

July 27, 2005

## Hazardous Soil Designation Proven

The following letter is worth a read. Even more important is the pdf file Murf-landfill crime. The pdf contains undisputable proof that soil moved to the landfill was indeed **Hazardous** and that council, city management and their experts knew it. This is very serious not only for Orillia but all municipalities. Dumping **Hazardous** materials is a **crime** against all of us and must be remedied immediately.

Allan Millard

231 Westmount Drive South

Orillia ON L3V 6E5

July 27, 2005

Ministry of the Environment

25 St. Clair Ave. West

Toronto, Ontario

M4W 1L5

Attention: Mr. Dale Gable, Senior Waste Engineer

Re: Review of Certificate of Approval #25061 (Kitchener St. Waste Disposal Site, Orillia)

EBRO File Number 04EBR006.R

I make this submission on the understanding that the period for public comment on the Draft Certificate of Approval (the "DCA") expires shortly, but I also make this submission with a sense of resignation. As a concerned citizen who has studied the mismanagement of the landfill and the violations of the existing CA by the City of Orillia I have already made submissions in writing (in April, 2005) and attended two meetings with Ministry staff at which I made oral submissions only to find that the DCA not only fails to address existing problems but actually makes it easier for them to be exacerbated by the City.

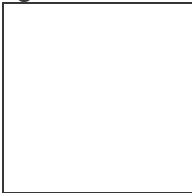
If Ministry staff are not prepared to address the problems I and others have identified, I ask that there be a full hearing by the Environmental Review Tribunal which is, I suppose, the closest we are likely to get to the kind of thorough hearing conducted by the now-defunct Environmental Assessment Board in 1991.

A great weakness I see in the review "process" is the role of Ministry staff working out of the Barrie office. They have condoned serious violations of the CA and, as I can prove, have actively supported and defended them. Therefore, it is only natural that such staff will never admit to those violations and admit that the DCA needs to be strengthened. Indeed, watering down the CA gives retroactive absolution to what Orillia and local MoE officials have done in the past, not to mention a clear conscience in doing it again. That is why we need an independent look at the history of the CA and an ERT hearing.

In this submission I will not go into the detail of my written submission in April as I did say at the time that that submission should be brought into the formal 30-day review period. That was assuming that my submissions would still be relevant. Unfortunately, on all the major points I raised in what I wrote in April there has

been no discernible change reflected in the DCA. Therefore, by reference herein I re-submit it. (If it has been misplaced let me know and I will send a copy by e-mail.)

I leave it to others to catalogue some of the major CA violations in the past to justify demands that the DCA be strengthened. The backdrop to my present submission is what I see as a massive, catastrophic violation in the form of the dumping in the landfill of toxic/hazardous (both apply) substances in the groundwater of muck taken from the excavation for Orillia's proposed recreation centre (the "PRC"). There are important lessons to be drawn, but obviously they will not be drawn unless the Ministry is willing to accept the facts. Up to now I have been unable to have anyone in the MoE pay attention to the fact that about half of the 40,560 tonnes of "soil" taken from the PRC and placed in the landfill could not possibly be classified as "solid non-hazardous waste" as the Ministry has maintained since before the excavation began. Partly in preparation for continued further legal action by me and the Citizens' Coalition and partly to assist the federal authorities in a prosecution I have prepared a 9-page "brief" on that massive violation. I suggest that Ministry officials should read it not just to understand the basis for this submission on the DCA but also to appreciate the light that is likely to be cast on the Ministry by the legal proceedings.



I challenge anyone in the Ministry to dispute the facts, or the logic, or the conclusions of my brief.

Here are some of the major lessons to be drawn from the Ministry's failure ("refusal" is a better word) to prevent the massive violation of the CA.

1. The Ministry must be clothed with effective authority to monitor landfill operations and enforce conditions, goals, deadlines, etc. Too often we have heard the excuse that the Ministry does not have the authority. If it is only an excuse, drop it. If it is a real problem, seek authority by legislative or executive acts.
2. The Ministry must keep an arm's-length relationship with the regulated. An obvious problem in Orillia has been the very cosy relationship between the City and the local MoE office. We can understand that it is difficult for the same office or the same officials to be both partners in brownfield development and regulators of the developer. It is always easier to be the "good cop". Therefore, the regulatory and enforcement functions must be separated from the "good cop" functions: The DCA should conduct the former functions from Toronto and not delegate them to local or regional offices.
3. Definitions are more than important; they are vital when we are dealing with a landfill known to be leaching into Lake Simcoe. If the definition of "contaminant" is not written into the DCA then at least by reference import the definition from the EPA (which I have checked).
4. The DCA takes it for granted that contaminants are acceptable in the landfill.

