

The North Halton Compass

Reach then a soaring quill,
that I may write
As with a Jacob's staff
to take a height

CLEVELAND

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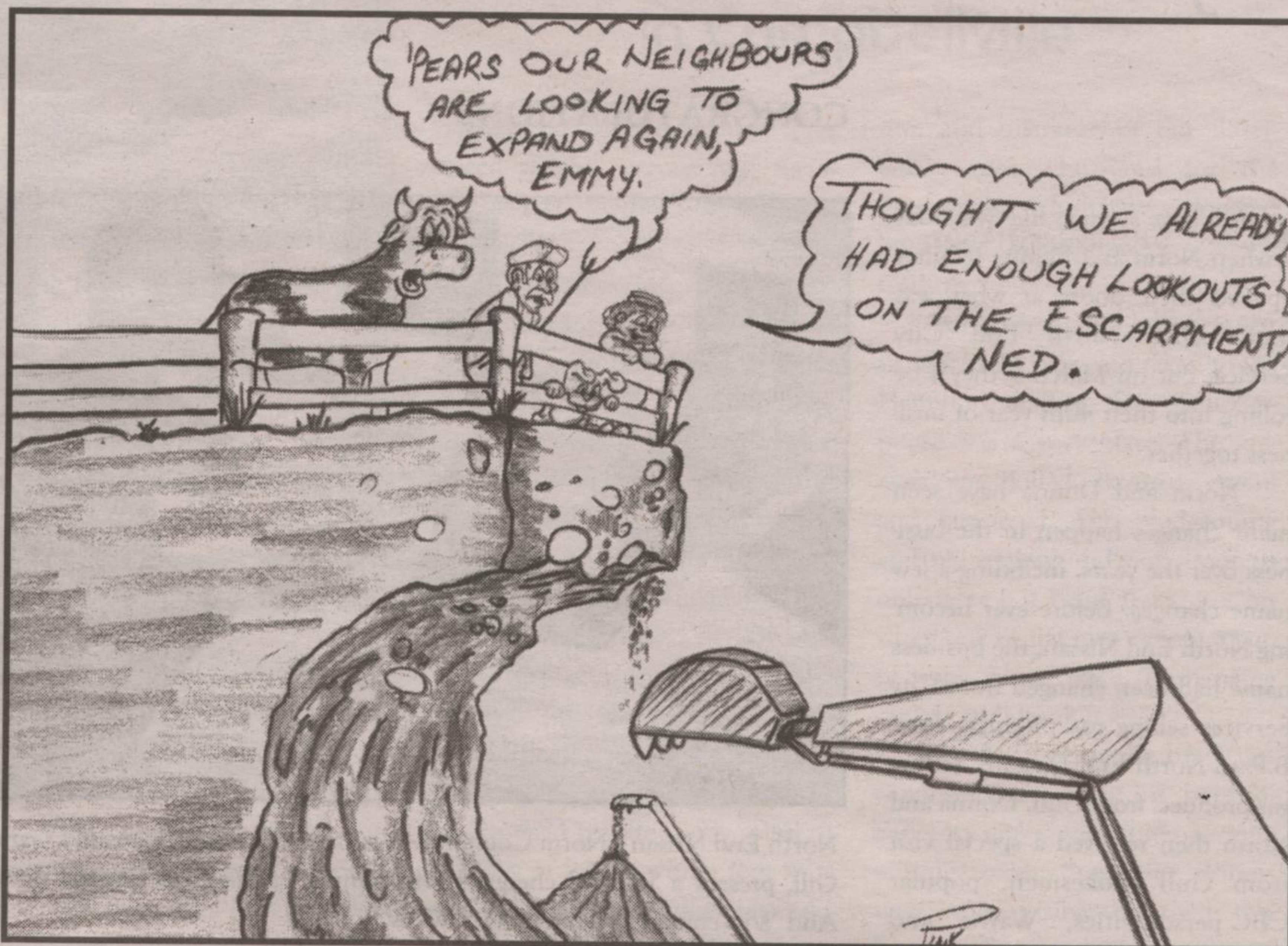
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The Barnyard Adventures of Nassagaweya Ned & Emmy Esquering



BRASS TACKS – Editorial

In search of rock-solid answers

Dufferin Aggregates proposes to expand their quarry operation in rural Milton for another eight to ten years of use, including the possibility of a new crusher running 22 hours per day.

Residents are seeking clear answers to questions regarding noise levels, water pollution, vibration, dust, and increased haul route traffic such an expansion will cause. Gravel hauling also extracts a huge toll on area roads, to which anyone jarring over the potholes will readily attest.

However, the major consideration should be the long-term environmental impact – just exactly what will fill those tremendous craters cut into environmentally-sensitive escarpment lands in the future? Will the quarry be rehabilitated in our lifetimes?

There is always some natural regeneration of the older sections of any quarry, but this takes decades, and the “busyness” of a quarry site certainly discourages more wildlife than it attracts.

According to Dufferin, the

ecological and hydrogeological studies they have undertaken show that the quarry can be extended without significant impact on the environment, despite the proposed quarrying of two small pockets of wetland and one small extension into forest designated as an “Area of Natural Scientific Interest/Environmentally Sensitive Area.”

However, the question remains – who should ultimately decide what is or is not significant on Halton’s escarpment?

BLUE SPRINGS SOAPBOX

Letters to the Editor

This past holiday season many families in Halton Hills enjoyed the free swimming and skating opportunities in our community facilities. The Recreation and Parks Department would like to thank the Optimist Club of Georgetown

and the Acton Rotary Club for their generosity in sponsoring these recreational skating and swimming opportunities.

This is only one of the many community programs supported by our local service clubs that help to

improve the quality of life for Halton Hills’ residents. The Acton Rotary Club and the Georgetown Optimist Club continue to ensure all residents have access to recreational opportunities regardless of their financial circumstances. They know first hand the many benefits recreation and sport experiences contribute to the healthy development of children, families and our community.

Many participants expressed their thanks, so it is with pleasure and appreciation that we express ours! Thank you.

Bryan Shynal
Director of Recreation & Parks Department, Town of Halton Hills

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