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Letters to the editor

PM must come clean on secret deals

(This letter was originally sent to Prime Minister Stephen Harper. A copy was made available for publication).

Dear Mr. Harper,

We, the people of Canada, demand that you fully disclose the details of the Security and Prosperity Partnership Agreement and all other secret agreements and ratifications relative to any proposed integration of trade, security and armed forces with the United States and immediately place a moratorium on any further development of such plans and abrogate any agreements made to date pending a decision by a nationwide referendum on these issues.

The Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) of North America was initiated on March 31, 2005 by the (then) leaders of Canada, the United States and Mexico to combine

free trade as a hostage to security cooperation but cannot be allowed to go forward unless ratified by all the citizens of Canada in a free vote.

In particular, we demand that our national security policies be defined by Canadians on behalf of and for the benefit of Canadians. Our security would be better served if we disassociate ourselves from the U.S.' manufactured "war on terror".

We are a separate, independent nation and it is the people who must decide our future— not yourself, nor the presidents of the United States and Mexico, nor those pulling your collective puppet strings simultaneously— to ultimately affect a new world order.

I read with disgust your comment regarding the peaceful anti-SPP protest group gathering outside the Montebello Summit, this past summer

and how you considered it "sad" when told of the small number present at the time.

What is "sad" sir, is the fact that a protest like that even needs to be organized in our once great country.

What is "sad" is the selling out of our resources and our identities as Canadians to a comparatively small global elite pushing their single-government, single currency, single army, global agenda on the planet.

It is true you are judged by those you associate with.

Let's not make a grave error in joining our neighbours to the south in an unconstitutional North American union.

I look forward to hearing from your office as soon as possible on this matter.

Peter Roe, Georgetown

Bad cat owners shouldn't get free pass...

Dear editor,

I have been following the letters to the editor in regards to "the roaming cats issue" and I found the two opposing Dec. 12 letters informative.

On one hand we have one view of someone who believes we do not need a "another bylaw" and cats should be allowed to roam/trespass about freely and do as they please on other people's private property. And if you disagree with this person's view you are intolerant and should isolate yourself because you fear and despise your fellow creatures...wow now that's a bit of a stretch.

On the other hand you have a cat owner who believes we need a bylaw to deal with roaming/trespassing cats because they believe you should be responsible for your pets. I find this concept refreshing as the whole idea of responsibility these days seems to be something our grandparents practised, but did not catch on in our generation.

So ask yourself do we need

another bylaw? The answer unfortunately is yes.

Other towns within Halton Region have already enacted such bylaws and the sky has yet to fall. We can not legislate common sense or common courtesy, but we also already have other similar bylaws for neighbourhood "annoyances". We have stoop and scoop as well as leash bylaws for dog owners, which is reasonable. We have noise laws for people who may play their music too loudly, which is also reasonable. So

why should irresponsible cats owners be given a free pass?

Let's face it, we all choose to live together in Halton Hills and it is really an excellent community, but what gives irresponsible cat owners the right to impose their will on people who do not want to have cats trespass on their private property?

Finally ask yourself this, which of the above "neighbours" would you choose to live beside?

Eric Boles,
Acton

...and perhaps they should move elsewhere

Dear editor,

Re: Dec. 12 letter, Reader: Roaming cats something to enjoy...

If this person enjoys cats, let it be— but do so on their own property or living quarters.

The Town of Halton Hills certainly needs to have bylaws— new or existing. What would it be like without them?

Families choose to live in town for many reasons but one of them would not be to put up with someone else's cat using their property as a toilet or other annoying habits.

Moving to an isolated area is a good idea for cat owners who let their cats roam.

Donna Hamilton,
Georgetown

Dickens' Christmas Carol a rousing success

Dear editor,

Filled to capacity, the CBC and Literacy North Halton reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, December 8, was a huge success.

Supported by the generous donations of Maple Lodge Farms, Paul Armstrong Insurance, community businesses and citizens, over \$5,000 was raised to facilitate adult literacy in the community.

The production featured notable CBC Metro Morning presenter Jill Dempsey, along with an extraordinary cast of talented local performers and the St. John's United Church Choir. The event was put together by a dedicated group of Literacy North Halton volunteers. Without their year-round enthusiasm for giving there would have been no story to tell and no one to read it.

Charles Dickens, himself was dedicated to education and literacy. The transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge from a miserly curmudgeon to a man with community purpose and hope for the future is an inspiration to us all. We can make a difference in our com-

munity by making a difference in the lives of others. Literacy North Halton has dedicated 20 years to the needs of adults in this community who wish to improve their skills in order to find fulfilling employment, go on to further education and become better citizens.

Literacy North Halton is now recruiting volunteer tutors for their Spring Training Program. Can you spare three hours once a week to help someone upgrade their basic literacy skills? We have students in this community looks for tutors NOW. Call 905-873-2200 for more information or check out our website at www.literacy-halton.org

Thank you to: Georgetown Little Theatre for production, the choir of St. John's United Church, Maple Lodge Farms, Paul Armstrong Insurance, Lois Fraser, the Halton Hills and Milton Public Libraries, *The Milton Canadian Champion*, *The Georgetown Independent & Free Press*, Georgetown Printing, Denise Dilbey Royal LePage, Rotary Club of Acton, Young's Pharmacy, Costco, A&P, Price Chopper.

Special thanks to all of the volunteers who make this event such a special addition to the season of giving. In the words of Tiny Tim, "God bless us, everyone"

Sharon Foster
Administrative co-ordinator
Literacy North Halton

Tourney tally finally in

Dear editor,

I just wanted to let everyone know that the tally is finally in for the Acton Golf Classic tournament held at the end of August at the Acton Golf Club.

Although we had a small group of only 14 participants in the tournament, we were able to raise \$897.29. This tournament was a fundraiser for diabetes research for the Canadian Diabetes Association. I would like to thank all donors, both personal donors, as well as local businesses, volunteers and, of course, the golfers themselves for making this tournament a success. We look forward to see everyone again at next year's tournament.

Jordan Burton, Acton Golf Classic

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