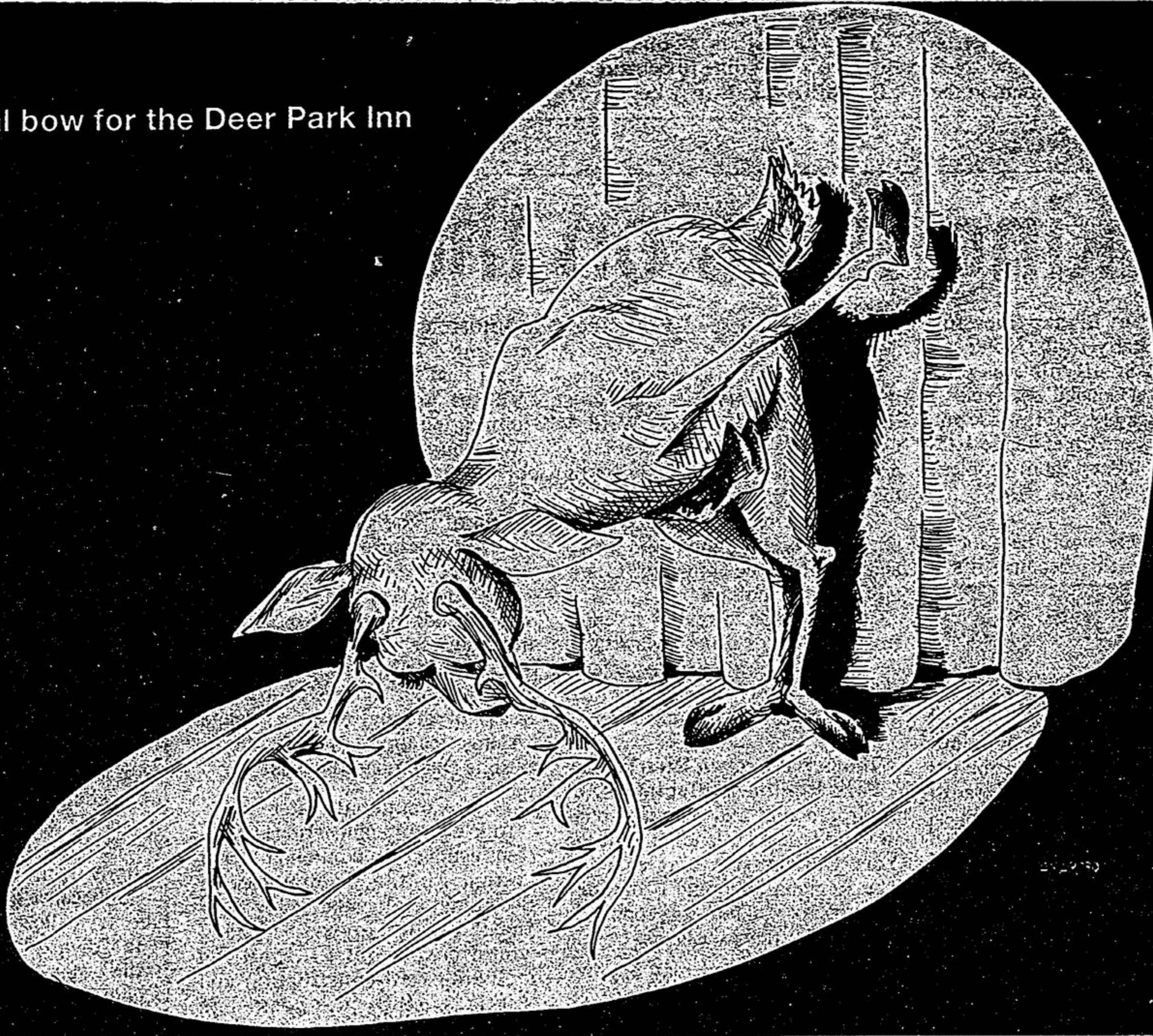


Comment Page

The final bow for the Deer Park Inn



Environment friendly day

Stop and take a look around this Thursday if you are outside. It's the one day of the year when we can take stock of our environment and decide what we can do to improve it.

Earth Day, celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, has now emerged as a particularly special time when the world can do something for the world.

In Durham and York Regions, and particularly in Stouffville and Uxbridge, our communities are working hard to improve their environment.

And as so-called 'green' issues grow in importance in the hearts and minds of our communities, we can triumph in the fight to save the environment.

In this issue, columnist Shelley Galloway offers some timely tips for those who observe Earth Day. Indeed, her tips can be used every day.

The higher awareness among average citizens that has emerged regarding the environment is encouraging.

And it's not too late to reverse the destructive trend that took root in recent times. Now more than ever, we must care for Mother Earth.

File no-fault under 'G' for garbage

I'm with the Fair Action in Insurance Reform group - no fault - no thanks!

I haven't compiled mountains of legal documents to back my theories because I know first-hand that if the no-fault legislation comes into effect, innocent victims are doomed.

