

# Halton Hills Outlook

Outlook is published each Saturday by The Halton Hills Herald, home newspaper of Halton Hills, a division of Canadian Newspapers Company Limited, at 45 Guelph Street, Georgetown, Ontario, L7G 3Z6, Second Class Mail - Registered Number 0943.

877-2202 877-2201  
**PUBLISHER**  
 Don Brander  
**ADVERTISING MANAGER**  
 Carl Sinke  
**EDITOR**  
 Dave Rowney

**MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES**  
 Pam Lowes  
 Sharon Marshall  
 Alanna Bowen  
**CLASSIFIED**  
 Terry Colter  
 Elaine Kuzyszyn  
**STAFF WRITERS**  
 Mary-Liz Shaw

**PRODUCTION SUPERINTENDENT**  
 Dave Hastings  
**PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS**  
 Myles Gilson Wendy Buzlin  
 Annie Olsen Lillian Chapman  
**CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT**  
 Marie Shadbolt  
**ACCOUNTING**  
 Mike Bowen Pauline Miller  
**PRESS ROOM FOREMAN**  
 Brian Akman  
**PRESS ROOM ASSISTANT**  
 Rob Rutledge

## Their Outlook

### 'Bum rap' PEP gives to Liberals

That is a bum rap the Project for Environmental Priorities (PEP) has laid upon the Liberal government.

The Project, which is a coalition of 22 activist environmental groups in Ontario, has warned that a Liberal majority government would be bad for the environment.

Yet its only proof is that the Liberals failed an ideological litmus test of loaded questions deliberately designed in the most black and white terms.



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

There were 18 questions on 12 issues. The Liberals scored yes on eight, no on four, and were undecided on six, "yes" being the right answer in Project eyes.

The Conservatives counted yes on 11 points, no on six and undecided on one.

The New Democrats (naturally) scored 17 out of 18, with one undecided.

If the public "thinks a majority Liberal government would be an aggressive guardian of Ontario's natural environment and our health, they may be in for a big shock," PEP spokesman Beth Savan said.

"We were surprised, even dismayed, by the change in attitude and flip-flops on issue since 1985," she added.

In 1985, the Liberals scored 11 out of 12 on Project's environmental barometer, she said.

Since then, the Liberals have reversed themselves on some issues (like allowing the completion of Darlington nuclear station) and moved from "yes" to "undecided" on others (such as putting private-sector development under the Environmental Assessment Act), she

suggested. Well... actually, all that has really happened is that the Liberals have been mugged by the realities of power.

Darlington was too far along to cancel. Moreover, its power is needed. And routine private-sector environmental assessment is an incredibly costly venture.

Instead of giving knee-tuck environmentalist responses to Project's questions, as they did in 1985, the Liberals actually thought through their responses this time.

It was noticeable that, in the last survey, the Conservatives scored 20 out of 12 on Project eyes, because they couldn't pass the PEP loyalty test.

Being in opposition it is easier for them to score well now.

That incidentally is the real purpose of Project's questionnaire. It isn't designed to find out a political party's approach to environmental matters at all.

Rather, it is a loyalty test of intentions in regard to certain trendy touchstone issues that in the environmental scheme of things, may or may not be major.

For example, Ontario Hydro's plan to ship heavy water containing tritium to a removal facility at Darlington (from where it may sell the resulting product) has drawn PEP's ire.