That must be turned around. There must be no language to permit Orillia, as it did, to say that contaminated soil was permitted in the landfill. The MoE agreed. The very idea is topsy-turvy.

5. There must be proper testing of material, preferably in situ, before it can be accepted in the landfill. If this had been done the hazardous/toxic substances placed in the landfill in November and December of 2004 it would never have passed muster. There are three very important aspects of "proper testing".

(a) When the owner/operator of the landfill is also the generator of the suspect waste material, there must be independent testing either by the Ministry or by a reputable company named by the Ministry (at the generator's expense) and under Ministry rules, not mere guidelines, establishing protocols for thoroughness of testing. In Orillia, the City and its consultants could not be trusted; they worked together to hoodwink a trusting public and a compliant MoE, and when the City ordered only four tests (in over 3 acres of land) the consultants certified that as "representative" for the whole area.

(b) Combining samples for analysis must be forbidden for any purpose relating to such a sensitive landfill. The Ministry has said that combined samples are not to be used for purposes of soil characterization (in the risk assessment exercise now underway for the PRC) where "contaminants of concern" may be present. Exactly so, and for the same underlying reasons it is even more important for waste class analysis that combined sampling methods must be barred.

(c) Regulation 347 must be applied in the most stringent way, not the most forgiving, as is the case now. That stringency must be enshrined both in the DCA and in the Regulation. Simply put, when there are 12 different ways to determine what is hazardous waste, Orillia will choose the method most likely to give it a "clean" result. I am cognizant of the fact that the root of the problem was the "solid" vs. "non-solid" (or liquid) characterization. If the City, its consultants, and the MoE had been honest about the groundwater in the soil (muck) destined for the landfill, neither composite sampling nor a leachate extraction test would have been available to hide the hazardous wastes. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution and to deter the unscrupulous the DCA and the Regulations must ensure that waste class analysis must be conducted by using every method or test that can apply to the material proposed to be placed in the landfill.

The DCA stands in its present form as powerful evidence that the review of the Certificate of Approval, whatever the good intentions of the Minister might have been in ordering the review, has been perverted to serve the interests of certain municipal and provincial officials. It is indisputable that the broader public interest in health, safety, and the environment will suffer a setback if the DCA is promulgated in its present form.

The facts must be put before an independent tribunal.

Yours sincerely,

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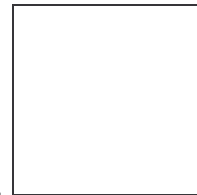
cc. Eric Gillespie

July 24, 2005

## Double Speak Dishonesty

**" I am quite comfortable in saying we are in no worse a position than we thought we were before. It is what we thought it was". "We have to ensure we are not making it worse"**. Is there anyone out there who understands this statement??? Do these words comfort anyone into believing that this council, city management or their experts actually know what they are talking about??? This statement was made by Doug Downey to Orillia Today reporter Frank Matys about the new report from S&P regarding the MURF site. Isn't it too bad that Downey and council still believe we are stupid enough to accept this tripe. It seems these people still just don't get it. We have gone way past the point in our evolution and knowledge for politicians to speak down to us. It is no longer politics as usual and the power base in Orillia will have to adapt or be relegated to the ash bin where they quite frankly belong. We need honest and sincere people on council who have only the taxpayers interest at heart not just their own or close associates well being. So read the statement again and please explain to me how these words can be considered sincere??? To me Downey has said nothing (or has he?) yet managed to insult our collective intelligence.