With the system as it is, it is hard enough to receive help from your insurance company for benefits you rightfully deserve, and for benefits you have paid for year after year.

After my first accident, my insurance company treated me like a hardened criminal who was trying to beat the system.

To make a long nightmare short, I was involved in an accident almost two years ago, proven by all those involved to



kibble's bits

tracy kibble

be the other driver's fault. It was a bright sunny Saturday afternoon and I was heading to meet my friend's parents for lunch when a car barreled out of a parking lot, hitting me broadside, nearly driving me into the front window of a flower shop from the impact.

On quick reaction I turned my vehicle to avoid oncoming traffic, but was thrown roughly against the side door causing a neck strain that aches to this day as I sit and type, thank you very much.

But it is not a "loss of an important bodily function," so with no-fault I would not have received any compensation. Isn't that special!

I did, however, receive some compensation under the present system - after obtaining a lawyer and suing - from the liable 16-year-old driver's insurance company. (The young, inexperienced driver had a learner's permit.)

I was in journalism school at the time and did not qualify for

weekly payments for loss of income, which I understand under the no-fault system, I would have. (Or that's what they tell you.)

I may not have lost my legs or my kidney but my pain and suffering was emotional as well. Because I lost my transportation to school (my vehicle sustained more than \$4,500 in damage) I went from an honor student at college to one with a C average.

Pain and suffering is not always physical.

I had to work twice as hard after weeks of being away from school to graduate and I am reminded of the incident every day when my neck aches.

No-fault supporters say you will get quick benefits under the new

legislation. Hog wash. Poppycock. And I'm Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm.

According to F.A.I.R. you have to meet many criteria under no-fault to get any compensation, so it will be a cold day in hell before insurance companies will give up their precious money.

I have been with the same company for 11 years, and that accident was my first claim ever.

I agree with F.A.I.R. - victims will be at the insurance companies' mercy with no-fault and I would not have received a well-deserved monetary award from suing under the no-fault plan.

No-fault - no thanks! You can file this legislation under 'G' for garbage, Mr. Ballinger.

Editor's mail

A different view of 9th Line

Dear Editor, Why all the fuss about the 9th Line? It's a perfectly good road to Markham and to the hospital when driven on at the posted speed limits.

Of course, one has to slow down for the tracks, the intersection, bumps, rough stretches and the bridge, which was built by the pioneers of this region way back before the road had sunk to its present level.

You can get down to 16th Avenue quite safely, if your average speed does not exceed 45 km/hr. Some people, including ambulance drivers, probably wish to drive faster. The perfect solution is using 10th Line, which is much wider and gravelled from fence to fence, thanks to the snow ploughs.

It is 20 metres wide, smooth as the moon, has only two three-metre bridges and is strong enough for the

biggest tank you can buy at the toy store.

You don't even have to worry about rough pavement as you do on the 9th Line, because there isn't any for six kilometres, and there is no railroad crossing to slow you down.

It's as safe as 9th Line, but you have to keep your average speed a bit lower, say about 25 km/hr.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville section down to 19th Avenue is good because it was paved years ago. Of course, poor Markham cannot afford to do this: they have to spend their loonies on an artificial pond in front of their new palace at Warden Avenue and Hwy. 7.

This pond is sorely needed and only cost about \$2 million, just about 10 times what repairing the roads would cost.

But wait - they can't do that because the feds own parts of the

road and they are even poorer. Maybe when the GST comes in they'll be able to afford it.

And York Region has the same excuse, no money, building a new head office, federal ownership, etc., so why worry?

The people who live along the 10th can't wait for the drier season so they can breathe the fresh dust again, after Markham's graders pay their semi-annual visit.

Taxpayers don't fret! You've put up with it for umpteen years and you can put up with it for more. The big shots don't care, so why would you?

Go visit the palace and pond in Markham and have a look at what your tax dollars can really accomplish.

Sincerely,
Hans Hirsch
R.R. 4, Stouffville

Stouffville/Uxbridge Tribune

Publisher Patricia Pappas
Editor-in-chief Don Bernard
Editor Stephen Houston
Director of Advertising Debra Weller
Retail Advertising Mgr. Susan Berry
Administration Mgr. Chris Bertram
Dir. of Promotions/Distribution Jennifer Hutt

Published every Wednesday by Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distributing at 9 Heritage Rd., Markham, Ontario L3P 1M3. Tel. 294-2200.
Second class registration number 1247.
The Stouffville Tribune, published every Wednesday, at 54 Main St. W. Stouffville is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: The Action Free Press, Ajax Picking News Advertiser, Aurora Banner, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Etobicoke Advertiser-Guardian, Georgetown Independent, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist and Sun, Milton Champion, Mississauga News, Newmarket Era, Oakville Beaver, Oshawa-Whitby This Week, Peterborough This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Topik Newsmagazine, Willowdale Mirror, Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distributing is a division of Harlequin Enterprises Ltd.
NATIONAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE: Metroland Corporate Sales, 493-1300.



640-2100
852-9741