

The New Tanner ~ Hometown News People Read



HOW MUCH IS THIS: Sandra Job was busy manning the bake sale table during the Churchill Church afternoon tea and bazaar while Doreen Burt of Balinafad decided which baked loaf to buy. — Angela Tyler photo

CLEAR VISION AUTO GLASS

- Windshields
- Convertible Tops
- Upholstery
- Tinting

We Pay up to \$300 of your deductible.

10 Speedvale Ave. E., Guelph 534 Hespler Rd. Cambridge
837-8039 622-3203
www.comsearch-can.com/cvag.htm

NELLS CONSTRUCTION LIMITED

 ROAD BUILDING
 EARTH MOVING
 R.R. #1 Acton **853-0960**

The **SUBWAY**
 A SANDWICH SHOULD BE
 Fast, friendly lunch!
 Come join us!
 Beside IGA
 Ph: 853-5531 Fax: 853-5366

YOURWAY-AUTO REPAIR & MUFFLER
 Custom Pipe Bending
 Lic. Safety Inspection Stn.

 17 Agnes St., Acton
853-0900

Royal Fishing Tackle
 Clearance Sale On Going
853-2460
 In the Royal Jug City

PETE'S AUTO PAINT LTD
 Cars and Trucks of All Sizes
 For a Free Estimate Call:
Peter Hargrave
 Owner-Operator
856-9356
 4923 7th Line, Eramosa RR 4 Rockwood

Extremism breeds terrorism - pastor

Dear editor,

Some two months on, the horror of September 11 continues to haunt us all, as the continuing state of fear and anger attests. As a nightmarish media event like none other, it is indeed beyond the immediate shock and disbelief we experienced as eyewitnesses to its death and destruction that the terrorist attack has exceeded its evil objective in its conquest of our psyche.

In the spread of anxiety and paranoia among the general populace is bred a sense of uncertainty and insecurity to the perverse delight of an extremist element who regard terror as their ultimate weapon. At the same time, as we resolve to confront such extremism that is at the root of this and other acts of terror, we must be on guard against such overreaction that tends to exacerbate rather than overcome the evil that all would regard as the enemy of freedom and civilization.

The danger posed by the vicious circle of extremism continues unabated, resistant to the worldwide condemnation of its excesses. Further contributing to the present danger, as borne of our ignorance and perpetuated by the media, is an



almost singular identification of the Islamic faith with fanaticism and fundamentalism.

This simplistic characterization that equates extremism and terrorism with a particular religion serves a dual purpose of naming and villifying an enemy against whom we have declared war, while denying the disturbingly-similar presence within our very midst of fanatical individuals and groups who, in regard to various volatile issues such as abortion and homosexuality, engage in such rhetoric and activities that in the extreme can condone and even promote acts of terror against those they oppose.

In my own ministry experience, I have been dismayed at times by encounters with other church leaders whose ministry is premised on fear and suspi-

cion of different points of view, refusing even to engage in dialogue within the context of the Christian faith, much less grant persons of other faith traditions the respect they deserve.

In dismissing as foolishness and weakness the potential of interfaith understanding to build bridges, and labelling non-Christians as pagans and heathens, I see little distinction from the extremist pronouncements of Islamic fundamentalist clerics who routinely denounce Christians as infidels and America as the Great Satan.

Beyond my concern with inflammatory rhetoric, as a person of faith I find myself most deeply offended that extremists of whatever persuasion or background should per- versely invoke God's name as a justification for their acts of

violence against others. In support of my conviction that violence begets violence, I would cite the 20th century Indian leader and proponent of non-violence Mahatma Gandhi as observing in full accord with the teachings of Jesus Christ that to continue in the practice of 'an eye for an eye' will leave us all blind.

If, in these troubling times and beyond, our ultimate goal is to achieve with God's help a peace resembling that which Jesus has promised us (John 14:27), then we must beware of and resist both inwardly and outwardly such extremism, which sanctions violence.

*Rev. Robert Matton,
Alma Gladstone United Church*

Editor's note: Rev. Matton is the former minister of Trinity United Church in Acton. He is now minister of a church in Alma, and continues to live in Acton, where he is also padre of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Terrorist regime in Sudan

To the Editor,

The terrorist act that killed 5,000 people on September 11, 2001, in the USA received major news coverage. This act pales in

comparison to the 2 million innocent people that have been slaughtered in the Sudan by another terrorist regime.

