

Editorial

As the world turns?

When you first toss out the line, 'As the World turns', the first thought you reel in relates to the well-known soap opera of the same name.

However, when election-time rolls around (regardless of the venue) and you toss out the same line, chances are you will reel in a catch not previously known to be stocked in your favorite fishing hole.

This is commonly regarded by politicians as electioneering and not really meant to be taken seriously - much in the same vein as fish stories.

The federal Progressive Conservatives were forced to call an election this year under Canadian law.

Rudderless now that Brian Mulroney has reluctantly relinquished the throne, and in preparation for the coronation of Kim Campbell, the Tories obviously needed some sort of plank to base their campaign on - even if it was a short one leading nowhere except into the depths of oblivion.

So what has been hauled out of mothballs again? The old law and order ploy. Which unceremoniously is tossed back into the mothball bin once the election is over.

Last week, Solicitor General Doug Lewis was talking tough about drawing up laws to keep violent offenders in jail indefinitely; was suggesting that "Canadians are saying enough is enough, and I agree." The new laws he bandied about would also be aimed at better protecting the public from high-risk sex offenders and children from pedophiles.

Lewis also wants to introduce post-release probation provisions for violent offenders and is all for allowing individual police services the right to decide when to release photographs of violent sex offenders or pedophiles who are released into their respective communities.

Let the bells ring out and the banners fly.

The only problem is, the Canadian electorate has been demanding these changes for years!

Is it not somewhat suspicious that the clarion call should be raised now, by the solicitor general, on the eve of an election.

Lewis wants a committee to make recommendations on the changes by April 1, with legislation to follow.

In your dreams Mr. solicitor general.

In order for such far-ranging changes to take place, our justice system would have to significantly altered and this could take years.

(See the dearly departed Meech Lake and Charlottetown Accords for easy reference).

In addition, since the introduction of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Supreme Court of Canada is now actively ruling on the legality of certain pieces of legislation as they pertain to individual rights and freedoms, so Mr. Lewis' bravado is simply that - a nice show for the troops.

Peterboro police are facing a \$125,000 civil suit filed by repeat homosexual pedophile Daniel Cody Morgan because they warned city residents about Morgan's pending release from Kingston Penitentiary.

If Mr. Lewis and the PCs were so concerned about law and order issues, why are these concerns only really surfacing now with the election on the horizon?

As the world turns? We doubt it.

Crime never pays - at any age

By Joan Scannell

This is a true story. I've just been rescued from the jaws of temptation.

No, a handsome millionaire with steel grey eyes did not beg me to sail away with him on his yacht. It happened this way.

We had some major renovations done on our house, and the contractor suggested that we give him a lump sum to start, then pay him as the work progressed. When it came time to give him the third cheque, our bank book showed that the first one hadn't been cashed. It was for quite a hefty sum, but the contractor assured me that he had cashed it, and the money was safely in his account.

Another few weeks went by, and still the money had not been taken out of our account. Had the cheque fallen to the floor, been ground under someone's heel, and swept away? A glimmer of greed entered my soul.

Suppose the money was never taken out of our account? Should I keep quiet? "That would be stealing," said my conscience in a strong voice. I argued with it; This was the same bank which had loaned billions to two brothers who had lost it all, and now the bank was laying off people to recoup its losses. If I kept the money, I would just use it to help those in need...and heaven knows, we do need a holiday away from this cold winter.

I was no hood, robbin' a bank but just an over-the-hill, run-of-the-mill grandmother who had had this money dropped into her lap. I even stood in front of the mirror and practised looking surprised and innocent if the bank manager called me in. By now, my conscience was a weak whisper.

Another month went by, and each week my partner in crime got the bank book updated, and the loot was still there. But a few days ago he came home with a rueful look on his face. "They've caught on to us," he said, "The auditors must have been in". Now of course we wouldn't actually have kept the money...would we?

I was still very young when I learned that crime doesn't really pay. As I had never heard of allowances being paid to children, I never expected one, but that didn't stop me from wishing that I had some money in my pocket. One hot day in summer I was trusted to go to town by streetcar to pick up a parcel from one of the big stores. While waiting for the streetcar to take me back home, I

Seniors for the Future

found myself looking into the window of Woolworth's store, where there were bags and bags of salted peanuts, at ten cents a pound.

