

## EDITORIAL

With Tim Morgetroyd



### Bank renovations might set off the 'Domino Theory'

In good economic times the best thing about a small town is how much it stays the same.

In larger towns and cities it's impossible to maintain that same smaller town bond with the past that gives people such a strong sense of stability.

You can't feel a solid foundation of tradition under your feet or believe without any doubt in immortality when the buildings all your memories are in rise and fall like waves and are shoved away like theatre scenery. Memories stop being something solid you can touch and your grandchildren can touch and become a slippery nostalgia you turn into a hair-splitting trivia game with friends.

In bad economic times, especially the kind that fill entire decades instead of seasons, the best thing about a small town can become the most frustrating.

In a crisis the one thing you are desperate to see is change, any sign of change, so the reassuring sameness that is a small town's magic and charm can frustrate anyone who wants to wake up and look out the window just once at some sure proof a happy ending is on the way.

This is the time when seeing buildings come and go like cheap theatre scenery seems like growth instead of destruction. Pick the one city that best represents that kind of super growth and it would have to be Tokyo — only a few decades ago just smoking rubble on the verge of being bombed back to the stone age, as the American Air Force General with the power to do it boasted.

But the mighty Japanese economy that once moved only on a vertical line straight up seems to be crumbling around the edges right now and visitors from there tell us their capital city is so crowded they had never seen the horizon until they came here.

You have to be a multi-millionaire in Japan to afford the space we have on the smallest golf course. It doesn't hurt to be reminded of this when the vast empty space we have so much of seems like a deserted island with a mountain of canned food but no can opener.

Comparing our community to what is called the Japanese "miracle" helps put things in better perspective, but last week the shriek of drills and hammering as the Bank of Montreal underwent renovations was a greater shot in the arm than the truth about our greatest economic competitor.

A town like this doesn't need to be rebuilt from the ground up to give people hope that the best days aren't all behind us. It only needs one building like the Bank of Montreal to set an example of confidence for the rest of the downtown core to follow. Think of the effect if it was being torn down — then you realize seeing just the opposite must have some degree of positive impact.

Too many lost battles have been won when a single act of courage or daring becomes contagious. Too many great leaders have been inspired by a single role model. We should all take to heart the lesson of what one domino falling in the right direction at the right time can do — locally or globally.



WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

You can drop your letter off after-hours through our mail-slot at 7 Mill St. E.



*HIRE A STUDENT.*

### Branch 197's auditorium needs your helping hands

#### LEGION NEWS

Wednesday Bridge barely had a quorum so the players decided to play a little gambling game. Rumour has it they all went home winners, so maybe that will be the end of Bridge. Hope not!

If you are back from the cottage or wherever, come on out on Wednesday and get to bidding.

There were 14 tables of Euchre on Thursday and the winners were: First, Gertie Yates; second, Cassie Oldfield and Allan Ellerby; third, Helen Quinn and Jean Milne; fourth, Ruth McCullough and Louise Lindsay; Hidden Winner, Jean Aitken.

Beef Draw Winners on July 31:  
Early Bird — Rupert Harmer, Alex MacFarlane.

Regular Draws — Ross Rolfe, Dave Lewis, Al Kent, Dot Norton, H. O'Rourke, John Robinson, Gord McCutcheon, Bill Taylor, Fran Shields and George Nakeff (who won three times).

Large Prize — Jim Shields.  
We have volunteers for next week, Aug. 7, but no one for Aug. 14. Wouldn't it be nice if some of

the winners, especially the multi-winners, could give a few hours on a Saturday so the meat draw could continue.

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Coming Events:  
Aug. 4 — Bridge  
Aug. 5 — Euchre  
Aug. 7 — Meat Draw  
Aug. 21 — Corn Roast and Dance (this is a freebie)  
Sept. 11 — Legion Open (tickets still available at the bar)

As yet there are no lady entrants to the Legion Open. We have a lady president, Canada has a lady Prime Minister. Don't we have any lady golfers in the branch?

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Miscellaneous Notes: Keith and Gary are getting desperate for helpers on Sunday mornings. Would you believe it — Keith asked a lady member if she could come down to paint on Sunday morning. Little did he know the only thing she had ever painted was her finger nails.

Come on gang, the Auditorium needs your helping hands!

### Duignan announces \$77G grant

Halton North MP Noel Duignan announced yesterday (Tuesday) a \$77,850 grant to the Wastewise Community Resource Centre for the implementation and operation of a "re-use" centre.

"I'm delighted to support Wastewise Community Resource Centre's re-use project," Mr.

Duignan said. "This project has the potential to further promote 3Rs activities in the Halton area.

Wastewise will receive the grant through the ministry's Municipal Recycling Support Program. The funds will go toward a demonstration project, which will be open to all Acton residents.

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THE ACTON TANNER is published weekly on Wednesdays by Wicklow Hills Publishing Co. Inc. at 7 Mill Street, East Acton, Ontario, L7J 1G8. Mailing address: P.O. Box 150, Acton, Ont., L7J 2M3. Telephone: 519-853-5100. Facsimile: 853-5040. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. Ideas expressed herein are those of the author only.

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