

Editorial

Cancer can be beaten

Cancer - the insidious disease continues to take its deadly toll on Canadians decades after its discovery and recognition by the medical fraternity.

It is a disease that terrorizes by the mere mention of the dreaded word.

Although there are many and varied forms of cancer, by definition it is a disease characterized by abnormal cellular growth combined with malignancy.

As the volunteers associated with both the Georgetown and Acton Units of the Canadian Cancer Society will attest, however, it can be beaten - but only through extensive and expensive research to discover both its cause and its cure.

Wednesday morning at North Halton Golf and Country Club, the Georgetown Unit kicked-off its April campaign with a campaign breakfast. Thursday evening at Trinity United Church, The Acton Unit kicked-off its April fund-raising drive with a chili supper.

The daffodil has been adopted by the Canadian Cancer Society as its symbol of hope, but the beautiful yellow flower also plays a major part in the Society's April fundraising drive.

Acton Unit coordinator, Cathy Gerrow, has ordered 10,400 blooms and the Georgetown Unit, chaired by Elaine Chatten, has set its campaign goal at \$144,000, of which \$129,000 is hoped to be raised by daffodil sales. In both Halton Hills communities, daffodils are being sold for \$3 a bunch.

Both Units will be out in force today (Saturday) at various locations in Acton and Georgetown in what is generally regarded as "Blitz Day". Canvassing will continue throughout the month, however, in both communities.

Of every dollar raised by the Canadian Cancer Society, 48 cents goes to research in the ongoing fight against the disease; for the most part, money generated by the backbone of the organization - volunteers.

At times a thankless job, volunteers donate countless hours, energy and commitment in battling this medical scourge.

To many volunteers, it is a personal battle, one spurred by the memory of a loved one or close friend whose untimely death was attributed to cancer.

Cancer claims no favorites. Incredibly, babies have been born with the disease. Similarly, senior citizens who had previously been blessed with good health, are suddenly stricken by the disease.

Social and cultural barriers are treated with disdain.

The Canadian Cancer Society through its campaign and the work of its volunteers, offers more than hope. It offers the determination that cancer not only can be beaten - it will be beaten.

When Cancer Society canvassers come calling, be generous. You might just be saving your own life.

Outrageous election scam

To the Editor:

The most outrageous scam by government, to eliminate competition to their fat cat friends is about to happen, unless people get involved, write, phone their MP and tell him/her NO.

The scam is known as Bill C-114. This will increase the cost of running for election by 500 per cent for each individual, from \$200.00 to \$1,000.00. Only the very wealthy will be able to run. Apparently big mother government wants to eliminate competition, and if we are not careful, may just do that.

What this means is that by law parties have to field at least 50 can-

didates in a federal election. So the minimum required to compete in a federal election for party now is 50 times \$200. This is a long way from 50 times \$1,000.00.

Small parties do not have that kind of money, so many would be eliminated. The old line parties get government funding, so this to them is no big deal. It is not even their own money.

One way to eliminate the competition is Bill C-114, and that is exactly what big mother and buddies in Ottawa are trying to do.

**John Shadbolt,
Director Libertarian
Party of Canada, Acton**

The People's Corner

P.O.W.E.R. is for the People

To the Editor:

I am responding to the letter by Steve Dawkins that was printed in Halton Hills This Week. It is clear that Mr. Dawkins is incensed over what he perceives P.O.W.E.R. to be doing. Our goal is still to STOP THE DUMP. While our methods may differ, we must all remember we have a common goal. I have been working full time in this fight for five years and I can assure you that the group has not been hijacked.

Sadly, Mr. Dawkins did not contact Ruth French or Marjorie Kirkwood who continue to be on our board of directors or call me to ask, "What is P.O.W.E.R. doing?"

Whatever happened to face-to-face discussion. P.O.W.E.R. would never shrink from criticism and would welcome calls from any of its members or any members of the community. I'm on the phone all day anyway, one more call would not be a problem. P.O.W.E.R. will be seeking to meet with Mr. Dawkins to air all of his concerns. He has a right to be heard.

P.O.W.E.R. was in the dump fight first, we have been battling constantly since 1987. We will be there at the end when we finally beat RSI. They, in fact, are probably gloating over Mr. Dawkins' letter. RSI will feel the opposition is crumbling.

P.O.W.E.R. cannot be labeled a NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) group. We have been working to protect the whole Escarpment by amending the Niagara Escarpment Act to take out garbage dumps as a permitted use and we are presently on a provincial committee to design environmental monitoring for the Escarpment.

Groups shown to be NIMBY at a hearing lose.

The Niagara Escarpment Commission have been opposing RSI. They funded a lawyer to participate at the preliminary hearing. We need their continued participation. If their funding is cut or their powers diminished as the Niagara Escarpment Landowners Coalition would like to see happen, the opposition to RSI is weakened.

The Intervenor Funding Panel just announced awards to a parallel situation in Greensville. There, a private company wants to turn a quarry into garbage dump. The town, the region and the citizens have been opposing this. The scandalous results from that hearing give the Town of Flamborough no

money, the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth no money and while the citizens have been funded for a lawyer, their hands will be tied as they have no money for experts.

