

GRAPEVINE

WINTER COAT DRIVE

You can now donate 24/7 to St. Alban's winter coat drive. Tyler Transport Limited, whose staff last year donated many items to the coat drive, has now placed their donation box outside their building on the front steps at 379 Queen Street, East (Across from Sobeys) Items can be dropped into the bin at your convenience.



TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

To facilitate scheduled CN railway track repairs, 10 Side Road will be closed to through traffic between Third Line North and Third Line South. The road closure will occur from November 2 to November 3

LOCAL BUSINESS CELEBRATES

Congratulations to Acton's R&M Construction, the third generation family business specializing in soil erosion protection celebrated their 40th Anniversary last Thursday. Family, friends, and customers enjoyed an Open House at

their newly renovated offices on Main Street North.

OCTOBER FOOD DRIVES

MacKenzie Smith Bennett Public School is holding a Halloween food drive for the Acton Food Share until the end of October. Non-Perishable Food items can be sent in with students or delivered to the school at 69 Acton Blvd.

The Active Choice Rehabilitation Centre has extended their Thanksgiving food drive until the end of the month, and will be accepting donations of non-perishable food items for the Acton Food Share at their location at 19 Mill Street East.

HIGH SCHOOL HAUNT

Acton High School is hosting their annual Charity Haunted House for Halloween on October 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. If you want to find out what scares you the most, bring \$2 or two non-perishable food items and find out. All proceeds go to the Acton Food Share and the Me to We Club.



SPOOKTACULAR: The home owners at 218 Christie Street in Rockwood are trying to "Keep the spirit of Halloween alive" with their yearly display. This years theme is Haunted Zombie Asylum and is only open Halloween night. - Submitted photo

LETTERS

The views expressed in these published letters are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The New Tanner Publishing Ltd.



Re: Bandwagon Heroes, Trish Bell The New Tanner October 20

To the Editor:

I do not know what Andrew Jackson did with his chance to do something but as a member of the "bandwagon heroes" concerned about the potential impacts of the proposed Hidden Quarry I will endeavour to explain why I am "on that wagon".

I am a mining engineer and have been in the mining business since 1949, then as a student, and continue in the practice to this day. I know the business and this quarry falls right within the bounds of my expertise. There are a lot of things wrong with the choice of location for the Hidden Quarry but I will clarify my reasons for opposing it which are entirely based on my knowledge of mining.

In Scotland, at Burntfoot Moore in 1998, a quarry in that area blasted a rock into the air (called 'flyrock' in the industry) which landed tragically in a school 500 metres away.

The reports on that incident are sketchy but the result was that the law in Scotland now dictates that no blasting is permitted within a distance of less than 500 metres of human habitation. Similar laws are also in effect in Australia, Wales, and Argentina, just to name a few other countries.

In Halifax, NS, approximately one month ago, a quarry blasted a rock "the size of a basketball" over 300 metres into an apartment building repeating a similar incident which occurred about 10 years earlier. In Indonesia about three years ago a blast sent rocks 700 metres into an industrial subdivision, killing one man and injuring ten others as well as destroying about 13 cars and damaging numerous buildings. In New Hampshire a similar incident threw rocks "the size of a microwave oven" 1300 metres into an airport causing damage to cars and aeroplanes in the range of \$3,000,000. Need I go on?

The location of the Hidden Quarry is within a distance of 500 metres from 18 homes and businesses, some as close as 165 metres. As well Highway 7, with a traffic of roughly 10,000 vehicles per day, is within 87 metres of proposed blasting. Based on science, statistics and explosive charges planned to be used in the Hidden Quarry, fly-rock would be thrown a distance of over 500 metres.

Dyno Nobel a leading explosive manufacturer in the US and also the blaster in the foregoing Halifax incident stated that they fire "approximately 100 blasts per day". They also stated that "approximately 150 flyrock incidents annually" occur as a result of those blasts. That puts the odds at about 166 to one which is close to one million times greater than winning the lottery - but someone usually wins the lottery.

William Hill
6th Line Eramosa
Rockwood

JUST A THOUGHT

A haunting tale

This is a dark haunting tale about a monster. A monster that wears no mask, yet haunts us just the same. In the hands of our fearless Ontario Liberals, the business of power has taken us from a province that helped lead an entire country, to a province over \$300 billion in debt. And don't kid yourselves; there is no bottom to this sacrificial pit in sight.

Like any old travelling medicine show, our monster was the star attraction and the Liberals were quick to show off their wares. The people were amazed at the promises and dazzled by the ease in which they seemed to be able to fix our energy wrongs. While they knew it was a trick, they wanted to believe. And so, they blindly ignored the nagging feeling that all was too good to be true. The tribe quickly set up shop and began to distribute their wares but by the time people started to ask how she would deliver these magical riches, the witch doctor suddenly changed her tune. Two large power plants to make Ontario more energy autonomous suddenly cancelled to the tune of an-ever-changing cost that now hovers over \$1 billion.



By
Trish Bell

Long-term future power projects from solar, wind and other renewable energy sources were halted to save up to \$3.8 billion from making its way onto our never plateauing hydro bills, although we'll still have to revisit the contracts within the next decade. Ironic too, since the money hadn't been spent yet, so it wasn't really saving anything and in the end the average small business and homeowner would have only seen about a \$30 a year increase, but hail the conquering heroes.

Yet the real icing to this, was the push for electric vehicles. Seen as "one of the most expensive and least efficient ways of reducing greenhouse gas emissions linked to climate change," Canada produces a mere 2 per cent of the world's greenhouse gases. And the plan to help people get into electric cars is in a word: absurd. Besides the obvious logistical reasons, these new vehicles aren't everyday

Ontario modes of transportation; they remain exclusive to the richest of city dwellers. Yet, whether you own one or not, you are in fact paying for them. Last year, we handed 114 very well-off Ontarians over \$770 000 so that they could buy cars worth between \$138 000 to \$1.1 million. Add to this, four years of free electricity for overnight charging, the elimination of HST on EV purchases, and 250 free charging stations across Ontario, and in total your tax dollars are paying \$250 million for cars you don't own that may lower emissions by 0.03 per cent by the year 2020. Meanwhile, your everyday hydro bill has gone up over 68 per cent since 2006 whereas the cost for electricity has actually fallen to just 3 cents per kwh. Think about that when you are eating a cold dinner by candlelight or staying up late to dry your laundry. No power. Just debt.

Now for the average honest Ontarian this story may seem too fantastical to be true, but don't kid yourselves. The sickle has been drawn, and it is your energy, hard earned money and the future of our great province that is being reaped. Beware the monster.