Hour</p>

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LOOK FOR IT IN TODAY'S EDITION

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