We all stood up at the preliminary hearing saying we would seek intervenor funding including Mr. Dawkins, I believe. If we get a funding award like the one in Greensville, do we need the NEC to be there with their funding in place? You bet we do!

Does the NEC need some reform? Definitely. I have said that from the beginning but NELC does not want to fix the things that are wrong, they want to cut their budget and take away some of their powers.

Our town's budget has been stretched to the limit. All estimates, except NELC, of course, tell us that taxes will increase if the region takes over development controls from the NEC. The region's planning staff did a very comprehensive analysis of cost including charging permit fees. All options will add to your tax bill. If the town is strapped for funds and no intervenor funding comes through, do we need to take on the job of the NEC when that money may be needed to fight the dump?

When Jean Hilborn, Rob Barlow and I all appeared on the same council agenda, it must have looked like we were ganging up on the

councillors. Nothing could be further from the truth. I had no prior knowledge that Jean or Rob were on the agenda. P.O.W.E.R. had no consultation with them, nor should we tell anyone when to speak or what to say. When anyone becomes a member of an organization, they do not become the spokesperson for that organization. When Jean Hilborn and Rob Barlow chose to speak to council recently, they went to speak as individuals. It is any citizen's right to speak to council and being a member of the chamber of commerce or the Lion's Club or P.O.W.E.R. does not take away that individual's right to speak out in public on any matter.

P.O.W.E.R.'s board of directors has been meeting almost every week for six years. We have dozens of dedicated volunteers who have worked on our annual garage sale (next one May 1 at Memorial Arena). We need to all pull together not splinter apart as the hearing draws closer.

P.O.W.E.R. holds public meetings on a regular basis. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please bring your concerns to us. We will always listen. Our next meeting is on May 26 at Georgetown District High School.

**Barbara Halsall
President of P.O.W.E.R.
Georgetown**

The right of expression

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Mr. Dawkins' letter which appeared in Halton Hills This Week on March 31.

First I would like to clarify that when I made my presentation to Halton Hills Town Council on March 8, I was not representing P.O.W.E.R. I was speaking as a member of a much larger special interest group called "Citizen and Taxpayer of Halton Hills". I was trying to say loud and clear WE DO NOT WANT ANY MORE TAXES!

It is very disturbing that citizens of this town are being severely chastised for having the courage to stand up and question their elected representatives for voting in favor of a proposal which will be detrimental to the majority of our community. I am not afraid of being criticized for my personal opinion on an issue. However, I find it very unconscionable when

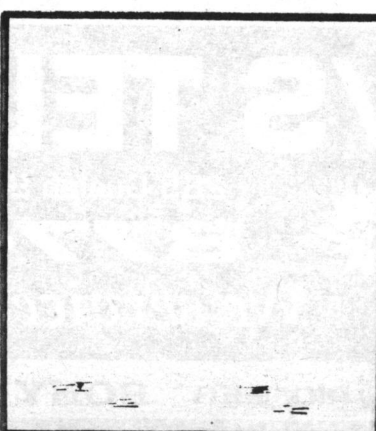
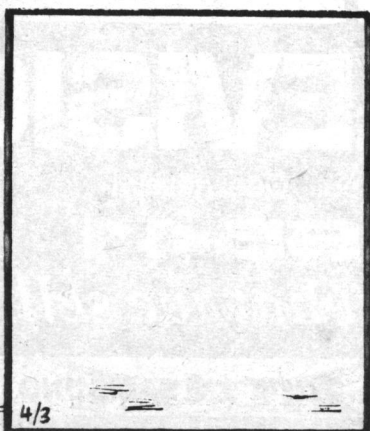
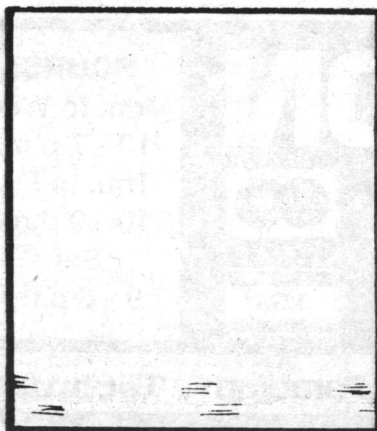
people say I cannot get up and express my opinion on an issue, or I cannot question the voting record of my elected representatives. As a taxpayer I do have the right to ask my elected representatives why they have voted either "yes" or "no" on an issue.

If we take away the right of any citizen to express an opinion or to question an elected official, then we are in danger of no longer being a democracy.

Halton Hills has become my home and I have met many citizens, including the members of P.O.W.E.R., who care very deeply about the well-being of this town. I trust it will continue to be a community tolerant of people who have varying opinions and who have the courage to speak up when they see elected officials acting or voting irresponsibly.

**Jean A. Hilborn,
Acton**

For Pete's Sake



by Roe

THIS WEEK

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