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'Bark break' needed?

A dogs' morning where I live



Staff Comment
By ANI PEDERIAN

You asked me why my face looked all twisted and sour this morning, and my eyes looked baggier than usual. There's a reason, dear editor, a good reason.

I've been up with the dogs, again. Bark bark bark, bark bark bark. It's been going on since 8:30 this morning, and it was going on as my eyes were trying to close at 11:30 last night. Bark bark bark, bark bark bark.

There are three of them in my neighbor's yard and they're yapper than my sister after a date with a real hunk.

The guy's a trucker and he's never home. His wife works in Acton and she doesn't answer the phone when my landlady calls to complain. I've been told they keep the dogs for the children. It's beyond me why children not even 3 feet tall need three large dogs as playmates.

The poor old parents who live in the house behind their trucker son get to answer the phone at 2:30 a.m. when irritated neighbors, wakened from their sleep, call.

NOT ALL BLISS

Living in the country is not all bliss, no. It sure isn't peaceful either. Before you move into a new house, forget about checking the plumbing and roof, first check out your neighbors. Do they have dogs? How many? Why? Do they bark for hours on end?

I've learned my lesson, the hard way. I've gotten used to the four blasts of the horn passing CN trains send echoing in our valley, but I can't get used to the dogs.

A call to Halton regional police informed me that there's a noise bylaw, number 74137(D) specifically,

against barking dogs.

Constable Paul Boxall said dog owners are usually given a warning the first time to keep their animals quiet. The second time they can be given a ticket for \$53. If they don't want to settle out of court, they can be prosecuted in the provincial offenses court, where heavier fines can be levied against them.

NO LIMIT

There's no limit to the number of tickets a dog owner can be given, Const. Boxall said. So, unless you have an unlimited number of \$50 bills, better put a muffler on your beast.

"All dogs bark once in a while," Const. Boxall said. "But in your home you have a right to uninterrupted peace and quiet."

Reading from the bylaw, he said anything that disturbs the peace, quiet, comfort and repose of individuals warrants a call to the police.

Taking your neighbor to court is not the most neighborly thing to do, and many people would much rather pound the walls of their home, curse and swear at their wives and feign a difficult smile at the neighbor off for a trot with the guilty dog. Of course, some people have even sold their homes in desperation. You can only take so much of the bark bark bark.

MORE PROBLEMS

Barking dogs aren't only a problem in the countryside. A casual discussion in the office brought up complaints by urban dwellers, including the publisher.

Ad manager Bob Lightbourn said there's a special collar that sells for \$39.95 called the Bark Break. Every time a dog barks it gets a little shock that eventually teaches it to keep its yapper closed.

Pavlov's theory is helping make some neighborhoods a place where you want to go home after a hard day's work. Guess I'll have to order three of them for my neighbor's dogs.

The next step, if that doesn't work, is borrowing a gun - and I'm not contemplating suicide.



Women's costumes from Japan are not only colorful, but full of symbolism which even inform if the wearer is single or married. Members of the Tabuchi family Tracy (left), Emily and their mother, Tomiko, were dressed ceremonially as they participated in the Georgetown YMCA's Multicultural Celebration last Wednesday night. Japan was featured with eight other countries—Peru, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Philippines, the Ukraine, Germany, Scotland and Denmark. (Herald photo)

'Canada benefits by diversity' Multi-cultural identity sets us apart: Reed

There were a lot of people enjoying one large gift at the Georgetown YMCA's Multicultural Celebration last Wednesday night.

The 'gift' - wrapped in colorful costumes and decorated with dozens of young smiles - was the collected ethnic heritages of the Celebration's participants.

"The idea of multi-culturalism sets us aside from our neighbors to the south," Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed commented as he helped open the evening of dances, folk songs and brief descriptions of the countries represented.

Featuring Japan, the Philippines, Netherlands, Germany, Ukraine, Mexico, Denmark, Peru and Scot-

land this year, the Multi-cultural Celebration is the first of what organizers hope will be an annual rediscovery of our varied cultural background.

All the officials who spoke to get the Celebration underway at St. Andrew's United Church could point to their own family trees and find roots stretching overseas in the not too distant past.

As commentator for the evening, Coun. John McDonald brought Scottish and Irish blood to the microphone.

