

EDITORIAL

With Frances Niblock



Mixed emotions

Usually, I love my job. Every once in a while, I hate it.

On Friday I felt both emotions in less than an hour and the switch from elation to anger left me dizzy.

The hour started when I interviewed Jon Hurst, one of the organizers of Acton's Terry Fox Run.

Thanks to the unflinching, hard work of the committee and the generosity of Acton residents, last fall's Terry Fox Run raised \$25,798 for cancer research. That puts Acton at Number 16 on the list of 612 per capita run sites in Ontario. Acton, with less than 7,000 people, raised more money than many much larger towns and cities, and it was hard not to get swept up in Jon's enthusiasm.

I remembered being out at the High School track early that morning last September and seeing babes in strollers and the elderly in wheelchairs — all out to do their part to keep Terry Fox's dream of finding a cure for cancer alive.

Jon's enthusiasm was infectious as he praised the 185 people who actually made the run and the hundreds who pledged money and helped organize the event. Jon was not surprised that Acton, again, made in the top 20 of run sites in Ontario, and pointed to other successful Acton fundraisers, like the Wheels for Matthew campaign, to show that Acton citizens really care.

Jon, quickly discounting his role in the success of Acton's 12th Terry Fox Run, praised Acton citizens for the generosity, commitment and quiet determination to get the job done.

I left the interview feeling proud that I was part of a community that really cared, that didn't just pay lip service to a cause, but dug in and made a difference.

Then, I went home and got a phone call that quickly ended my euphoria and left me equally sad and angry and wondering how someone could be so senselessly cruel.

The call was from an Acton man who had invited me and my camera over the week before to see two mallard ducks, happily swimming laps in his backyard pool. The very tame drake and hen were regulars at the man's home but this was the first time they had headed into the pool.

Like kids, we laughed and marvelled at the pair, who oblivious to us, were feeding and having a good time in the water collected on the pool cover.

Less than a week later, the pool owner called to say that the hen was dead, run over *deliberately* by a speeding motorist who swerved to hit her as she stood at the end of his driveway.

Unfortunately, nobody got a description or licence number of the idiot driver who left her dead, with her mate standing over her, quacking plaintively and refusing to leave her side.

I didn't think much about the successful Terry Fox run over the weekend, but the image of the mallard and her broken, unlaidd eggs, and the stupid driver, was a hard one to shake.

Wit & Wisdom

Seems like we have a good many, local citizens who know at least something about the necessity of living life to the fullest. They are the kind of people who, once again, ensured that Acton ended up in the top 20 of Ontario sites for the Terry Fox Run. Well done!

Only deeds give strength to life,
only moderation gives it charm.

— Jean Paul Richter

Teach not the doctrine of ignoble ease, but the doctrine of strenuous life.

— Theodore Roosevelt

May you live all the days of your life.

— Swift

Our lives are songs; God writes the words
And we set them to music at pleasure;
And the song grows glad, or sweet, or sad
As we choose to fashion the measure.

— Ella Wheeler Wilcox

For life in general, there is but one decree:
youth is a blunder, manhood a struggle, old age a regret.

— Disraeli



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LETTERS

New members needed

To the Editor,

The April meeting of the Bannockburn Women's Institute was held at the home of Anne Hollis with nine members attending. Anne opened the meeting with the roll call "The Year I Joined The Institute." We found that many

of us have been members for a long time and have enjoyed every minute of it! A new member was added to our roll call and anyone else interested can contact one of our new officers.

The new officers were elected as follows: president: Anne Hollis, secretary, Ruth Linham; district director, Ina Peterson; public relations, Edith Medland; program coordinators; Linda Cairns and Gerda Potzel; Tweedsmuir History Curator, Reina Morrison; auditors; Grace McEnery and Edith Medland; flower convener; Isabel McDonald.

Edith Medland

Unofficial contest?

To the Editor,

Is it my imagination, or do other readers feel the same way I do? It has become apparent in the last few months that there seems to be an unofficial contest between POWER's president, Barbara

Halsall, and EAGLE/Family Coalition Party member Giuseppe Gori, in who can write the most letters about themselves and, oh yes, their political views.

I wonder, is this freedom of the press or just a POWER trip.

Bruce Cargill, Acton

Andy's

CARRIER OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to ... JOEL PETKOFF!

The Acton Tanner Carrier of the Month for May is Joel Petkoff. Joel is a Grade 5 student at St. Joseph's. He loves all kinds of sports but his favorite is hockey. He plays "center" on his Acton team and especially likes the Detroit Red Wings. He's saving his carrier money to buy an official Detroit hockey shirt.

The best part of the job? Getting paid of course!

Kevin will receive a delicious pizza from Andy's, where quality and tradition make the difference! Phone 853-0300.

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