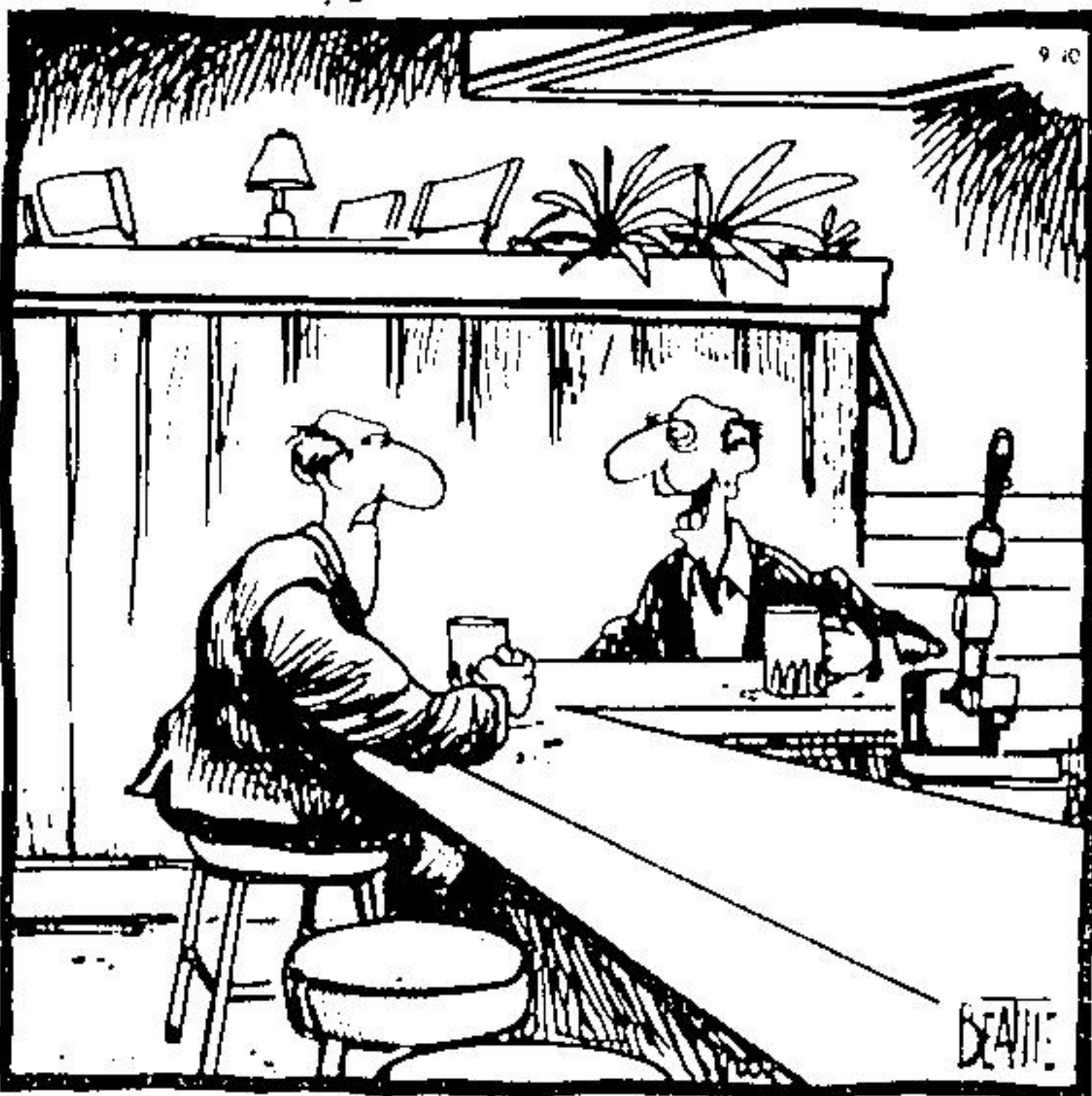
Banning the export and transportation of tritium are two of the questions to which the Project seeks a "yes" response.

The Liberals and Tories said "no" to banning transportation, the NDP "yes." The Tories said "no" to banning exports, the Liberals claimed indecision and the NDP said "yes."

Yet, on the scale of environmental problems facing Ontario, it is a nothing issue. The stuff is safe to ship and is sold could earn Ontario Hydro \$30 million a year.

PEP considers tritium worth one-ninth because tritium is connected to nuclear power, and nuclear power has the same impact on PEPPY minds that witches had on the good citizens of Salem - and with the same justification.

### SNAFU™ by Bruce Beattie



"My therapist says I'm cured of my gambling habit. We've bet \$100 I never do it again."

### Planting trees, scrubs brings back the birds

Every subdivision with its attendant roads, factories and pollution, displaces inestimable numbers of animals and birds. New suburbia is very nearly a sterile environment - few of the original creatures can survive the absence of trees, shrubs and weeds that they depend on for food and shelter.

dogwood with its graceful tiered branches fits very well into a Japanese-style garden. Among the trees, the beauty of our native white pine and oaks is well known.

Vines that produce bird food can also be attractively incorporated into a garden design. Wild grape and virginia creeper grow quickly and produce blue-black berries that birds favor. Virginia creeper also contributes beautiful red foliage colour in the autumn.

