

It's wise to have a storm plan

Environment Canada has confirmed an EF1 tornado touched down north of Halton Hills recently.

For those who live here know tornadoes are a routine occurrence in the dog days of summer.

Last Wednesday (Aug. 5), Environment Canada announced a tornado had touched down near a dairy farm located close to County Roads 3 and 25 east of Marsville. The EF1 tornado left a path of destruction about two kilometres long with maximum width of 500 metres.

With that in mind, it is a good idea to plan ahead for the next round of windy weather.

Emergency Management Ontario, emergencymanagementontario.ca, has a number of good suggestions worth heeding:

- Arrange a meeting place or a way of communicating with family members who may be away from home when a storm hits.
- Make sure you have an emergency survival kit with a sufficient supply of food and water.
- Regularly inspect trees in your yard and remove any damaged limbs to make them more wind resistant.

• Secure lawn furniture, trash cans and anything else that can be picked up by wind and become a danger.

• Designate a safe room in your home where household members and pets can gather if winds become extremely high.

• Avoid windows. Get in your basement and under some kind of protection (heavy table or work bench), or cover yourself with a mattress or sleeping bag.

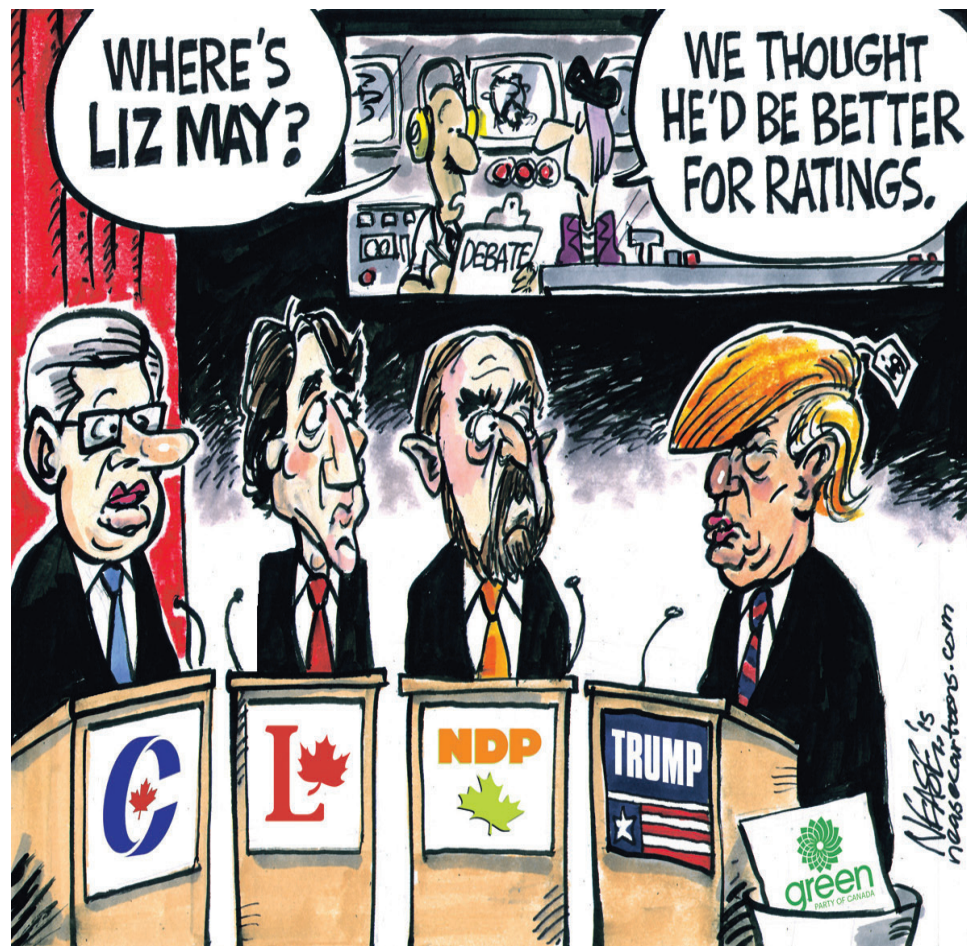
• Know where heavy objects rest on the floor above (pianos, refrigerators, waterbeds, etc.) and do not go under them. They may fall down through a weakened floor and kill you.

• Those exposed outside should lie flat in a depression or on other low ground and wait for the storm to pass.

As cliché as it may seem, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

The Independent & Free Press

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Letters to the editor

Conservatives lack class

Here we go again— another election, and more of these extremely distasteful ads.

How low is Stephen Harper willing to go to win an election?

Frankly the Conservative Party should be ashamed of their low class, bullying tactics.

As a former Halton District School Board employee, I know that we are preaching anti-bullying and no put-downs in the schools; the Harper government is spewing out exactly that, against Justin Trudeau.

Justin does not show weakness in not retaliating, he is simply a better principled man.

Can we really endorse the country being run by someone who would use dishonourable tactics such as putting others down, bullying and lashing out with constant negative personal attacks, I certainly hope not!

I have voted Conservative most of my life, but there is no way I can vote for a

leader with these ethics, or lack thereof. The ads are offensive and send a terrible message to all, especially the young people.

I am disgusted with the Conservative strategies, and will certainly not be voting for them in this election.

Caroline Peasgood,
Georgetown

Concert band needs help

We are on the brink of losing one of Halton Hills's truly exceptional treasures, the Halton Hills Concert Band. They need a new home to rehearse (one night a week) and store their instruments.

They encourage musicians from 14 years to 90+ to make a positive contribution to the community while having fun and nurturing personal pride.

The band has played Christmas concerts at Georgetown Market Place Mall, Light Up the Hills at Dominion Gardens Park and of course, joined in annually

to the Georgetown Santa Claus Parade and numerous other events in Halton Hills. Their most significant concerts pay tribute to the Armed Forces on Remembrance Day every year.

If you or someone you know has the facilities to accommodate the Halton Hills Concert Band, please get in touch with the band's President, Roper Gallo-way, 905-873-6144, haltonhillsconcert-band.com

Rita Nicholson
Georgetown

Knights appreciate golf tourney support

On behalf of the Georgetown Knights of Columbus organizational committee, we would like to extend a big thank you to our 2015 golf sponsors. Your partnership is truly appreciated.

We look forward to seeing you next year on June 20, 2016 to once again support a great cause and enjoy a great day of golf.

Jim Pickett
Knights of Columbus
Georgetown