

Opinion

Halton Hills THIS WEEK

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HALTON HILLS THIS WEEK IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED.

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Times are tough

Times are tough in this country, fondly referred to by both its supporters and detractors as 'Eh Canader'.

Jobs are especially hard to come by, what with all those defeated federal Progressive Conservative MPs calling in IOU's and leapfrogging ahead of undoubtedly more qualified job applicants.

Even local sports teams are feeling the 'Wrath of Can't' - can't win, that is.

The Georgetown Chrysler Raiders of the new Ontario Provincial Junior 'A' Hockey League are going through a rough spell - because of injuries and suspensions - and are quickly realizing that finding that elusive winning formula is akin to finding the mythical pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

The Raider pucksters turned things around last year late in the season when performance counted most, and there's no reason to think the same thing won't happen as the 1993/94 season moves into its middle stanza. At least the team's long-suffering fans are hoping things will turn around.

Unfortunately, the same note of optimism can't be sounded for the Georgetown District High School Rebels senior boys football team.

You see, their season is over. It ended Friday with a 16-6 loss to Loyola.

Friday's loss capped what some might view as a woeful 0-6 season, but Rebel coach Randy Marinangeli, saw some bright spots, as noted by HHTW sports writer Mike Zrostek in the game report on our sports pages.

For much of the season, the senior Rebs played short-handed, resulting in a number of players seeing double duty on both the offense and defense.

I don't care what league you play your football in, when you have only 17 players suited-up and it's late in the third quarter - time when the second wind should kick in - the wind sock is going to lay limp: there's just nothing left to give!

Marinangeli is hopeful about next year's edition of the senior Rebels gridiron squad.

He will have a solid nucleus of talented and committed players returning and as well, will be adding some junior Rebel graduates who will not only help to fill out the team, but also bring with them some excellent athletic credentials.

To the senior Rebel footballers and their stalwart coach, we offer not sympathy or solace, but rather, congratulations for playing out the string to the best of your ability.

Sometimes the old cliché, "It's not whether you win or lose that counts, but how you play the game!", rings true. Most definitely it can be applied to a gallant bunch of senior Rebel football players and their coach.

Special services

Despite the bitter cold and the daunting wind that swept through Halton Hills last Sunday, attendance for Remembrance parades and services in both Georgetown and Acton was hailed by members of both Georgetown Branch 120 Royal Canadian Legion and Acton Branch 197 Royal Canadian Legion as "excellent."

It is both comforting and encouraging to those veterans still with us - as well as those who served in the Canadian Armed Forces - that their sacrifices, and those of their dead comrades, was not in vain.

At 11 a.m. tomorrow (Thursday) Remembrance Day services will be held at both the Georgetown and Acton Cenotaphs honoring our war dead on the 11th hour, of the 11th day of the 11th month when the Armistice was signed signaling the end of World War I.

Again, the public from both communities are invited - even urged - to attend.

Colin Gibson

The People's Corner

People are standing up for their beliefs

Editor's note: The following letter was released to HHTW for publication
Mayor Russell Miller
1 Halton Hills Drive
Georgetown, Ontario
Dear Mayor Miller,

I am a resident of Georgetown and live on Albert Street. I am writing not to comment on whether or not the "monster house" at 56 Queen Street should be given birthing rights but, to pass on a few sentiments on my observations surrounding that controversy. Unlike my good neighbor Glen Scott, I will not be quoting numbers and bylaws. I'm not willing to be shot into a million little pieces for trying to protect the ambiance of my streets.

I first became aware of the variance application through another neighbor who had received a letter from another neighbor announcing the application. This letter asked people to become involved in a campaign against the application as they felt the massive addition being asked for was inappropriate and the first step towards other such variances. A meeting date was announced. My husband and I were both working and unable to make the meeting but the neighbors who did receive the letter went.

From that meeting arose a request for the applicant to host another meeting on site in order to show people the physical changes being sought. My husband was again working but my neighbor and I walked down to the building. We saw the plans and spoke to the owner. At that time he mentioned that another meeting was planned before the committee of adjustments and that the date was yet to be announced. He did mention however that a flyer would be sent out to the required homes.

That meeting was held on Oct. 6. My next door neighbor lives further away from 56 Queen Street than we do. He received a flyer on the windshield of his truck. We did not receive notice. Fortunately, he was kind enough to let us know. Fortunately my husband and I were both off that night. We attended that meeting.

We sat through several requests for variance. It was all an interesting preamble to the discussion on 56 Queen Street. This was the first time I had been to the town hall, first time I had seen any of the committee members and the first time I

had met Glenn Scott. I don't know how the committee members come to be or what their qualifications are and I really don't understand the whole by-law process, etc. I am a resident of Halton Hills and I sat and watched in awe.

In awe of a system that is built around little laws and little processes that may seem all very clear to the lawyers, planners, committee members and applicant. I watched one of my neighbors stand up for what he believed in to the best of his ability. He wasn't represented by a lawyer. He was representing his community. I saw a family man stand up to a committee of people asking him to justify why

more neighbors weren't with him to speak against the variance. I'll tell you why! Two job families! Brownies, cubs and etc. Shift work! Family time! Improper advertisement of meetings! A room that only holds 30 onlookers! When people attend these meetings they are expected to have legal minds and calculator brains.

I watched one member of that committee turn his chair in such a fashion that his back was to Mr. Scott and the rest of the residents. Perception is the name of the game! To add insult to injury, that same member left the room in the middle of Mr. Scott's dialogue. My husband and I were also

forced to leave early. As we passed this committee member in the lobby on our way out, his comment to us was "it's all getting pretty old, isn't it?"

I couldn't have said it better myself.

I refuse to get into he said, she said, they said. This is what I saw and whether my perception is right or wrong, it is my perception and also that of others that attended the meeting with me. People are starting to speak up for what they feel is right. Glenn Scott is one of those people. I am writing this letter to change some perceptions. He is not alone!

C. Wilson,
Georgetown



Wastewise forges on

To the Editor:

The Board of Directors of Wastewise wishes to express its warmest thanks to Garth Turner. Few may be aware that Garth's assis-

tance was pivotal in gaining federal support for Wastewise. We wish Garth much happiness and success in the days ahead.

Wastewise opened the

lines of communication with our new MP, Julian Reed, on Oct. 14, during which time we were able to share some of our hopes and concerns for the future of waste management. We offer our congratulations to Julian and look forward to continued open discussions and actions on matters of interest to Wastewise.

Diane van de Valk
Project Manager
Wastewise
Georgetown

Thanks to Garth

To the Editor:

We would like to publicly acknowledge our appreciation to Garth Turner for his outstanding contribution to the people of Halton-Peel during his five years as our Member of Parliament. During his tenure, Mr. Turner demonstrated leadership and courage and, most importantly, accessibility. Garth Turner established a standard of openness and dialogue which should become a model for all MP's, not only in this riding

but throughout Canada. Thank you, Garth, we will miss you!

Glen, Sharon, Jennifer
and Adrienne Duff
Georgetown

Got a beef or a comment?

Halton Hills This Week welcomes your letters. Letters must be signed and include your full name and address. Names will be withheld on request. Halton Hills This Week reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any letters on the basis of factual errors, punctuation, spelling errors or as a result of space limitations.

Send your letters to: **The Editor, Halton Hills This Week, 232 Guelph St., Unit 9, Georgetown, ON, L7G 4B1 or fax to: 905-873-3918**