There may be problems acquiring some of these plants in nurseries. Black cherry, native elderberries, and winterberry are seldom offered for sale. They are however, abundant in nearby natural areas and could perhaps be acquired with permission of the landowners.

Though many exotic or introduced shrubs and trees hold little appeal for wildlife, this is not true of all of them. Mulberry (the fruiting varieties) produces fruit that birds apparently find irresistible. Other introduced shrubs good for attracting birds include firethorn, cotoneasters, russian olive and various viburnums (some of which are native.)

Fruiting shrubs are good for attracting robins, cedar waxwings, cardinals, bluejays, orioles, vireos and in winter, grosbeaks and purple finches. For seed eaters, bird seed in feeders can be provided, and for the insect eaters, a corner of the yard can be allowed to go "natural," free from the usual clipping, weeding and clearing that the rest of the yard is subject to. Other birds and animals will find this to their liking as well.

### Backyard Naturalist



By DON SCALLEN  
 Herald Special

There are measures that can be taken to partially atone for the wounds development inflicts on the environment. The healing process can begin by planting a variety of trees and shrubs that birds and other animals find to their liking.

Some of the best choices to enhance barren suburban yards are found among native plants - those that native birds have long been adapted to. Native trees and shrubs that provide excellent food and shelter for birds include white pine, black cherry, oaks, honeysuckles, elderberry, winterberry, nannyberry hawthorns and dogwoods.

An added bonus of many of these plants is their visual appeal. Elderberry produces showy white flowers, followed by masses of small red or black berries, the winterberry features striking red berries that last well into the winter and the alternate-leaved or "pagoda"

### Voting provisions for the disabled

Special provisions in voting procedures provide support for physically disabled, visually impaired and elderly electors who might otherwise be unable to cast their ballots in Ontario's 34th provincial general election.

Qualified electors who are unable to attend a polling place because of illness or physical

disability have options other than voting on election day. They may either cast a ballot at an advance poll, or vote by proxy.

Designated advance polls, which provide level access or ramps to accommodate disabled or elderly electors, are scheduled for September 3, September 5 and September 7.

### BOOK REVIEW

By Peter L. Robertson  
 American Library Assn.

**ALIAS DAVID BOWIE.** By Peter and Leni Gillman. Holt. \$19.95. 511 pages.

Many writers have attempted to chronicle the changing persona, wild fashions and varied musical styles of English rock superstar David Bowie.

Since his first hit single, "Space Oddity," in 1969, Bowie has taken a perverse delight in bold statements, in confusing and captivating both critics and listeners.

While Bowie has been successful in musically switching styles, fashions and managing to stay one jump ahead of his critics, he has been markedly less adept at keeping a tight rein on the words written about him.

Peter and Leni Gillman's "Alias David Bowie" is the latest in a long line of works that have infuriated the artist.

While far from the definitive Bowie tome, it is a welcome addition to the continuing documentation of rock's favorite chameleon - more gossipy than the subject would like, less musically informative than this reviewer would like.

The book contains no input from the star himself. But with Bowie's well-known penchant for artistic control and media manipulation, his contribution would probably not have amounted to much anyway.

This book is timely, though - with Bowie's ambitious "Glass Spider" tour now covering the country.

Given Bowie's tireless efforts at orchestrating his own self-promotion, one can readily understand his reported chagrin over this book. The Gillmans have shown great ingenuity at digging beneath the surface and stripping away the various myths surrounding Bowie's early life.

The opening chapters are devoted to David's grandfather and his war record. While there may be some debate over medal claims, the relevance to Bowie is slight indeed.

The much-discussed madness that has plagued members of the Jones (Bowie's real name) family - including the long and sad mental decline of

David's brother, Terry, which ended with his suicide in 1985 - is used to illustrate the lengths to which Bowie has distanced himself from his real past.

By their own admission, the authors bring no musical appreciation of Bowie's work to this book, choosing instead to catalog the sorrowful tales of former managers, lovers and friends.

