Halton Hills Ottook

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Their Outlook

Drug awareness quiz on marijuana

EDITOR'S NOTE: Drug Awareness Week is Nov. 15-21 in Halton Hills and to highlight the occasion, The Drug Abuse Committee has submitted articles for publication about the dangers of drugs. The DAC provides free information and counselling tobacco cigarettes. services in the Halton Hills area, 12. Long term heavy marijuana For more information call 877-1915.

MARIJUANA - DID YOU KNOW? This questionnaire is based on 'Cannibis Adverse Effects on Health', a statement prepared by scientists at the Addiction Research Foundation 1. A heavy dose of marijuana can

produce an acute toxic psychosis in some users.

2. Most heavy marijuana users never experience anxiety reactions from it.

3. Chronic heavy marijuana use can lead to lasting changes such as apathy, lack of concern for the future, loss of motivation, and even to psychotic and paranoid symptoms.

4. In most cases the symptoms do not disappear when use is discontinued.

5. Youthful marijuana users (under 16) may experience adverse effects on physical and psychological maturation

6. All marijuana users seem to recover fully when its use is discontinued.

7. Long term exposure of experimental animals to heavy doses of marijuana can produce Jearning impairment and changes in brain waves that persist months after the end of usage.

8. There is clinical evidence of gross brain atrophy in heavy mariuana users.

9. Marijuana produces much more tar than strong tobacco, and its effect is doubled when the "joint" is smoked to a very small butt, and 1-T, 2-F, 3-T, 4-F, 5-T, 6-F, 7-T, 8-F, increased even more when the smoke is held in the lungs for a long 16-T, 17-F, 18-T, 19-T, 20-F.

10. Marijuana tar does not contain a higher concentration of cancer producing agents than tobacco tar.

11 Two or three marijuana cigarettes a day may carry the same risk of lung damage as a pack of

smoking is not associated with chronic respiratory symptoms, as tobacco smoking is.

13. In male animals chronic marijuana use decreases the level of the male hormone testosterone, and causes degeneration in the testes and arrested or abnormal sperm production.

14. There is no evidence that marijuana smoking is associated with intermittent failure in ovulation in females.

15. In animal experiments birth defects have appeared in the third generation after exposure of the first generation female to marijuana smoke during pregnancy.

16. Exposure of pregnant animals to marijuana smoke can produce fetal toxicity and increased death rate around the time of birth

17. THC given to pregnant animals at doses too low to produce visible physical abnormalities produces no changes in the behavior and development of the off-spring.

18. Heavy use of marijuana may interfere with the function of the immune system, which plays a role in the resistance to viruses and to cancer Thus, the combination of inhaled cancer-producing agents and the depression of the immune system could entail a greater risk of

19. High concentrations of THC inhibit the production in the body cells of complex substances such as proteins, DNA, and RNA and also inhibit cell division.

20. There is no possibility of physical or psychological addiction lo marijuna.

ANSWERS: 9-T, 10-F, 11-T, 12-F, 13-T, 14-F, 15-T, Two's a Crowd

By BILL BUTTLE



"I'll open it if you'll close it!!"

Meech Lake Accord not good for disabled



Against the odds

PAT WOODE

The Meech Lake Accord will lead to "increasing inequalities of opportunity and standards of living across this country," according to Deborah Coyne, an Assistant Professor of constitutional law and public policy at the University of

Toronto. This view is based on the provisions in the Accord that allow provinces to opt out of all future constitutional amendments that transfer power to the federal government. This includes pensions and imemployment insurance. In exchange for not using its veto a province could opt out of a proposed na tional program and redirect its por tion of the funds. It is difficult to imagine disadvantaged groups having much clout when a national forum has been replaced by political regional rivalries

Meech Lake also lessened the rights of the disabled in Quebec. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms makes provisions for disabled persons The "distinct society" clause now overrides these provisions. The Accord was amended to protect the rights of multicultural and native groups. Others were left to fend for themselves.