As for this false impression that there **maybe** contaminants that have migrated, S&P drawings prove that not only is there movement off site in one direction but in fact there is movement in all directions of 4 different Toxins. As I have said before, you do not have to be an expert to view these drawings to see the truth. Remember these are their documents. Who are they??? Council, management and their experts who have claimed over the last two years that **everything is fine, don't worry, we know what we are doing, no more testing is needed, the soil is non hazardous, digging won't do any harm etc. etc.** Now here we have Downey saying **"We have to ensure we are not making it worse"** Well! Doug you have made it worse and you lied about how bad it really



was and you know it. Take a look at the following document. This S&P drawing shows that there isn't a square inch of the 17.5 acres that is free of Vinyl Chloride. In the past they claimed VC was located in small hotspots. Remember when we took issue with these statements and were dismissed as non experts??? Well according to S&P's own drawing the entire property is laced with VC's. So if they claim now their action of Digging, Dumping and Filling didn't cause the spread of toxins then that means the property was laced all along and they were lying to us???? If the property was full of **Hazardous VC** and other chemicals all along as suggested by Downey then how could the soil sent to the dump be anything but **"Hazardous"** which means they knowingly dumped

Hazardous material and lied to the MOE???? The drawing clearly shows the entire property to be contaminated with VC. So which is it? Did the digging and filling spread the **Hazard** not only off site but on site as well and indeed make the situation worse or is it like Downey said " **I am quite comfortable in saying we are in no worse a position than we thought we were before. It is what we thought it was**". Either way the proof is undisputable that what has happened was done in full knowledge and purposfully to push their agenda through at any cost and the MOE and Minister were lied to (**It is an offence under subsection 184(2) of the EPA for a person to give or submit false or misleading information in any statement, document or data to any provincial officer, the Minister, the Ministry, any employee or agent of the Ministry, or any person involved in carrying out a program of the Ministry in respect of any matter related to the EPA or a regulation under the EPA**). And now we have Ian Brown saying those costs are \$20 to \$30 million dollars. We say by the time all the lawsuits are settled and clean up done on site and in the huge off site area being contaminated as I write this, it will be closer to \$100,000,000. Scary stuff. We need a **FORENSIC AUDIT** and parties responsible for this mess held personally accountable. We need the provincial government to step in and take over this mess before these people do even more harm to Orillians and surrounding areas in their vain attempt to save face and cover up which seems to be continuing. For people like the Rotarians who see no evil, hear no evil and blindly believe check the facts, ask questions and demand answers.

By the way speaking of Rotarians, our offer to address both Rotary Clubs regarding our position on the MURF site fell on deaf ears (see [We Get Letters](#) for more info). Seems the Rotary hierarchy doesn't want to hear from us. The offer is still there people. We would have thought with the new "**Catastrophic**" report released there would be some in Rotary who would question councils wisdom????? I suppose ignorance is bliss. Oh! well life goes on.

jim tolnai

**July 20, 2005**

## **Disappointed Again**

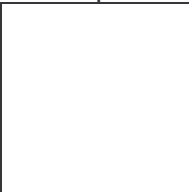
I can't tell you how disappointed I am in the Packet and Times. I thought that possibly the Packet was going to finally take a neutral stand and honestly report on what is happening at the MURF site. You see in Tuesdays paper the Packet failed miserably to report any of the facts regarding the cities latest bad news report. With a five hundred odd page report chocked full of "**Catastrophic**" details the Packet chose to ignore all of it. Their report disappointed and I decided to give them a chance to report in today's paper. I know they have deadlines and wanted to be fair and give them the time. But today there was absolutely nothing in the paper on this, so very important topic.


First the Packet reports that VOC's "**may be seeping through groundwater to nearby properties**". They also state that this possible??? migration is to the northeast implying that there is leaching in only one direction. Whether a layman

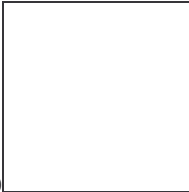
, expert or reporter a quick check of the report maps clearly indicates a different scenario. The truth is that migration is taking place in all directions of the compass. What may or may not be known yet is how far from the property the migration has gone. But judging by the high numbers it is certainly possible that the plume could be several blocks or more from the site. Check out the pdf file maps which clearly shows the location and how high the numbers are below. There is quite a soup of Toxins and as you can see this is not a maybe migration and certainly not in only one direction. So the Packet does a disservice to us all one more time.

My article yesterday was titled Unbelievable Spin. There is a second part to this Spin. The Packet reports that S&P claims there is actually the possibility of off site contaminants moving onto the MURF property. Can you believe this crap. I'm not surprised as we have reported for over a year that the city faces huge lawsuits for contaminating peoples property. So why not preempt these suites by claiming to be the victim yourself. So you folks who own property all around this "**Catastrophe**" be prepared for financial ruin. Not only will your property become worthless if contaminated you will be fought tooth and nail to with hold compensation from you and maybe will actually have claims for contamination against you. These guys are setting the scenario and the Packet article proves it. The city will claim they are the victims and you will have to spend your own money to fight them all the while they will use your tax dollars to fight you. The writing is certainly on the wall. Don't forget you were warned months and months ago by us and it seems this report now proves us right.