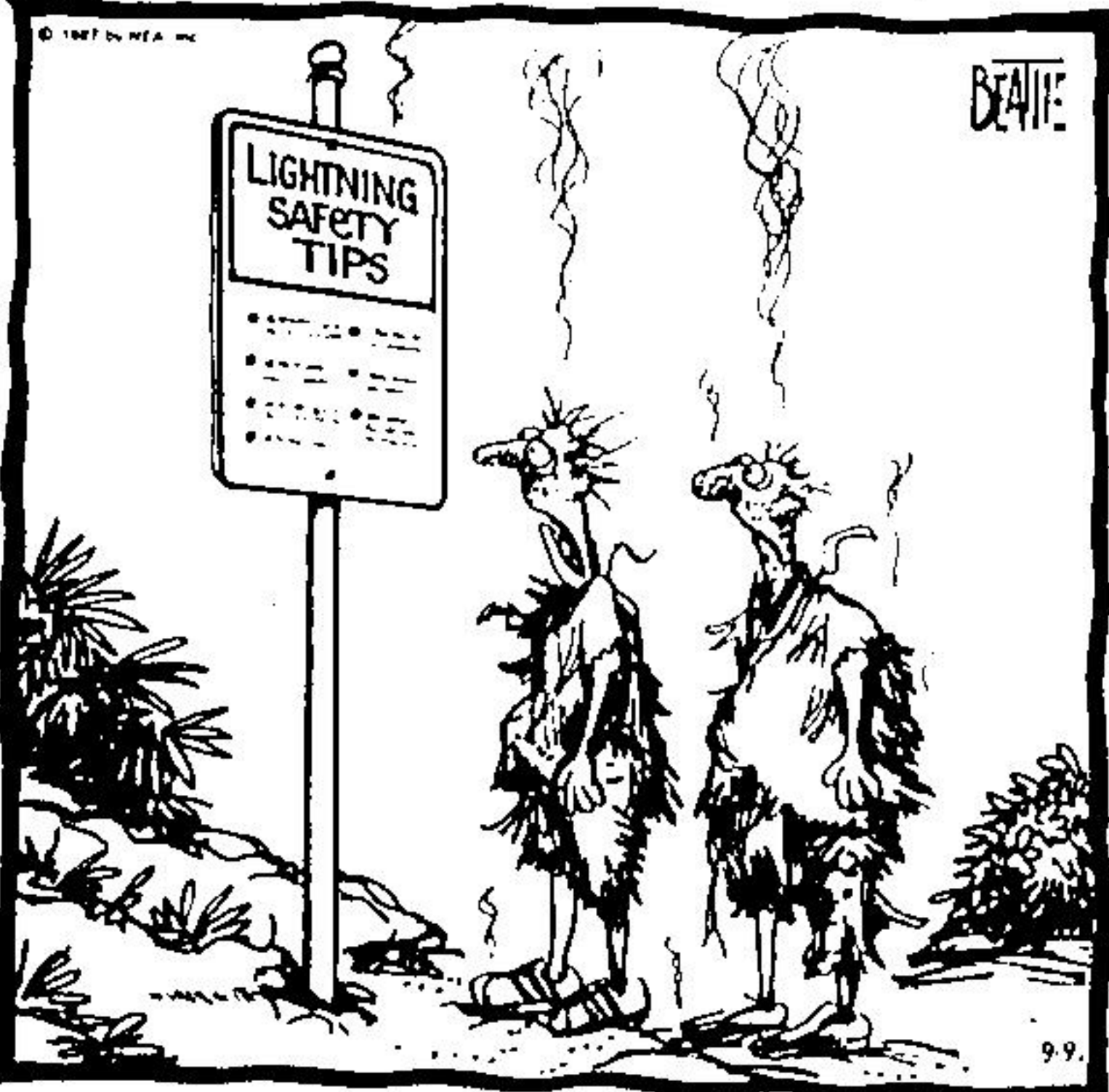
Bowie has ruthlessly cut from place to place, living in Los Angeles, Berlin, Switzerland. By constantly switching musical influences, the 40-year-old performer has had a career that has spanned two decades. His ambition has left several beached relationships and a few unemployed musicians in its wake.

Perhaps more justifiably, the authors heap coals on Bowie's acting career. The disastrous "Just a Gigolo" in 1978 was, as the star himself commented, "32 Presley movies rolled into one"; and "The Man Who Fell to Earth" and "The Hunger" were both ambitious, interesting, yet ultimately flawed work.

On Broadway and in Chicago, however, Bowie garnered critical applause for his stage debut in the "Elephant Man."

© 1987, NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN

### SNAFU™ by Bruce Beattie



"The last one says: Never stand close enough to read this during a thunderstorm."