

EDITORIAL

with Traci Gardner

Happy Hallowe'en

We don't set aside a lot of legitimate time for pranks and mischief-making, and aside from April Fool's Day (which can be a dangerous day in this writer's household), Halloween is the only time grown adults can be silly, immature and get away with it.

Putting on a mask lets people drop their inhibitions and step outside of themselves for an evening. People in costumes often say and do things they probably wouldn't say or do in their everyday life. It's very satisfying to step into another character for a while, even (or especially) for a grown-up.

Hallowe'en is that one holiday that is super fun for the kids and adults at the same time. We are all kids at heart, and Hallowe'en brings back those sweet memories of pillow cases laden with candy, embarrassing costumes our Mothers made, and getting to be out past bedtime. You may not be able to Trick or Treat after twelve years old (debatable), but there are still ways to celebrate and have fun. Host a movie night, turn the lights out, make the popcorn and have a scary movie marathon. Or sit around in the dark or by a campfire telling ghost stories.

Carving pumpkins is definitely nostalgic fun, and brings the family together for some good laughs, friendly competitions, and a lot of mess - digging out the pumpkin guts, roasting the seeds, and creating those amazing jack-o-lanterns. Which tend to get more elaborate every year.

And, of course, handing out candies, I love sitting on the porch watching and listening to the kids as they run from door to door. Getting to see those costume ideas, plushy dragon or lion suits with just a little cold face poking out, or the shiny wings of Fairy bouncing around as they yell "Trick or Treaaaat". There are some that just so full of imagination.

Please keep in mind, as much as most of us love Hallowe'en and seeing the kids in their costumes, we also need to keep those kids safe. So remember to keep an eye out while driving, take extra time at intersections, enter and exit driveways slowly and cautiously, and there will be enough distractions - please, do not use your cell phones!

PAST PAGES



10 YEARS AGO

- Knocked over garbage cans, scattered litter, broken railings and tipped over planters was only part of the damage caused by vandals in the downtown area which frustrated local business owners. Residents saw and heard groups of rowdy youths smashing pumpkins and glass in the early morning hours.

- While executing a search warrant at a residence on 22 Sideroad, Halton Police Drug and Morality Unit uncovered an active marijuana growing operation. A 46 year old Halton Hills man was charged with possession with the intent of trafficking.

5 YEARS AGO

- A 70 year old Halton Woman was the first regional resident to die from the H1N1 virus after also suffering an underlying chronic illness. Out of the 24,125 doses of the H1N1 vaccine given, 19,875 of them had been given to doctors and Long-term care patients.

- Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott once again demanded action from Minister of Education with the potential sell-off of McKenzie Smith Bennett Public School land, stating that Children have and will continue to for years to come, and that the MSB land is not surplus land to be sold off.



DOWNTOWN JEWEL: Lovelinx Jewellery Design celebrated their Grand Opening on Saturday with an official ribbon cutting ceremony. Present were seven year old Evva Marie, Dana Selby, Mike O'Leary, BIA Manager Josey Bonnette, Mayor Rick Bonnette, Store Owner Christie Lance-Reaume, Jon Hurst, Clark Somerville, and six year old Carter. - Submitted photo

LETTERS



To The Editor:

In response to Mr. Doug Ford's letter to the Editor published in the Oct 23 rd Issue, I would like to say the following.

I would like to thank Mr Ford for taking the time to write his letter. That he cares very much about this issue is obvious from the level of detail within the letter; and I only wish he had been in attendance Tuesday Oct 14. Had Mr Ford been present to hear the question posed, and the answers given; rather than relying on the reporters interpretation of the question, he would have heard the real question which was about improving the communities utilization of town assets, such as the jewel that is Fairy Lake and Prospect park. He would have heard me praise the efforts of Josey Bonnette and the BIA in organizing the Winter Carnival. He would have heard me then challenge other organizations and individuals to make more use of our available resources - individuals like Bill Hennessey, whom I nominated for a Rotary Club Community Champion Award, for his efforts to build and maintain a large flooded area on the

lake for skating and hockey playing.

Yes you would have heard me say that I would not have a problem with allowing Fairy Lake return to its natural state. And yes you may think it was a cavalier response. And in hindsight I admit it was not a well considered response on my part - for that I apologize.

If Mr Ford had been present, and mingled with the candidates, and particularly had he discussed with me his concerns further about my response he would have learned that I am not well versed on the authorities and history of this decision. But more particularly, he would have learned that I am more than willing to engage in fighting authorities whose decisions impact us; and that on this particular issue - if you educate me and demonstrate that this is a real concern for the community - I will take up the fight. Just as I did when the Halton District School Board (HDSB) proposed selling off the strip of land along Churchill Rd. I delegated to Town Council, representing the parents and children of MSB and our community; I was part

of the delegation to the Halton District School Board; and, further, I nominated Alison Jones for a Rotary Community Champion Award for her tireless efforts in raising 6,000 signatures to demonstrate to the Town and the HDSB the level of opposition of our community to selling the strip of land into private hands.

In closing I would make the following point. If there was not a race this election for Town Councillors, would this issue have been raised? While you may disagree with my initial position; and while you may choose not to vote for me -- I trust then that you will take up the fight and challenge your community, and your elected representatives, to support you as you challenge the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, the authority vested with the power to make this decision (and not the Town Council) and urge them to alter their position.

Finally, I would like to thank you again for participating in the democratic process.

Robert Bedard
Candidate for Councillor,
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