He noted that the Multi-cultural Celebration was the first local event (besides the bell ringing ceremony at New Year's) to salute the province's bicentennial.

"Celebrating Together" is the bicentennial theme, he said, "and it



JULIAN REED is very appropriate that we have these groups coming here tonight and telling us about their backgrounds.

During the celebration's two hours, the audience was treated to many cultural attractions, including an explanation of the ceremonial

costumes worn by Japanese women; a German folk duet by young Eric Kremer on the accordion and singer Alison Lipp; piped to the stage by Georgetown Legion Pipe Band members Gord Johnson, John McLean and Don Burns, Janice Murray performed the traditional Scottish sword dance.

Consuelo Campos, a visiting school teacher from Peru, joined expatriate Peruvian Felipe Bustante for an impromptu folk song.

After the various countries were presented, the audience was introduced to Scottish shortbread, rosca de reyes from Mexico, boerkoek and cheese from Holland, Japanese rice cakes and Ukrainian honey cake,



FASTEST CARS

District Commissioner Sandy Booth is seen here presenting trophies to boys with the fastest Kub Cars at the latest rally last week. From left to right are Jay Lawrence of 1st Limehouse, Robert Weston of 4th Georgetown and Andrew Elliott receiving a trophy for Greg MacLish.

(Photo by Jean Layman)

They're off to England Lorne Scots in the money

Meet the President

He's looking for historical roots

The new president of the Esqueping Historical Society wants to bring local history more into the public eye.

Mark Rowe, 27, wants the Historical Society to bring Halton Hills history into a more prominent place and give as many residents as possible knowledge of the region's roots.

"A lot of new people are coming into the area from elsewhere and they're interested in the history but don't know where to go for it," Mr. Rowe said.

A Grades 3 and 4 teacher at St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic School for the past five years, he likes working with children.

As a hobby, Mr. Rowe is involved with the scouting movement and holds the position of assistant district commissioner.

A family man who likes the family life, he's the father of two children.

MARK ROWE en, Matthew, 3, and Erin, 1. Another one is expected in late August.

Mr. Rowe's wife Kelly is a former teacher. The two met at the University of Guelph where he was majoring in British and Commonwealth history.

An Acton native, Mr. Rowe moved to Georgetown in 1980.

Halton region gave \$2,000 in "one-time-only" grants to the Peel-Halton Durham Lorne Scots last week.

One grant will help uniform the area's militia regiment, while the other will contribute to the costs of sending the regiment's band to Britain.

While it rejected a \$1,000 grant to the

Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, regional council approved a \$174,600 grant to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton and Hamilton's Philharmonic Orchestra received \$12,000.

The Oakville Symphony Orchestra received \$1,500 and the Halton region safety council was given \$28,027.

Bird wouldn't 'spend a dime'

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Staff Writer

Most regional councillors seem to feel that 10 years of regional government is not much to celebrate.

Last Wednesday, council scuttled proposals for a 10th anniversary party which would also have been Halton's contribution to the province's bicentennial.

"I wouldn't spend a dime to celebrate something people didn't want in the first place," Burlington Mayor Roly Bird commented.

Council snubbed a staff report which suggested such anniversary events as a garden party at Halton's Oakville headquarters, a sports day and a heritage driving-walking route through the region.

Had the anniversary idea been supported, the region was ready to spend as much as \$20,000 on the project, \$10,000 of which it would recover from the province's bicentennial funds.

Red Cross month

Watch for Red Cross volunteers next month as they campaign for funds in Halton Hills.

The town's general committee proclaimed March as Red Cross Month Monday night.

Volunteering needs you

- By LINDSAY RICHARDS
Herald Special
- The Volunteer Centre has been receiving regular requests from various community agencies for help in their programs. Listed below are a few areas that might interest you to say, "Hey, I can do that!"
1. Men between the ages of 20 and 30 are needed to establish a relationship with fatherless boys on an ongoing basis.
 2. Honey Pot Nursery needs people to assist in the Nursery School Program.
 3. People with good listening skills and who are non-judgemental are needed to handle telephone distress and information calls.
 4. A board member is required to help an organization that deals with those leaving Ontario Correctional Institutes and moving into the community. It requires one meeting a month.
 5. Halton Helping Hands needs a friendly person to help seniors with shopping and visiting.
- Help others. Watch yourself grow. Enjoy yourself while you're learning. Volunteering is a great way to grow and it needs you. For further info, call the North Halton Volunteer Centre at 877-3219.