GL&V, Home Building Center, Canadian Tire, Industrial Mall on Queen St. Carpino Auto Sales, Apple Auto Glass, Norweld DR. business etc. You better get your skates on and educate yourself. Your going to have a hell of a fight on your hands and it won't be cheap or stress free.

Vinyl Chloride Map 

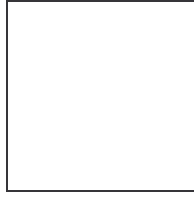
TCE Map 

Cis 1,2 DCE Map 

DEHP Map

jim tolnai

July 19, 2005



## Unbelievable Spin??

Last night's council meeting was a perfect example of the **INCOMPETENCE** of council and Boss Hog. While parking and other minor issues received some debate the latest "**Catastrophic**" Shaheen and Peaker report barely received acknowledgement of its existence. In my last report on the "sneak preview" of this report I shared that indeed there is contaminated flow into Ben's Ditch. Now remember Ben's Ditch flows into Lake Simcoe and any contamination is serious. But what we have flowing into this ditch is in fact some very nasty stuff. Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate or DEHP is the stuff and a search on the Internet resulted in the following find. Here is the web-site for your convenience. Please it is extremely important that you educate yourself.

[http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/summary.tcl?edf\\_substance\\_id=117-81-7#hazards](http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/summary.tcl?edf_substance_id=117-81-7#hazards)

You will note this stuff is a Recognized Carcinogen, Reproductive Toxicant and Developmental Toxicant. Now these are known effects. Suspected effects are Endocrine Toxicant, Gastrointestinal or Liver Toxicant, Respiratory Toxicant and Skin or Sense Organ Toxicants. The Hazard ranking for this gem of a find is "more hazardous than most chemicals in 7 out of 14 ranking systems". Wow and we are letting this stuff flow into Ben's Ditch and potentially into the drinking water of tens of thousands of people (**at 12 times higher levels than allowed**). Not to mention what this stuff is doing to aquatic and other life forms on its way to your tap. But hey! don't worry about it as Boss Hog says "We just need further data". Now he isn't suggesting that maybe a clean up is needed. No! No! No!. In fact he proclaims "While the city will have to develop a plan to address potential off-site impacts, environmental plan the city is following is still workable". "This process is far less expensive than a full scale cleanup of contaminants in the soil and groundwater which could cost \$20 million to \$30 million". "The risk assessment is still viable". Well doesn't that make you feel warm and fuzzy all over. This from a guy who stood up at the Swanmore Hall MURF meeting 16 months ago and assured everyone that all there was to be known about this property was already known and no further testing was required. He stated that the property had so many holes in it, it looked like a **Pin Cushion**. Looks to me like we were misled bigtime by this guy back then and he is hoping to get away with it again???? Then of course there is Cynthia Robins (**expert?????**) who stated that there was no migration from the property and any migration that may have happened had ended long ago. And we mustn't forget just six weeks ago an S&P representative stated at the PLC meeting there was no indication of Toxic Migration into Ben's Ditch. In fact he implied that Ben's Ditch was being

contaminated from other city sources but no chemicals of concern were found????? **Wake up Orillia** and start demanding that the Provincial Government take charge of this Disaster. We need a **Forensic Audit** and protection. If ever there was justification for a senior level of government involvement it is this case.

jim tolnai

**July 17, 2005**

## **MURF Site Leaking Like Sieve**

Well folks a new report to be released on Tuesday and discussed at Monday council does not look good for taxpayers and neighboring properties of the MURF site. You may remember our warning that if disturbed the **TOXIC SOUP** beneath the site could be forced to migrate off site. We later said that indeed the **PLUME** had left the site. All this time council and Mayor Pinocchio either denied this fact or said nothing. Well the situation is far worse than even we thought. We got a chance to have a sneak preview of this report and the site is **Leaking Like a Sieve**. That's right **Toxins** are migrating in all four directions of the compass. We expect that council will now have to authorize more work to be done off site just as we predicted would happen. What a shame that we the taxpayer will be stuck with the huge costs of first trying to contain then cleaning and finally settling with surrounding property owners for damage caused. All this could have been avoided had we had even one councillor with guts enough to bring the truth to the public and force the rest of council to actually do the right thing and not just rubber stamp **STUPID ADVICE???? in their attempt to cover up their incompetence**. Now I am afraid it is too late. Look for cleanup costs up to the \$100,000,000 range and years of litigation. We need a **Forensic Audit** and we need it now????