Each province has to ratify this Accord before it can come into effect. How well the rights of the disabled are protected is now in the hands of the provincial leaders.

Sometime ago, I wrote of how you may not be fully covered by group insurance if you are disabled when you start employment. This same form of logic by the insurance companies seems to have been extended by some companies to include your electric wheelchair or scooter. Maplex Insurance decided that a mobie could be described as a "motorized vehicle", and hence not covered by house insurance Riding lawn mowers, power boats, and golf carls were not motorized vehicles. If you have an electric wheelchair or scooter, I suggest that you contact your insurance broker and have him or her check and see what you are covered for You may need a rider on your policy



So the provincial government is supposed to come across with some money for Halton's soaring garbage costs. Are we as taxpayers supposed to breath a collective sigh of relief?

Don't we pay taxes to the province as well?

Halton Region has asked the Minister of the Environment, Jim Bradley, for \$28 million to offset the Region's garbage costs. Halton Chairman Pete Pomeroy is expecting the province to help out the Region. But he won't say how much he's expecting.

The Region has already spent \$10 million in their quest for a new landfill site. The costs of transporting Halton's waste to New York and Niagara Falls, along with the costs of building a new transfer station, preparing a new landfill site and the Environmental Assessment hearing will hike that hill another \$18 million before the new dump receives an ounce of garbage.

The reason Halton councillors feel the province should foot some of the bill is the lengthy Environmental Assessment hearing the Region has had to go through. Halton is the first Region in Ontario to go through the process in search of a dump. "We're a test case," is a refrain often heard echoing through the Region's council chamber

That hearing, which was supposed to cost around \$100,000 at the most and take nine mooths in 1981, will now take at least 14 months and cost over \$2 million.

The Environmental Assessment process forces municipalities to look at all the alternatives. Different methods of disposal and different sites. Private firms need not go through that process.

So it's fair enough for the Region to ask the province for money. The Ministry's good intentions has obviously led the Region down a long expensive road to a dump. Mind you, there is no way the hearing process can take all the blame for the ten year search for the dump.

Let's hope councillors aren't feeling too pleased with themselves if the province comes up with a significant sum of money After all, there are many other regions across the province asking for money for various projects which they themselves can't afford. Lump all those shared costs together and there really isn't much savings involved for the Halton taxpayer

What's one of the most famous misquotes in history" "Play it again Sam " Wasn't it actually "play it

How about "A road by any other name."

That's the way it was with Town councillors Nov 16 when they were discussing names for the Halton Hills Village (Enterac) subdivision.

Councillor Al Cook was worried that Webster Drive may cause some confusion with the already well established Weber Drive. He wanted to change Drive to Street

But Webster has a "ssst" in it said Coun, Bowman to an amused audience.

While councillors pondered the situation Coun Pam Sheldon nonchalantly come up with the renamed street. "We have a motion to change the name to Webster Street or Webster Way or whatever " said Coun Sheldon

"Webster Way," rang the chorus from the round table "I like Webster Way

And so it was done

Two's a Crowd

By BILL BUTTLE



If the doctor had wanted equal weights, he'd have specified equal weights!"

OOKING INTO THE LIBRARY

SEVEN CLUES IN PERBLE CREEK By Kathy Stinson (Toronto: James Lorimer, 1987). Nov. 14-21 is designated national-

ly as "Children's Book Festival, a week which is set aside to honor Canadian authors who write for children. Author Kathy Stinson visited the Acton Library this week, where she spoke to groups of school children Kathy is a former resident of Norval. She is best known for her picture books for very young children, such as Red is Best, Those Green Things and The Bare Naked Book, to name a few Children who attended her presentation this week were

treated to a reading from her most recent work, Seven Clues in Pebble Creek. This is Kathy's first published novel, and it is written at a Grade 3 level.

As the title indicates, the plot is built around a series of clues Bored, listless Matt receives a mysterious post card bearing the first clue. His boredom evaporates as he and his friend attempt to track down and solve the seven clues. The friendship which develops between the two boys has been finely waven into the story