

Opinion Page

30 years ago

On their fifth wedding anniversary Mr. and Mrs. Terry Glover of McIntyre Crescent were surprised with a party by friends. The party throwers included Mr. and Mrs. Fred Norton, Mr. and Mrs. Len Grittani, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Magdy, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Timpson and Mr. and Mrs. Gus Fantuz.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brown are preparing for their 25th wedding anniversary by opening their Limehouse home to family and friends.

15 years ago

A record crowd turned out at the Halloween bake sale at Park School. During the sale eight cakes were raffled. The winners were Denise Leece, Robin Dodokin, Charlene Boyd, Diana Collet, Nicky Doupage, Chrissy Hancock, Bobbie Jo Walter, and Bruce Hulme. Money raised at the sale went to the resource centre.

General secretary of the YWCA in Lusaka, Zambia was honored at a supper at the home of YM-YWCA executive secretary Jo Lister. Board members that attended included Marilyn Mitton, Beth Steele, Diane Sandelands, Mavis Eastwood, Mary Siddall, Audrey Houston, Peggy Balkind, Doreen Burt, and Marg Hillier.

Mary Kingdon and Robert Davis were married in the Norval Presbyterian Church, and will reside in Georgetown.

Blair Youmans, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wray Youmans, married Patricia Berneche, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Berneche, in the Norval United Church.

Deborah Ann Harlow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Harlow, married Maurice Stephen Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Neil Anderson, in the Maple Avenue Baptist Church. Both were Georgetown residents and are moving to Acton.

10 years ago

Parents without Partners sponsored an international costume Halloween party at St. Andrew's United Church. At the party collecting pennies for UNICEF was three-year-old Kristen Roach. Also at the party were Lisa and Lianne Graham and Debbie Lawrence.

A new club for homesick Britons has started in Georgetown. The officials of the Georgetown British Club are: Frank Phipps, presi-

Halton's History from our files

dent; Jean Cochrane, treasurer; Irene Patterson, recording secretary; Carol Gougeon, membership secretary; Joan Hayes, program co-ordinator; and Val Taylor, social convenor.

The Georgetown Rotary Club held its 25th annual senior citizens dinner in the Holy Cross Church. Master of ceremonies for the 23rd year was Steamer Emmerson. The evening's musical entertainment was provided by Charlie Crimes, George Rowe, Ralph Ursel and the Milton Senior Citizens Orchestra.

5 years ago

The Norval Women's Institute held its annual luncheon and euchre night at the Norval Community Centre. Euchre winners were Helen Louth, Florence Lyons, Luena Campbell and Marion McCallum. Lone hand winners were Ed Parsons and Mary Booth. Lucky draw winners were Grace Lawrence, Ismy Bird, Dorothy Cook, Leona Fidler, Muriel Miller, Alice Lester, Eva Presswood, Muriel King and Marg Ching.

Edward Green was honored for his 100 donations to the Georgetown and District Red Cross Branch. Cornelius Oosterhof and Hubestus Vanderham were awarded for 75 donations. For 50 donations Harry Roffel, Hank Visser, Kenneth Baker, Mildred Breadner, Clarence Doyle, John Nichols, William Walsma, Allan Moore, Leonard Scarborough, and Dennise Sheperd were also given awards.

A special YMCA gathering at the new Central YMCA facility honored former Georgetown executive director John Wood. Irene Fairless and Sandra Williams were on hand to present Mr. Wood with gifts.

Steve Boyce and Staff Sargeant Clare Richardson conducted a police auction consisting of 200 bicycles and other items such as rings, watches, and records.

Brake-light maniacs



Donna Kell
Kell's Korner

This is a message to those brake-light maniacs whose joy it is each morning to play footsies with the gas pedal and brake pedal while going down one of possibly the best stretches of driving road in Halton Hills.

The fun is going out of driving down Mountainview Road north of Sideroad 10. But it's not just your fault. There is mud everywhere and people are becoming fiercely cautious. Yes, you know who you are, feet glued to the brake pedal going down the hill, car sputtering feebly to get back up the hill. And those Bell trucks sitting at the bottom of Mountainview Road - right at the bottom! - first thing in the morning. Yeah, you know, 9 a.m., when everyone is going to work, Bell decides to park at the bottom of the hill.

Driving northbound, you watch all the faces of drivers who surely know that a dangerous hill has been made even more challenging by the addition of those silver and

blue trucks. And for added distraction, there's a worker on a ladder at the side of the road.

Oddly enough, people are now travelling the speed limit on the old Ninth Line. I wonder what will happen when they "smooth the contours" of the hill? Will there be an obstacle course of mudpiles?

Every once in a while there is a heartwrenching, nauseating story in the newspaper. A young girl in Norval last weekend was picked up by three youths in a car and nearly beaten to death.

I don't know a reporter I talked to Monday about the Saturday night incident who didn't have a pit in their stomach at the news. And I bet there isn't a mother or father reading the story who won't warn their teens about the hazard of strangers.

And of going to a dark place alone at night with someone unknown.

This girl is not from Norval - she is from Bramalea. It was a night out. She was meeting new people, and went with them in their car to Milton. But now she is in bad shape in hospital with head injuries.

And a youth, 16, is being charged with attempted murder.

The whole enraging incident puts a new meaning to the term "a night out."

And it proves there are a lot of sick people out there. Let's not give them the opportunity to prove it again.