IN YOUR OPINION:

If you had your choice where would you go for the March Break?

				
TREVOR KNIGHT - "Space, because I could see my friend Space Cadet. I like the space ships and I'd like to meet an astronaut."	JIMMY ENGLISH - "Hollywood, to see the actresses, like Loni Anderson, and actors like Burt Reynolds. I also want to be in a movie."	MIKE MELVILLE - "California, to get parts for my BMX bike. I want to see all the dancing they do down there and I like their music."	RICHARD RIVARD - "The Bahamas. It's really warm down there and things are cheap, like bike parts. I'd also like to see the different money they use."	JASON KNIGHT - "New Orleans. It would be nice to see a football game in the stadium, visit the mausoleums and all the French restaurants."

ABOUT THE CITY

Home birth meeting

If you want to have Junior's first view of the world to be of your home and not of a modern hospital, the Brampton Birth Alternatives Coalition have some pointers.

Home birth is going to be discussed March 5, 8 p.m. at 48 Terryhill Square in Brampton. For more info, call 873-1479.

The Coalition is hoping to start a Halton Hills group.

HANDs to protest

Members of "Halton Hills Action for Nuclear Disarmament" will march in Toronto with their "Arms are for Hugging" banner the first Saturday after testing of the Cruise Missiles begins here, probably in March.

If you wish to join call 877-1994.

Frank Miller coming

GEORGETOWN - Brenda Sisnett, chairman of the BIG (Business In Georgetown) dinner sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, reminded guests of the June 14 meal where Frank Miller will be speaking.

She said there are 350 people expected at the Holy Cross auditorium for the dinner, which costs \$30.

The Chamber is hoping that businesses will come forward to help finance some of the expenses such as the wine, program and centre pieces, she said.

For more information call Margaret Vint at 877-6002.

Start talking BIG

GEORGETOWN - The Chamber of Commerce wants you to start talking BIG.

That's the word from vice-president Rud Whiting who told people at the Business of the Year dinner 100 of 137 booths have been sold for the June celebration.

BIG stands for Business In Georgetown, a gala event that is "the biggest in the Chamber's history," Mr. Whiting said.

The theme of the three day show is to inform and entertain the public about Georgetown businesses, he said.

Mr. Whiting introduced the BIG administrator Margaret Vint and asked that businesses become involved in supporting the celebration of 120 years of business in Georgetown.

Color me beautiful

Jo Anne Dexter of Colors for all Seasons of Terra Cotta, near Georgetown says there's urgent need for higher standards in the fast-growing fashion trade service.

It usually takes about two hours for a well-trained professional consultant to properly color-code a client, they say. And this assists choice of clothes and accessories in colors most suited to individual needs.

Jo Anne is available to do speaking engagements and demonstrations at no charge. Call at 877-0685.

Handicapped handbook

The Halton Social Planning Council Burlington Board has recently completed an information handbook for the physically disabled in the Halton Region.

This handbook provides a list of services available to the physically disabled in this Region and may be obtained through local offices of the Halton Social Planning Council.

For more info, call 877-3219.

Lighting overtime

Ontario's energy consumption in January increased 15 per cent to almost 11.2 billion kilowatt-hours. This compares with the demand of about 9.7 billion kilowatt-hours in January 1983.

For 1983, the record high primary energy demand of almost 108.1 billion kilowatt-hours was 5.2 per cent higher than the 1982 total.

Black tie affair

Every day is a black tie affair once the winter season settles in, for Halton regional police.

Everybody on the force comes to work wearing a black tie as part of their uniform. In the summer, only senior officers, from inspectors up, are required to wear their black ties.

Last Thursday, Halton police chief James Harding introduced a new dress tie which can be worn by officers in civilian clothes. The traditional black tie will still be worn with uniforms.

Back to school

GEORGETOWN - If you never finished high school and want to do so now the Halton Board of Education can help you.

Willard Price at the board office will show you how many courses you need to finish high school and get a diploma.

This service is for adults who left school without finishing their courses.