

Environmentalists should get back to reality

Hello again, you perusers of the opinion page. I have been absent for awhile, for various reasons, but now I have returned, not necessarily with a vengeance, but with things that frost my toes.

Number one concerns the behavior of the environmentalists sanctioned so firmly in Halton Hills and number two concerns our erstwhile federal representative, Garth Turner and his eloquent rhapsodizing about a new national anthem.

Canada needs a new national anthem about as much as a three-legged dog needs a tail. You want to sing, Garth, join a choir. You were a business writer, help fix the economy! More about this issue next week.

I was out of town for the official opening of Georgetown Mold-Masters new engineering, research and technology centre located on Armstrong Avenue.

I wanted to be there to express my appreciation, as a resident of Halton Hills, to this company. An international innovative leader in its field which is bringing both world-wide prestige and possible future employment in terms of other companies relocating to our area. Both of which are desperately needed for Halton Hills to remain viable and to escape the threatening tentacles of Greater Toronto.

So I return home and what do I see on the front page; some female with a toilet seat draped around her neck confronting Ontario Premier Bob Rae about the Acton dump possibility.

Can these supposedly caring, knowledgeable people not get their priorities straight or are they just too self-centred and tunnel-visioned to give a damn about the other

aspects involving the good of the community as a whole in terms of jobs, businesses and an expanded tax base which might in fact aid their cause even more.

I care about the environment just as much as any fruitloop who wears a toilet seat might. I want future generations to be able to survive and thrive on this planet. But I also have other concerns as well.

Which brings us to another point. No one that I have spoken to in Halton Hills, including the mayor and various councillors, wants a dump to be located in the Acton quarry.

So why are these supposedly intelligent folk constantly attacking our local politicians, who will have no control over the final decision in any case.


We have a locally elected member of the governing NDP, Noel Duignan, also a member of one of our local environmental groups and he does nothing! What a joke.

Why isn't his office picketed, why aren't the local newspapers being barraged by letters complaining about his lack of action on the issue - any issue!

Strangely enough, a mere week after an editorial in the Herald suggested that a private member's bill might be introduced on the issue of the Acton dump proposal, Mr. Duignan suggested in his weekly column that he might indeed introduce a private member's bill to stop the proposal sometime in March. What a man!

Our People's Forum (Letters to the Editor) is a section we pride ourselves on. It allows the community a voice. And yes, we accept both brickbats and bouquets when they are directed at the paper, collectively, or myself, individually.

"As I See It"
by
Colin Gibson



Can you see the difference? I can't see the difference!

Editors Note: The following letter was released to the Halton Hills Herald for publication.

Dear Mayor Miller,
I am very concerned that our elected officials are not doing all within their power to stop the proposal by R.S.I. to turn the Acton Quarry into a garbage dump. I have a young daughter who is asthmatic and I am very concerned not only about the contaminated water that will result if the dump goes in, but also about the added air pollution that will result from all the garbage trucks going through our town, as well as the airborne toxins which are emitted from solid waste landfills.

At the all-candidates meeting in Georgetown just prior to the election in November, 1991, you stated that "If the people wish, I will enforce the Indusmin agreement" to replace the Third Line. Also, in several newspaper articles prior to and after the election, you were reported as saying that one of your stated priorities for Halton Hills was the protection of the environment.

As a citizen of Halton Hills, I am asking that you enforce the Indusmin agreement to replace the Third Line through the Acton Quarry. I am also, by copy of this letter, requesting that my representatives from Ward One also fully support you in this action. I would much prefer that our tax dollars go to enforcing this agreement to replace the Third Line, because this action will stop the dump proposal in its tracks.

I would appreciate your reply about the very positive and progressive steps you will take to ensure that our water supplies are protected.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jeannet Juster
Acton

It is a section for "Individuals" to express their personal thoughts or concerns and shouldn't be abused.

However, as you can see from the examples of letters we recently received, environmentalists are attempting to abuse this section.

As long as I am here, I won't allow this to happen.

The environmentalists complain about underhanded methods being used against them and dishonest politicians.

The type of propaganda being propagated in these letters and

being passed off as "individual concerns" is both underhanded and dishonest.

According to the dictionary, the environment is defined as "The external circumstances, conditions and things that affect the existence and development of an individual, organism or group."

The dictionary also defines a fanatic as "One who is moved by excessive enthusiasm and zeal."

Put the two together and you have a problem.

As I see it, anyway.

Editor's note: The following letter was released to the Halton Hills Herald for publication.

Dear Mayor Miller,
I am very concerned that our elected officials are not doing all within their power to stop the proposal by R.S.I. to turn the Acton Quarry into a garbage dump. As the mother of two young children, I am also very concerned about the degradation to our water supplies and air that will occur if the quarry is turned into a dump. The detrimental effects these will have on their health as well as mine can be prevented by stopping the dump.
At the all-candidates meeting in Georgetown just prior to the election in November, 1991, you stated that "If the people wish, I will enforce the Indusmin agreement" to replace the Third Line. Also, in several newspaper articles prior to and after the election, you were reported as saying that one of your stated priorities for Halton Hills was the protection of the environment.