On November 16, 2001, Cal Bombay, of 100 Huntley St. informed members of Christian Heritage Party and the public about atrocities that are happening daily. Approximately 4 million citizens are living in the Sudan and still vulnerable to attack as their properties may be confiscated and their homes and lives destroyed. Talisman, a Canadian oil company, has holdings in the Sudan, which they are attempting to divest.

Until recently women and children were being taken as slaves and murdered if they made any effort to escape. Two young boys had their hands and feet cut off and were left to bleed to death. Christian children are being indoctrinated into the Muslim faith and some women are being reduced to concubines.

Travel in the Sudan can be

dangerous as bandits are waiting to kill and steal whatever possessions they can find. Even Cal Bombay was robbed at gun-point but due to his courage in requesting the return of certain valuables, he was able to retrieve several items including \$3,000 hidden in his pouch. He and his companion were the only travellers known to have lived through a robbery.

There is great financial need in the Sudan as 100 Huntley St. has provided five tractors for the people to work in their fields. As many as 100 tractors are needed so every dollar raised is useful to the completion of this undertaking.

Dr. Bombay stated that he no longer spends money to free slaves due to the corruption and his inability to trust the regime they must deal with.

Anyone wishing further information about the Sudan or wanting to make a donation can contact Crossroads Inc., Box 5100, Burlington, Ontario L7R 9Z9.

Pat Woode, Rockwood.

Proud to be here

To the editor:

I have lived in Acton now for nearly 15 years, and I'm proud of it. When I read the newspaper and see all the stores congratulating IGA, it kind of gives you "goose bumps" that everyone cares for each other in our community.

I work in Brampton, okay they have lots of stores etc, but who cares about their business,

there is so much of it.

Acton is growing, but "nicely." Let's keep it up Acton. "I'm Proud."

If I ever won big on the lotto, after all my dreams, I would build a medical building with an elevator and wheelchair/stroller accessibility.

Anyway, thanks to all who care for our town.

T. Rugg (Mrs.)

CONSTABLE GEORGE'S CORNER



With Village Constable
Garry George

Christmas Shopping

This is the time of year when the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season kicks into high gear. I know you will be busy, planning and shopping for all those Christmas goodies.

This is also the time of year when we are easily distracted and sometimes forget to take normal safety precautions.

Do not let a moment's inattention ruin your Christmas season. Please remember, thieves don't take a holiday.

The following tips should be followed year round, but especially in the hectic holiday season.

Money Smarts
 Do not carry large sums of cash in a purse or wallet. Consider using a debit card. Keep valuables in several different pockets. An "inside pocket" is best, as an accomplished thief will have little trouble stealing from a "back pocket" or purse. Be aware of your surroundings. Is someone paying undue attention to your activities? Be especially vigilant when using your credit cards or debit cards, don't let anyone see your PIN number entry. If your credit cards are lost or stolen, immediately notify the issuing agencies. Thieves can charge thousands of dollars, to your account, in a matter of minutes.

Ladies and their purses:
 Do not leave your purse unattended, even for a moment. It's an open invitation to thieves. If someone tries to steal your purse, scream. Call attention to the situation, thieves don't like attention. If you are the least bit unsure of what to do, let go of the purse. The contents can be replaced. Call the police with a location, and a description of the thief.

You have worked hard, and saved all year long for Christmas money. Don't let a thief be the "Grinch" who spoils your Christmas.

Braida & Henry
 BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS
 Serving the Community
 for 40 Years
 67 Mill Street East
 Acton
853-1160

DOLLIVER SURVEYING INC
 ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS
 Land Information Services
 54 Mill St. E.
853-2502
 web: www.dolliver.com
 E-mail: surveys@dolliver.com

T.J. CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION
 CUSTOM SIDEWALKS POOL DECKS
 FLOORS DRIVEWAYS
 STEPS ALL REPAIRS
CALL LARRY
(519) 853-0540
 FOR FREE ESTIMATES

BNR TOWING CAA
24 Hour Service
 • Flatbed Service
 • Lockout Service
 • Boosting & Gas
853-5848

VILLAGE Rent-A-Car
 FROM \$99 A WEEK
856-0000
 286 Alma Street, Rockwood

THOMPSON WELLNESS CENTRE
CHIROPRACTIC
 Dr. Tom Thompson D.C.
MASSAGE THERAPY
 • Stephanie Fournier R.M.T.
CHIROPODIST/FOOT SPECIALIST
 Deanna Wilson D. Ch.
AROMATHERAPY • REFLEXOLOGY
 • EAR CONING • REIKI
 Linda Cowan
 For consultation/appointment,
 call Thompson Wellness Centre
(519) 853-3460