LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

RE: Canada's Shame

The last execution in Canada for the murder of an on duty Police officer took place in 1962. In 1975 capital punishment for the murder of an on duty Police officer was removed from the Canadian Criminal Code. What does this say about Canadians? Some say it proves that we are superior to the Americans.

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics makes available to the public via the Internet a, Homicide Survey, which was conducted in September 2002. It lists by type of circumstance, a total of 117 on duty Police officers who were murdered in Canada between 1961 and 2001. In April 2005 four more Police murders were added to Canada's list of shame.

In the 1984 general elections, a major federal party promised to restore capital punishment if elected. Once in office, they turned the issue into a free vote in the Commons and the discouragement of the murder of on duty Police officers was rejected.

Apart from municipal elections, ballot measures aren't common in Canada, but there have been a number of referendums. In spite of this, the Canadian people have never been consulted on their opinion concerning the lethal sanctioning of the murder of an on duty Police officer.

Regards,
Jamie Lewin
(this letter has had 2 paragraphs deleted)

Dear Editor

Re: Alleged Wolf Attack

Approximately 10 years ago my Father and l were traveling up 2nd Side Road just below Moffat, when a large silver grey animal crossed the road in front of us and went into a corn field on our left...it stopped about 50 yards away and turned around to look at us.... what we saw was Silver Grey (wolf?) at least twice the size of any Coyote l have ever seen...l live near the Niagara Escarpment and l have seen quite a few Coyotes...l have a 90lb Shepherd / Husky Cross family pet here at home , and the animal we saw that day was a lot bigger than my dog.....l didn't think a Wolf would wander this far south , but l believe what l saw that day was in fact a Wolf.....is there any real reason they wouldn't come this far south ? just thought you should know.....by the way this one took off as soon as it realized we were watching it watching us...

M Daviau,
Milton Ontario

Dear Mr Baker

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you once again for receiving the Milton Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year (25 employees or less) Award.

On April 21st, I made a statement in the House of Commons congratulating you and all other award recipients, on your commitment and dedication to Milton. I have enclosed a copy of this statement for you.

Congratulations!

Sincerely
Gary Carr, M.P. Halton

To The Editor:

After reading about the article in the May 13th, 2005 issue of the Halton Compass I could not help but speak out.

First of all if a human being has ever observed anything, you cannot manage a forest. David Suzuki has been trying to tell everyone for years. This forestry management plan is just another way for some person whom seems to need a job to secure one. In other words this is a ploy to create revenue at the expense of one of the last little fingers of natural habitat in Southern Ontario. One person that you cannot smoke screen is myself. It just goes to show you that "man" and I don't mean "fellow man" cannot leave anything alone. This is one more nail in the coffin for nature. We are now going to invite whomever for what ever to tromp all over what is left of our sick and dying earth.

The developers and politicians are disgraceful. They can't manage anything. They should all be thrown into a pen where people can throw pig minure and dog shit at them. Heck, if I was in charge of that, I would have minure helicoptered in and dropped on them by the bucket load. The problem with that is, it would be a waste of good minure. Yes, fences, barbed wire, manned gates, campsites, beer bottles, liquor bottles, litter, campfires, snowmobiles, yahoo parties, boy, what an exibition! Lets put an amusement section in too!

This must be another city dwellers dream.

Signs need to be placed around here to caution and remind motorists that animals may be trying to cross the road. When I see drivers driving too fast to even consder they may hit some poor animal trying to cross the road it makes me sick to my stomach. These same individuals will be the ones that pay the money and go in and do whatever they do to this precious jewell of land. They will ultimately displace wild habitat and destroy the land.

Why is it that humans just don't get it? Is it because most people feel animals, are beneath the mentality of the so precious and intelligent human being? Has anyone ever stopped to think that animals view us as being awkward and stupid? When I look into the eyes of a wild animal, I quietly apologise to that animal in disgrace and embarrassment for being human.

Yours truly,
Robert D. Seagrove
Nassagaweya

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MILTON
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NOTICE OF SURPLUS LAND

Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Milton intends to declare Derry Road from First Line easterly to Fourth Line (Part 3 on Plan 20R-15913, Parts 1 and 2 on Plan 20R-15915, and Part 3 on Plan 20R-15916) as surplus to the Town's needs for the purpose of allowing the Region of Halton to widen the road and allow improvements to the bridge structure at the creek crossing.

This notice is provided pursuant to Section 268(3) of The Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, and in accordance with Town of Milton Property Disposal By-law No. 34-95.

Further information with respect to the aforementioned Notice may be obtained from the Deputy Clerk, Town of Milton, 43 Brown Street, Milton, Ontario (905) 878-7252, extension 2109.

Dated at the Town of Milton this 20th day of May 2005.
Troy McHarg, Town Clerk

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EDITORIAL

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor fall into three basic categories. There are the nice people who want to acknowledge a service rendered by a group or individual. What better way to say thanks than by telling the community through an open letter to the paper.

The second group consists of those who feel so strongly about an issue that they must speak out publicly. Whether they are for or against an issue is not the point. Their views are almost always balanced and logical and consequently have a ring of truth.

Almost everyone else falls into the third category. Here we find the malcontents who are unhappy about most things and their complaint this week is just the latest in a string of whines. Here we also find those fixated on one issue and the anger they feel blinds them to alternative viewpoints. These voices deserve to be heard, not every week but at least once in a while, if only to remind the rest of us, the comfortable majority, that we are not 100% right on every issue.

Into this category also fall the mean-spirited, those whose views have been so frustrated by the indifference of the masses that they now feel the need to inflict pain on others, if only to prompt a reaction.

Now I normally don't change a word of the letters we publish, partly because I don't want to run the risk of changing any nuance of the writer's argument and also because a letter should stand or fall on its own merits. With some letters the writer's venom spills over into the spelling and grammar of the letter itself. If we should have learnt anything in grade school it would be that to win an argument we must be coherent and express ourselves well (at least well enough to get a C+). The sad truth is that no matter how strong your position is you can't win a battle of wits if you show yourself to be less than literate.

Sometimes I'm forced to step in. I will cut out all or part of any letter that crosses the line and becomes seditious, racially offensive or just truly nasty.

I do get a number of repeat customers who think it's their god-given right to lecture the rest of us on a weekly basis. I button-holed one particular culprit who had taken to writing to me at least once a day and explained to him that if he wanted to get his views across so regularly then he should do the democratic thing and buy his own newspaper because he sure as hell wasn't going to hi-jack mine.

THE HALTON COMPASS

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