

Mississauga The Times

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Let welcome erase cranks

Mississauga's reputation as being unabrasively open to all races and creeds received a minor black mark with the attempted discrimination against black pianist Oscar Peterson.

Yet while it is minor because it was instigated by a small number of people only it can not just be swept under the rug as mere "talk".

Mrs. Smith (fictitious name), who sold the home to Peterson, would like to dismiss the incident in that manner.

Talk means thought, and that

type of thought, even from a small few, cannot be abided. It indicates that in some minds there is only a thin veneer of open mindedness over a prejudicial character.

The Times hopes our Page 1 story and this editorial are infinitely embarrassing to that minority.

At the same time we hope Oscar Peterson can dismiss those few dissenters as cranks.

Like the overwhelming number of Hammond Drive and Robin Drive residents we talked to, we welcome Peterson as an asset to the community.

No more stalls on trees

Mississauga council ought to bring quick approval to Councillor Glenn Grice's move to obtain town control over trees on property slated for development.

The proposal is to get provincial legislation enabling the town to rule on treatment of trees on any private land in town which may be developed.

Although Mayor Chic Murray is battling the proposal on the grounds that it deprives landowners of another liberty — cutting down trees — it's a liberty they should be deprived of.

Developers have long been guilty of wantonly stripping the land of vegetation and it's that behaviour that brings the need for such legislation.

Murray has stalled consideration of the proposal and councillors should take the lead in reintroducing it at the earliest possible time. There may be a long wait before the province acts on the issue, and any council stalling will only reap a harvest of priceless trees which could have been saved.

Stick to the real issues

The Mississauga News' unfortunate interpretation of the proposed separate board-public board school swap (May 16) has created unnecessary tensions in the community.

Evidence from meetings and a pamphlet prepared by parents who oppose the exchange of Alan A. Martin Public School and St. Paul's Separate School indicate that the protest is based on: the fact that the parents were not consulted about the proposed trade by the school board; on the

fact that A.A. Martin students would lose their existing lunchroom facilities; and on the fact that these same students would have to walk further to get to school.

There is no evidence to support the charges that "religious conspiracy" and "religious bigotry" are factors in the situation.

Hopefully the parents will continue to base their discussions with the public school board on the real issues.



Write On! 'Replace sales tax with land tax'

By Frank Touby

We've had The Ooze for three weeks. The Ooze is our little Afghan bitch who celebrated her eleventh week of life on Victoria Day cringing from Roman candles and sparklers.

Actually, her name is Ouzo, after the Greek liqueur. Or, if you want to get absolutely proper about it, her full name is Kophi's Princess Ouzo. But right now, The Ooze is somehow more appropriate.

Princess is a rather presumptuous title for a toe-biter and beard-chewer, Rawthuh!

"Princess" means The Ooze is the daughter of Tzama, the 8-year-old patriarch of Greta and Miles Phillips' Afghan clan. "Kophi" is the name of the Phillips' kennels in Elora.

The Ooze will undoubtedly have the same problem with her name that I have with mine. Unless you're a Greek lush or a fan of fascism, you'll probably not know that Ouzo is pronounced "oo-zoo."

It has the O and U combination that makes it difficult to pronounce.

So The Ooze will probably be known as Owzoh, Ohzow, Uhzoh or Uzo.

Just in the same manner as I was known as Tawby, Tubby, Tauby and Tooby.

Tooby is by far the favourite mispronunciation. Even meticulous David Scott-Atkinson released a letter to me from his Toronto public relations firm with my name spelled as he mispronounces it. (David is an Englishman, so it's expected he will mispronounce English words.)

To David's fleeting shame, he was writing his column for Marketing magazine on the very subject of spelling peoples' names properly. It's nice to see David humbled, if only for an instant.

I'll have to blame my name on my grandfather. When he moved to the United States from Russia, he decided that Tobochnikov didn't have the necessary class to make it big in the land of Rockefeller.

Besides, the name means "tobacco

vendor," and that just wasn't the image Grandpa wanted. So he decided upon "Americanizing" the name to Toby. But since he couldn't spell too well, he misspelled it Touby and initiated a lifetime of anguish for his male offspring and my old maid 26-year-old sister Bunny.