Up until then, I had only had a small taste of this delicacy, and I longed for more. I remembered the change from the errand I had just completed. Dare I say that I had lost a dime, and buy the nuts? Now if the streetcar had arrived at that moment, I would have been saved, but 10 minutes later I was sitting on a cane seat on the tram, eating peanuts. It was an hour's ride, plus

a 10 minute walk to my home, and my mouth got drier and drier as I ate the nuts all the way, but the bag was still half full.

As I drew nearer to our house, I wondered what to do with the evidence of my crime. With my strict upbringing, it was unthinkable that I throw "food" away, so I made the bag as small as I could, and after looking carefully around, I yanked a daisy plant by the roots from the front garden, and buried the bag in the hole. Then I hurried into the house, drank four glasses of cold water non-stop, got scolded for losing a dime, and to this day cannot look a salted peanut in the face.

La Semaine Nationale de la Francophonie

By Lise Gilmer

National Francophone Week is being celebrated throughout the world. From March 20 - 27 the Francophone Community of Georgetown will be celebrating its French-Canadian heritage. Come and say "Bonjour" on Saturday, March 20 at the Marketplace Shopping Mall. Bring the kids and let's give them an occasion to practice their French language skills!

L'association canadienne d'éducation de langue française durant cette semaine.

Pour souligner cet événement, la communauté francophone de Georgetown vous invite à visiter son kiosque au centre d'achat Marketplace, le samedi 20 mars de 9h30 à 18h00. Nous aurons beaucoup d'information sur la paroisse Sacré-Coeur, les activités communautaires, les services de garderie et les écoles francophones. Vous aurez l'occasion de rencontrer des francophones de la région, d'échanger des idées, de célébrer

votre langue et votre culture canadienne française.

Pour clôturer cette semaine d'activités, les membres de la communauté francophone de la paroisse Sacré-Coeur tiendront une soirée de célébration le samedi 27 mars à partir de 20h00. Il y aura musique, danse, buffet et surtout beaucoup de plaisir à se rencontrer et à s'amuser en français. Les billets seront en vente au kiosque ainsi qu'à la porte de la salle paroissiale. Une grande fête francophone destinée à tous ceux et celles qui valorisent la langue et la culture françaises.

We invite you to come and join us in celebrating the National Francophone Week at the Marketplace Shopping Mall on Saturday, March 20.

Venez nombreux au kiosque. C'est une occasion exceptionnelle de fêter ensemble la Journée internationale de la francophonie le 20 mars. C'est un rendez-vous!

GDHS Technical Olympics

Georgetown District High School will be hosting a Technical Olympics competition for its students on April 7. Winners of the Technical Olympics will compete in the Halton Regional Olympics, to be held at GDHS on April 24.

Students will be displaying their skills in mechanical and architectural drafting, building construction, welding, cabinetmaking, small engines, machine shop, automotive skills, electrical skills, CAD mechanical skills, electronics, computer technology, and cosmetology.

Winners of the regional competition will advance to the Provincial Olympics (Skills Canada), to be held May 7 and 8, and may be eligible to compete in the United States Olympics (V.I.C.A.).

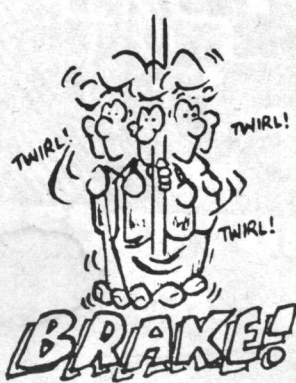
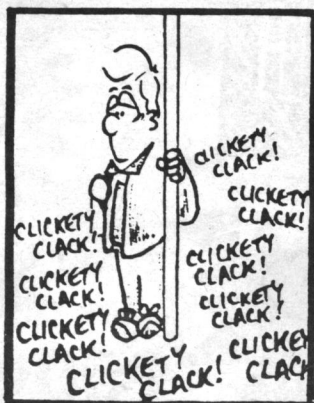
Georgetown District High School will appreciate the help of volunteers in judging the competitions on April 7 or April 24.

Donations are also requested to help with the costs of running the contests, to provide materials for the competition, and for prizes and draws.

For further information, contact Dave Lawrence, technical director, at 877-6966.



For Pete's Sake



by Roe

Halton Hills THIS WEEK

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