

EDITORIAL

from the desk of the late Hartley Coles

A little Irish Humour

The Irish have always been known for their self-deprecating, and somewhat racy, sense of humour. I believe the ability to laugh at ourselves is a most desirable trait.

Six retired Irishmen were playing poker in O'Leary's apartment when Paddy Murphy loses \$500 on a single hand, clutches his chest, and drops dead at the table. Showing respect for their fallen brother, the other five continue playing standing up.

Michael O'Conner looks around and asks, "Well, me boys, someone's got to tell Paddy's wife. Who will it be?"

They draw straws. Paul Gallagher picks the short one. They tell him to be discreet, gentle; don't make a bad situation any worse.

"Discreet? I'm the most discreet Irishman you'll ever meet. Discretion is me middle name. Leave it to me," says Gallagher.

He goes over to Murphy's house and knocks on the door. Mrs. Murphy answers, and asks what he wants. Gallagher declares, "Your husband just lost \$500, and is afraid to come home."

"Tell him to drop dead!" says Murphy's wife.

"I'll go tell him," says Gallagher.

Into a Belfast pub comes Paddy Murphy, looking like he'd just been run over by a train. His arm is in a sling, his nose is broken, his face is cut, and bruised, and he's walking with a limp.

"What happened to you?" asks Sean, the bartender.

"Jamie O'Conner and me had a fight," says Paddy.

"That little O'Conner," says Sean, "He couldn't do that to you, he must have had something in his hand."

"That he did," says Paddy, "a shovel is what he had, and a terrible lickin' he gave me with it!"

"Well," says Sean, "you should have defended yourself. Didn't you have something in your hand?"

"That I did," said Paddy, "Mrs. O'Conner's chest and a thing of beauty it was; but useless in a fight."

An Irishman who had a little too much to drink is driving home from the city one night and, of course, his car is weaving violently all over the road. A cop pulls him over.

"So," says the cop to the driver, "where have ya been?"

Why, I've been to the pub of course," slurs the drunk.

"Well," says the cop, "it looks like you've had a few to drink this evening."

"I did all right," the drunk says with a smile.

"Did you know," says the cop, standing straight, and folding his arms across his chest, "that a few intersections back, your wife fell out of your car?"

"Oh, thank heavens," sighs the drunk. "For a minute there, I thought I'd gone deaf."

Brenda O'Malley is home making dinner, as usual, when Tim Finnegan arrives at her door.

"Brenda, may I come in?" he asks, "I've somethin' to tell ya."

"Of course you can come in, you're always welcome, Tim. But where's my husband?"

"That's what I'm here to be telling ya, Brenda. There was an accident down at the brewery."

"Oh, God no!" cries Brenda. "Please don't tell me."

"I must, Brenda. Your husband Shamus is dead and gone. I'm sorry. Finally, she looked up at Tim. "How did it happen, Tim?"

"It was terrible, Brenda. He fell into a vat of stout, and drowned."

"Oh my dear Jesus! But you must tell me true, Tim, did he at least go quickly?"

"Well, Brenda, no. In fact, he got out three times to pee."



TEA TIME: 47 people enjoyed a birthday tea for those Hillsview Active Living Centre members celebrating their birthdays in February, March and April. - Submitted photo

MAYOR'S CORNER



By: Rick Bonnette

The Town of Halton Hills has recently received international and national recognition for sustainability and environmental initiatives. I recently had the pleasure, along with Premier Kathleen Wynne, Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr, Regional Councillor Clark Somerville and local councillor Bryan Lewis to congratulate Dufferin Aggregates, a division of CRH Canada Inc. They have received the world's first responsible aggregate certificate (Cornerstone Standards) for the Acton Quarry. By working proactively with the Town to address environmental and social impacts the Acton Quarry has been able to incorporate sustainability principles into its ongoing operations and after uses.

The Acton Quarry willingly agreed to participate in the Halton Joint Agency Review Team. J.A.R.T. is a successful process used in Halton Region to ensure effective review of aggregate applications. I have advocated to the Province that all quarries should come under this scrutiny. The Acton Quarry has certainly raised the bar for quarries. I hope every quarry would follow their lead.

The Halton Hills Public Libraries are doing their part for sustainability and the environment. They have introduced the first bar coded wooden library card in Canada, doing away with the plastic. There is a \$2 fee to exchange your old plastic for the wooden cards. This has received national media recognition. Congratulations to both Dufferin Aggregates and the Halton Hills Public Libraries for putting Halton Hills on the map for sustainability and the environment.

Staying with the theme of sustainability and the environment our Halton Hills Hydro will be having an electronics waste collection on Saturday, March 19, to be held at their parking lot on Alice St. Acton.

Speaking of Halton Hills Hydro ever wonder about your hydro bills and how they are set? Halton Hills Hydro rates are set by the provincial regulator, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). For every dollar you pay on your bill, only about 19 per cent stays with Halton Hills Hydro. This covers 52 employees, capital costs (poles, conductor, tree trimming, trans-

formers, trucks, computing equipment, fleet maintenance, etc). The [84] per cent of your bill is the commodity, regulatory and transmission charges and they are paid either to the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) or to Hydro One. Halton Hills Hydro collects the funds and passes them on to the IESO and/or Hydro One. In 2014, Halton Hills Hydro received the prestigious Performance Excellence Award from the Electricity Distributors Association. For the past three years Halton Hills Hydro has been ranked in the top category for efficiency in a report produced by the OEB. We do also support Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott's efforts in petitioning the government to take action to stabilize hydro rates.

Congratulations to: Sterling Dental on their recent grand opening in Georgetown.

Keeping it real. I can be reached at 905-873-2601, ext. 2342 or by email at mayor@haltonhills.ca or read my blog at www.rickbonnette.blogspot.com. You can also follow me on twitter at: @RickBonnette1



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