

MPAC 'spanking' vindicates residents

Last month, Ontario's Ombudsman, Andre Marin, released a report that effectively concluded that the provincial agency charged with assessing homes and business properties doesn't care if you get the shaft at tax time.

In tens of thousands of cases annually, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) miscalculates the worth of private property, and municipal taxpayers are paying the price.

The Ombudsman characterized the publicly-funded agency as "secretive, manipulative, cloak and dagger, untrustworthy, bullying, astonishingly inaccurate, and cut-throat", along with many more adjectives.

Folks, this is a real "public spanking" that Andre Marin gave MPAC. This vindicates many in our community who questioned the ethics of MPAC. Ratepayers across the province were frustrated at appealing assessments.

I have to give special thanks to Mac Sprowl and my dad, Lou Bonnette, who formed a citizens' group to try to get answers on behalf of the average guy.

Councillor Bryan Lewis and myself presented several resolutions to council over the years questioning the legitimacy of MPAC. All resolutions were unanimously supported by your council.

I applaud Premier Dalton McGuinty who commissioned the Ombudsman to investigate MPAC. There are several recommendations to the Province from Andre Marin. Let's hope the Province takes them seriously.

Last month, we held a joint meeting with the Economic Development Committee, Ward 2 councillors, myself, senior staff, along with our agricultural community. This was a follow-up meeting to the November



Rick Bonnette

17, 2005 meeting. Ideas were exchanged, and there will be recommendations out of this to go to council that we hope will benefit our farmers. Remember, if you ate today, "thank a farmer".

The 2006 Citizen of the Year Awards for Georgetown and Acton have been announced. Congratulations to Glenda Benton (Georgetown) and the Acton Agricultural Society (Acton).

Halton Hills is proud of you!

On behalf of council, I welcome the following new business: The Spa on Main, (Georgetown).

Don't forget that April 27 to May 7 is Arts Week featuring a variety of art events throughout our community.

The winning artwork in the Mayor's Youth Action Committee (MYAC) art competition is being showcased on the Mayor's Artwall for International Youth Week, May 1-7.

Join in the celebration, and discover the many talented artists in Halton Hills.

Keeping it real! I can be reached by telephone at 905-873-2601, ext. 2342, or by e-mail at mayor@haltonhills.ca

—Rick Bonnette is the mayor of Halton Hills

BACK TALK

By Dr. Gabor Madarasz



I learned a lot yesterday, just because I asked a question. She told me that he'd sit in the back of the classroom, crying softly to himself. Scott had been doing this more for the past six months, particularly if he didn't quite "get" what was happening in class. The problem was that some of the kids in class were noticing and thought they could have a little fun by teasing and making a joke of him. If they only realized that the headaches were only getting worse as a result of all the humiliation. Kathy and I met Rita while spending the weekend away on a trip our kids had arranged for us. While sitting and enjoying the falls at Millcroft we were intrigued to learn that Scott's headaches had been recurring with more frequency and more severity. Rita was stunned to hear that we had helped many kids with the same difficulty with a particular style of chiropractic care. "You mean there's hope?" she said as we looked back over the stunning view of the falls. I went on to explain the tests we did with these kids and she couldn't believe the simplicity. I couldn't help but chuckle since that was usually the response. When I have these common encounters with moms and dads I always wonder about the "Scotts" who are agonizing with the same thing. I wonder if some of them even say anything. P.S. Call me if you have any questions at 873-1871 or visit us at painfree.ca

Life Chiropractic Centre
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Swing Tips
By Corey Gentes

One of the most common issues I see in golfer's swings early in the season is a lack of balance. Having good balance is one of the keys to having a repeatable consistent golf swing.

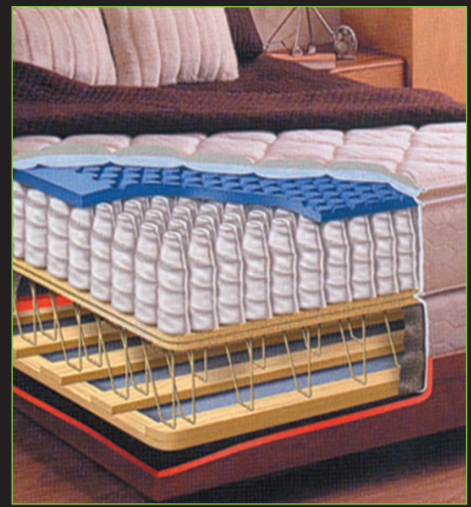
It is very important to create a solid base of support with the lower body so that the upper body can turn over it. This starts with a nice wide stance with the feet just outside shoulder width. Often we hear that the feet need to be shoulder width apart and unfortunately people will put their feet directly below their shoulders. This creates a narrow stance that when we shift our weight naturally in the golf swing puts most people off balance.

A good balance drill is to make full practice swings starting with a slower swing speed and gradually getting faster until you reach the point where you can no longer swing in balance. Now try the same thing while hitting balls and you will quickly find out how fast you can swing and still remain balanced.

A good early season exercise and balance test is to stand on one foot and then the other for as long as you can. Once you get confident, try the same thing but close your eyes.

NORTH HALTON GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
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How To Sleep Better . . .



Step 1:
Choose from our Simmons Gallery - great mattresses, better prices!

Step 2:
Pile on a mattress pad, comfy pillows and a fluffy duvet . . .

Step 3:
Tuck yourself into some of the luxurious bed linens we have to offer.

Step 4:
Select one of our many beautiful bedroom suites to surround yourself.

Step 5: Sweet Dreams!



Emerald ISLE