The first week of school was always trying. "It's pronounced Toby, teacher."

I had to speak out so often on how to pronounce my name that it turned me into an extrovert. I would speak out on everything. I got to see the classrooms after hours so often I thought of going into the janitorial profession when I was 13.

In the Army it was even worse. My name was stuck on every costume and I was either Tooby or Sir, depending upon how the caller was adorned. Most people with metal on their collars outranked me. Most people with stripes on their sleeves knew more about what was happening than I.

So let them call me Tooby. I was just waiting for the day it would be MISTER Tooby.

All that has nothing to do with The Ooze, who is currently campaigning for couch privileges (Sorry, chesterfield privileges.)

That means she is to be found slipping her hind end onto the living room couch everytime she gets the chance.

It's very Afghan of her. Since she has already assessed our intelligence as slightly below her own, and our determination as spasmodic, she has launched a war of attrition aimed at getting her forefeet also on the couch. So far, she has only achieved the rump portion.

Her forefeet stand firmly on the floor and she looks around innocently, hoping no one will notice that she is really sitting on the couch.

She's very cool. And very determined. Right now she responds to The Ooze. But I'm sure she'll soon snub that in another couple of weeks. Not dignified enough, don'tcha know.

It's Ouzo, with a zee. Zed? See?

'Fines for loose dogs'

The following letter to Port Credit Mayor Cy Saddington has been filed with The Times for publication.

How much longer are we, the taxpayers, expected to tolerate other people's dogs running loose night and day, defecating on our lawns and sidewalks, urinating on our shrubs and trees, and knocking down or trampling our flower beds?

This year when I purchased a dog tag for my dog, it had gone up from \$2 to \$5. I can't imagine why, because my dog is never out without a leash and, therefore, is no

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more bother to the town than he was last year of the year before that. He is never left tied up or alone.

I am a dog lover, and do not like to see dogs blamed for things which are the sole responsibility of the owners.

For months, I have watched packs of dogs, large dogs mostly, making use of people's property for all calls of nature mentioned above, but apart from this, four or five dogs seem to find my front garden a virtual Eden.

There should be no excuses acceptable if the dog is picked up or reported "at large" more than three times, and a fine of no less than \$50.00 should be imposed on the third occasion to the "couldn't-care-less" dog owner. I realize the police

have more than enough to do, but as they are around night and day, would it be feasible for them to watch out for dogs "at large", giving a brief but accurate description of the dog and the area in which it was roaming, and then have the Humane Society check each day to see what dog owners in that area have a dog answering to the description given.

For the record, I am sure that most conscientious dog lovers and owners cannot help but feel most embarrassed when their dog leaves a "deposit" behind during a supervised walk, so why can't someone come up with an inexpensive kit, consisting of a "poop-scoop" and plastic doggie bag, in which they can dispose of the



... to the dogs

contents hygienically, and anyone not able to show one of these kits when accompanied by their dog would automatically be getting a \$5.00 ticket, much the same as a parking fine.

Let's face it, any suggestion is better than none, and we dog owners are getting a bad name!

Jean M. Okey
 Port Credit

'Zoning integration'

The Times of May 9 reported that Mississauga town council and planning board in a joint meeting had decided that there should be primarily single family dwellings and semi-detached homes on the strip of land in the Lakeshore Community between Highway 2 and the Go Tracks.

We are encouraged by this decision because earlier proposals had recommended that the strip be developed for high density with apartments and townhouses.

Council and planning board are to be commended for reaffirming the principle that planning and zoning of undeveloped residential land must take into account the character of adjoining developed communities.

Citizens will naturally follow with continued interest the new proposal as it evolves, and they will be concerned to know that zoning for all undeveloped land in the area will be integrated with the surrounding community.

Murray Mogan
 Mississauga

'POP supports Mississauga too'

Your editorial of May 7 has greatly disturbed many people living in the Pickering area. For the record let it be clear that the people of Pickering have always supported the principle of bringing relief to citizens of Mississauga who are at present oppressed by the Malton Airport.

We have on numerous occasions sent urgent messages to the federal government to do something about reducing noise levels. We have urged the provincial government to reduce the amount of motor vehicle traffic to Malton, thus improving the quality of environment in Mississauga. These requests have been made known through our press releases.