LETTERS

Readers object to waste pick-up in town's rural areas

Dear Sir,

We sincerely hope that the article in the Wednesday, Oct. 18, edition of the Herald, which suggested that "Rural areas may get waste pick-up", is a mistake! We in the "rural areas," which includes the hamlets such as Glen Williams, have survived without municipal garbage collection until now and it would be irresponsible of the municipality and a breach of the environmental issue to even think of extending garbage collection beyond the present boundaries. Through necessity we have learn-

ed to separate and recycle, to use environmentally friendly products, to compost and to have as little real garbage as possible. Families in our area have as little as one bag in two weeks. Why would the municipality ignore what we rural folks have accomplished and suddenly offer us garbage collection?

Instead, the municipality should be encouraging more people to produce less garbage. Perhaps if the municipality were to stop collecting garbage from everyone, people would become more aware that

the mountains of garbage they greenbag could be significantly reduced. In the present state of the garbage crisis, environmental pollution and degradation of our soil we are appalled at the backward thought processes of our municipal representatives.

Furthermore we don't want our property taxes increased for a service that is not required. Please leave the rural waste and taxes alone!

Sincerely,
Ellen Russell, Glen Williams,
Sheila Willis, Glen Williams

There are no unwanted babies, mother of 5 adopted kids says

Dear Sir,

Our country is in the process of forming new legislation about abortion. As the mother of five adopted children, I would like to introduce some important considerations about the abortion issue.

The real question at stake is: What do we do about unborn babies conceived by a woman who is not ready to be a parent?

In as much as these mothers may be unprepared for parenthood, there are thousands of families in our province alone who would take these children on a moment's notice. I know this to be a fact, having adopted five children myself, and we would welcome with love more children - if there were any.

As a volunteer with the Halton Children's Aid Society, I have personally had contact with about 100 other families in the past 13 years who would also have welcomed these babies. Some of these families are still childless, others have only one child when they would gladly have welcomed more, because the CAS in Halton

and in other areas have closed their doors to people wanting to adopt, as there are no babies to give them.

Some have desperately tried to have natural children by in-vitro fertilization, most of them unsuccessfully, at a cost of thousands of dollars to themselves and to the province through OHIP payments.

This whole situation seems to be grossly immoral. On one hand, we are paying tens of thousands of dollars annually in OHIP payments to kill babies not yet born, and on the other hand, we are paying tens of thousands of dollars to help others conceive, with a minimal success rate.

I agree that all women (and

men) should have the right to choose when to become a parent in this world. Perhaps a massive campaign to educate our young people better about birth control methods - similar to the campaign about the AIDS concern, would help many to choose parenthood at a better time in their lives. And as for the children conceived by those not ready for parenthood, surely we can do better than to kill them.

The thousands of families waiting to adopt would welcome these babies with love.

There really is no unwanted baby.

Leslie B. Rutherford,
Georgetown

Electricity is a necessity

Dear Sir,
Re: Federal Goods and Services Tax.

Brian Mulroney's tax on goods and services won't bring the federal government any more money? So says Michael Wilson. Yet the tax on electricity in Ontario alone will bring them over half-a-billion dollars from this previously untaxed necessity.

Now Otto Jelinek says he'll need

almost 4,000 new collectors to collect the same amount of money. There seems to be room for some correction.

Brian Mulroney should try NOT taxing electricity. In other countries with a value added tax, they have recognized electricity as a necessity.

D. Carl Anderson,
Chairman,
Municipal Electric Association

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Earth's on a galactic highway



Ian Weir
Weir's View
The Sun News Service

large, knobby-headed creatures need not necessarily have been aliens. Given the current climate of glasnost they might just have been representatives of the U.S. State Department, dropping by the neighborhood to chat about arms control.

And yet, this is the second such report to be carried in a reputable Soviet publication. Last summer, it seems, the newspaper Socialist Industry described a "close encounter" between a milkmaid and another knobby-headed alien in Central Russia.

Admittedly, we don't have full details of this encounter. We don't know, for instance, whether the milkmaid was in fact a farmer's daughter and whether the knobby-headed visitor was a travelling Martian salesman.

Still, it seems pretty clear that aliens are actually visiting us. Which raises the huge question: Why? Or to put it another way: What on earth are space aliens doing on Earth?

According to the supermarket tabloids, their motives are pretty pedestrian. They're just here to kidnap Elvis, or possibly to father a love-child upon Roseanne Barr.

But some of us remain dubious. The aliens must have a better reason to visit Earth - but what could it possibly be?

After all, the great philosopher Douglas Adams described the Earth (in his book *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*) as "an utterly insignificant little blue-green planet whose ape-descended lifeforms are so amazingly primitive that they still think digital watches are a pretty neat idea."

This is a harsh assessment, but it has a ring of truth. And it casts

doubt on one theory, which is that the aliens are here to study us.

If so, these must be fairly dim aliens. It's possible there's a species living a million light-years away that sends engineers to Canada to study innovations in rail transportation and postal technology, but it doesn't seem likely.

Another possibility is that the aliens who visit us are just joy-riding teenagers who want to hang out somewhere. According to this theory, the Earth is a kind of galactic version of the West Edmonton Mall.

But this theory is completely exploded by the sighting of aliens in Russia. I mean, they're sure as heck not going there for the shopping.

A darker possibility is that they're just scouting us out while they wait for us to blunder into a nuclear war. After that, the earth will be a large, flat, uninhabited expanse - and as such, a perfect solution to the parking problems in this corner of the universe.

But personally, I prefer another theory. I've always suspected the alien visitors are just tourists. They've been sent here by unscrupulous tour operators who describe the earth as the galaxy's most delightful vacation hideaway.

The aliens arrive, and find out the truth. So they fly back home in a litigious wrath, only to discover that the charter company has gone bankrupt and that its president is now selling Venusian swampland to unsuspecting investors.

Either that or they're just after Elvis.

But enough. Pondering the mysteries of the universe makes my brain hurt.

A skeptic might argue that these