

Environment

ACT NOW FOR A
CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

THE FUTURE IS
IN YOUR HANDS



He should have stayed home

I should never have gone in the first place. After being in bed for three days previous, battling a bad cold, I should have cancelled out on the trip. But the taste of the trail made me believe I was feeling better when I was actually getting worse.

Scott, an old high school chum from Milton, had asked me a month ago if I could guide him and his two work companions, Art and Peter, on a canoe trip to the forest reserve bordering the southwest section of Algonquin Provincial Park. Friday night they arrived at my apartment in Peterborough, and after serving them a few cold beers and myself a hot cup of Neo Citron (extra strength) we hastily went to bed, eager for an early start Saturday morning.

The trip was cursed from the very beginning for even though we left Peterborough before 6:30 a.m. poor directions and an unmarked access point on Livingston Lake made us head out on route well after 10 a.m. A few hours of hard paddling and two wrong turns on again a poorly marked route we came to the end of Kimball Lake and the beginning of the longest portage. The 2,743 metre path, nicknamed "the Golden Staircase" by the locals, worked its way through a wet bug infested lowland, then beared north up a steep grade alongside a cascading falls.

Two problems arose while conquering the Golden Staircase: first off Art and Peter had never really battled pack and canoe for such a great distance and Art continuously made it apparent to the guide that "this is not a fun time!"



**Nature's
Way**
By
KEVIN CALLAN

Second, it came obvious to the guided party that portaging an accumulative of 10 kilometres over rugged terrain with a chest cold, runny nose and laryngitis was not my idea of fun!

The one thing which pushed me on was the comforting realization that I'd done all this before, even worse, and even with a hacking cough draining my energy I knew I would get through it again. Scott, Art and Peter didn't have that knowledge. They lacked practical experience. They didn't realize that putting oneself through such an exhausting, uncomfortable situation is part of the canoe tripping experience. They didn't have other grueling memories of lengthier portages and remembrance of times when bugs were thicker. Every 20 minutes I made sure to clear my clogged nostrils, and then view my surroundings or glance at the colorful flowers growing along the trail. I was filled with awe while the others were filled with hate.

It was just after 6 p.m. by the time we completed the portage and paddled to the end of Rockaway Lake to make camp on the border of the forest reserve, home of 200 year old white pine. In minutes I erected my tent,

unrolled my sleeping bag, and boiled up chicken noodle soup. After an overdose of Tylenol and a cup of hot tea I went straight to bed.

A chilling frost visited camp that night, freezing the water bottles and inducing my fever. By morning my cold was so bad I seriously feared for my health. While Scott, Art and Peter took the day to paddle into Dividing Lake to fish for speckle trout I spent the day in camp battling my fever. I transformed my tent into a sweat hut. By mid-afternoon, after a number of steaming rocks and personal prayers my fever began to break. I desperately wanted to pack up and head for home, but I knew my body needed another night to sweat out the fever if I was to have enough energy to make it back over the Golden Staircase portage.

Well I made it back. Now I'm cuddled up in my apartment pushing penicillin and cursing myself for not being smart enough to cancel out on the canoe trip when I had the chance. But I must admit, fighting a fever along Algonquin's Golden Staircase, how insane it might have been, reassured my abilities to battle the next long portage and armed my canoe companions with a perfect memory for their next trip.



Mandy Bosch and teacher Robert Moulder display the winning poster from their Grade 7/8 class in the Brookville School Environment Awareness Poster Contest.

Green Expo this weekend offers environmental products, services

Now for the first time in Canada you can find an entire range of environmentally sound products and services under one roof. According to organizers, Paul and Linda Fulcher, your entire family can have fun while you "Shop for the Earth" at The Green Consumer Expo, Canada's largest environmental consumer trade show.

"Shopping with the environment in mind is a positive step for people to make, and we have a great variety of exciting and interactive exhibits to introduce people to the green marketplace," said Paul Fulcher. "Our goal is to empower the consumer."

Linda Lynch, consultant and founder of Environment Watch, was inspirational to the Fulchers.

"The Green Consumer Expo grew out of our need for environmental products and services," said Linda Fulcher, Expo Director. "When I first learned of the seriousness of the environmental problems I wanted to change my whole life the very next day."

"I couldn't easily find the products and services I needed



concerned and discerning consumer."

Admittedly, the primary concern is: How do consumers know if products and services are really good for them and safe for the environment? This question will be addressed in presentations by people such as Graham Hardman, Director of the Environmental Choice Program; Monique Michaud, Director of Essentia Communications and Scott Black, Editor in Chief of Earthkeeper Magazine. Topics include: What is Green?; Incremental Lifestyle Changes; The Power of the Consumer; Clean Energy Technology; Sport and Recreation in the Green Revolution; Green and Cleaning and Looking Beyond Labels.

For families attending the Expo there will be a full schedule of children's events and entertainment.

The Green Consumer Expo encourages consumers to "Shop for the Earth" and promises to offer a variety of unique and innovative products and services. The Green Consumer Expo will be held at the Toronto International Centre, Airport and Derry Roads, June 1 and 2.

Bruce Trail Yard Sale

The second Annual Bruce Trail Yard Sale will be held on Sat. June 8 at 11 Edith St. in Georgetown. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Bruce Trail Association. Donations for the sale will be gratefully accepted. Please call 877-9162 for pick-up. Support the Bruce Trail Association's efforts to preserve the Niagara Escarpment.

Asthmatic day camp

Halton Region is again offering a Day Camp for children with asthma who are between the ages of 5-12 and siblings are also welcome to attend. The camp will run in Georgetown from July 2-12, in Oakville from July 15-26 and in Burlington from July 29-August 16. For further information or to register call the Lung Association at 632-8499.

CAS Summer Camp

Volunteers are needed for a special summer camp for children connected with the

IN BRIEF

Society who can't attend regular camp. Run by the Halton Children's Aid Society volunteers will provide supervision during field trips and other special activities. Training for the volunteers will be held on July 4 and 5, the camp itself runs in Bronte Creek Park for six weeks beginning July 8. If you are interested in volunteering with the CAS "Summer Smiles" Camp, please call Corrie Galloway at 844-8211.

Harold Newman exhibit

A retrospective of 60 years of drawing and painting by one of Halton County's patriarchs, Harold J. Newman will be presented in the Halton Hills Cultural Centre gallery on June 5th to July 6. See "Paintings From Six Decades" at the Library-Cultural Centre, 9 Church St. Attend the Opening Gala on June 5th sponsored by the Friends of the Halton Hills Libraries.

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