We have said, and still say, that we don't want to dump the Pickering Airport in someone else's backyard. In support of this we pointed out our clamour for a review of transportation needs in southwestern Ontario with special emphasis on development of surface transport, thus cutting down on aircraft flights.

There is a growing wave of opposition to airport expansion for sitting all over the western world. Only by combining and speaking with one voice can citizens save their environment. Unless they do speak with one voice, the "planners" will continue to work without reference to the wants of people.

People or Planes is happy to speak with any group in Mississauga to the common end of bettering our environment and quality of life.

C.M. Godfrey
 Chairman,
 Claremont

'Help recycling depot'

The 1200 people who came to the opening of the Mississauga Recycling depot were most appreciated.

We would hope they come back but we ask your readers to do three things.

The depot is open from 9:30 to noon both Friday and Saturday and since it is manned by volunteers we would ask that tins are cleaned and flattened,

bottles cleaned and newspapers bundled in manageable sizes.

Since vandalism has been the cause of many unsuccessful depots please do not leave bottles, tins or newspapers when no one is at the depot.

If we all work together we will get our environment problems solved faster.

Chris Snyder
 Mississauga.



A steal at \$20,000 plus mature tree. Kids who built this tree fort unwittingly passed comment on housing problems by using real estate sign in construction.

Observations

... Terra Comm volunteer interviewer Tab Bucknell was almost a knockout the other week when he covered the Lakeview Park Public School 50th anniversary reunion. Bucknell was interviewing principal George Shannon on the success of the reunion when a play ball pegged from the school's secondary storey glanced off his head. "Things haven't changed in years" commented one oldtimer.

... in our April 25 edition we pointed out that the Town of Mississauga has no mementoes or keepsakes bearing the town crest. According to town information officer Steve Bitten, about six businesses picked up the idea and have applied to the town for permission to use the crest. One company has received approval in principle to turn out crests, pennants and mugs. Another hopes to merchandise clear plastic penholders and paperweights. The town has reserved right over quality control of the products.

... So P.C. councillor Terry Butt thinks he has an obligation to help provide affordable housing for young couples his own age. It's good to see local real estate agents take such a laudable stand on keeping prices down but when that same

detached lot which is now \$22,000. Therefore the total 20 per cent sales tax (federal and provincial) on building materials will surpass a \$1,000 per single detached bungalow or with a 25 year mortgage at 9 1/4 per cent to over \$3,550 in the overall increase cost of the house, thus moving home ownership out of the range of many more citizens.

Now imagine the positive effect that a substitution of this sales tax with land tax could have on the housing cost and housing production.

The land tax would alleviate land speculation, increase the supply of land in the market, thus reduce the land cost and the total housing cost. It makes one wonder why sales tax on building materials was chosen rather than land tax with regard to meeting our housing needs.

Ell Ophek
 Toronto

Letters to the editor

The space on this page is reserved for the readers of The Mississauga Times. We invite comment on any issue and are particularly interested in any letter which takes a point of view in conflict with our own as expressed in the editorials. All letters must be signed although, if circumstances require, we will allow a pseudonym to be used.

The Editor.

stand calls for cramming another 2,500 souls into an already over populated area one wonders where his loyalties lie; with the builders or with the electorate that so clearly opposes continued high density development?

... it came as a bit of a surprise when The Times learned the field behind our South Sheridan Way building was the town's number one trouble spot for mini-bike noise. Police had had several complaints from Padstow Crescent and Phedora Drive residents but the bikes haven't bothered us a wit. We'll just have to crank down out typewriters.

... Mack Hancock, who is Chairman of SOTAS (Save Our Trees and Streams) felt we cut a limb from under him last week when we reported he disapproved of legislation barring tree cutting on private property. Like good tree surgeons we hope to set the matter straight by publishing the SOTAS position. Hancock explains that the groups is much in favour of an act to give Mississauga power to regulate cutting on developable land but says the organization first wanted action of trees on town property. Unless the Town of Mississauga has brought in regulation protecting its own trees how can the town expect the private owner to do the right thing by his trees." Hancock felt Mayor Chic Murray is opposing the action on private land based on remarks attributed to Hancock that the organization didn't want the legislation.