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Sincerely,
Jean A. Hilborn,
Acton.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Nancy Ridler
Acton

Write us a letter!

The Herald wants to hear from you. If you have an opinion you want to express or a comment to make, send us a letter or drop by the office. Our address is 45 Guelph Street, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 3Z6.

All letters must be signed. Please include your address and telephone number for verification.

The Herald reserves the right to edit letters due to space limitations.

Hope can get us through toughest times

As the new year has just begun, I thought it appropriate to continue on the theme of my last column. That being, the importance of hope to help us get through the tough times.

Granted, hope alone can't help people improve their situation, but as I learned over the Christmas holidays, it can sure come in handy. My story begins with my departure from work Friday night, Dec. 20.

Needless to say I was in good spirits knowing I wouldn't have to type another word until Monday Dec. 30.

I got in my car and off I went. I hadn't travelled more than a 30 kilometres towards my final destination - Toronto - when my car started to mysteriously decelerate. This kind of happening was most disturbing knowing that I was trying to accelerate.

The car finally died somewhere on Mississauga Road. Not my idea of paradise by any means.

Knowing nothing about the workings of a car, I looked around for the nearest garage. However, there was nothing but empty fields.

Given the darkness and the rainy weather, I wasn't surprised no one stopped to help yours truly. Standing in front of my car with the hood opened, I thought to myself, would I stop if I saw someone in the same predicament? I didn't take long before realizing the answer would be no.

Then a brain wave hit. 'I've prepared myself for this exact kind of emergency,' I told myself. Like a good little driver I had joined CAA in case of just such an emergency.


However, it didn't take me long to realize help from CAA depends on having access to a telephone. There didn't happen to be any telephones handy along this stretch of highway.

What was I left with then? Hope of course.

So I got back in my car, closed my eyes and mustered all the hope I could, as I turned the car key. All of a sudden I heard the beautiful sound of my engine start up and off I went.

But the same kind of scenario unfolded once more before I got home. Knowing I was to drive my wife,

Ben's Banter
by
Ben Dummett



sister and 85-year-old grandmother to Perth Ontario - where we were to spend Christmas with my parents - I knew it would probably be unwise to rely solely on hope to make the long-distance trip.

The next day I took the car into my mechanic who couldn't say for certain what the problem was, since the car had to be driven between 30 and 100 kilometres before it ever happened.

However, he did something and the car seemed to be working fine.

Confident as ever, I picked-up my passengers and off we went to Per-

th. To make a long story short the car died twice, but then with the help of a little hope, re-started each time on the way to our destination.

Again I had the car examined in Perth, and again something was done to supposedly solve the problem.

You are probably thinking that on the way back to Toronto the car again stalled and then re-started. Well, you are wrong.

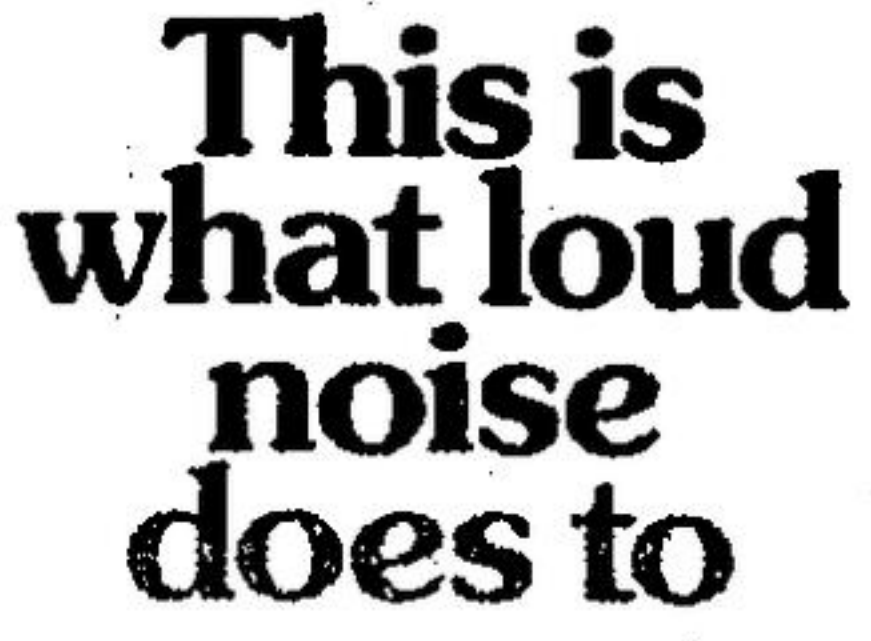
At about Tweed - the half-way point between Perth and Toronto - the car started to hiccup, indicating to me it was only a matter of time before the car died. But miraculously, the car didn't stall; as a matter of fact a relatively short time after the hiccupping started, the car again began to run smoothly.

Since then the car has been operating well, and knock on wood, will continue to do so indefinitely.

Learning from this experience I plan to persevere during the upcoming year, all the while hoping

my determination helps me overcome any obstacles I may encounter along the way.
A Happy New Year to all!

This is what loud noise does to



To find out how you can prevent hearing loss, call us toll-free at 1-800-465-4327 or contact your local office.

The Canadian Hearing Society Foundation