Another item in this report seems to be a request to start monitoring off site buildings???? We warned these people that if they did not hold back on activity until we knew what was there this was sure to happen. Well it seems we were right on. Problem is that there is no comfort in "I told you so" for us. We did not take on this fight to brag we were right. We took the battle on to stop the harm. In that we have failed as Mayor Pinocchio and council damned the torpedo's and went ahead in a fit of **stupid**.

The report also contains reference to what looks like an additional 6 areas of crushed drums???? You know those infamous non existing drums. Remember how Lauer claimed we were wrong but never investigated the historical fact via his father who worked in management at Otaco one of the companies responsible for dumping. Well the chickens are coming home to roost. Originally there were 50 drums found. This was later reported as 30 without any explanation as to where the 20 disappeared to. Remember, of three intact drums found one they claimed contained water and the other two they were not sure what it was but said it looked like diesel fuel. To this day we have not been furnished with test results of these drums contents. My question is very simple. If

they can say with certainty that one contained water I assume testing had to have been done???? In that case why would they not be just as certain about the other two drums contents??? You would expect these contents would have been tested wouldn't you??? Because of a lack of time in viewing this report we are unable to say if these results are included but hope it is. So now 6 more areas are referenced????? How many drums in each?????

Finally at the first and only Public Liaison meeting (PLC) Shaheen and Peaker stated that there was no sign of leaching into Ben's Ditch. Yet six weeks later this report in fact tells us that there is leaching into this waterway which flows into Lake Simcoe. How come they didn't know this back on May 26???? Another example of incompetence or ?????? as far as I'm concerned.

So it should be an interesting week coming up. Come on out to council Monday night or watch cable 10 and see how these people will attempt to put **SPIN** on this bad news for all of us????

jim tolnai

**July 14, 2005**

## **Intelligence 0 / Knowledge of Facts 0**

In today's Packet a Donald E. Archer had his letter to the editor published. I'm not sure whether Donald was attempting humor but if not then he certainly lacks the **Knowledge** and **Facts** that are necessary to make **Intelligent** conclusions. I'm not sure why but people like Donald come out from time to time showing their ignorance of facts. These people are never seen investigating any issues they comment on but tie their shirt tails to disinformation and go for a ride never really being aware of where they are going or where they have been. I am proud to say that the people with guts and integrity who challenge and oppose bad decisions, cronyism, sweetheart deals, pollution, poisoning etc. always do their investigation and work from facts and knowledge with intelligence.

Donald begins his attack by attempting to label anyone and everyone who does not agree with him and his friends of being a coalition **AEIO** (Against Everything in Orillia). This is a classic move that has been used over and over again by people in power and their puppets in the hope of wounding concerned peoples credibility. Of course this method no longer works because there has been a **paradigm** change. You see even as recently as 10 years ago instant publishing was not available to people with a cause. Public knowledge came from local papers and radio and was filtered to suite the people in power. Why just look at the Packet and how they have over the years abused their obligation to the public to inform accurately and fairly. I have been calling for changes at the Packet and maybe now there seems to be some movement not by reporting both sides but by just not reporting either side more often. That behavior has leveled our playing field some what so although we would prefer that both sides be reported accurately at least much tripe is not being fed to us. The other change is the Internet. You know Donald anyone with minimal skills can now access information from around the world to determine that what they are being told is true or not. The good news is that many are actually doing it which = Knowledge of Facts so that the interested person can make an Intelligent decision on right or

wrong. This Donald is sadly lacking in your letter.

Donald refers to our MP as a self made clown because he supports same sex marriage. People like Donald only believe in democracy when the vote goes their way. Otherwise the vote is not legitimate. Remember Stephen Harper making a deal with the Bloc to topple the government but when the Bloc sides with the government on another matter he claims their votes in Parliament are not legitimate. The lack of both Donald and Stephen's Intelligence comes into question on this matter doesn't it????

His next mis-information "**Stop the MURF**" again shows he has absolutely no knowledge of the facts. Stopping the MURF has never been an issue. Build the MURF Donald but **CLEAN** the site before building it or move it to another suitable site that is already clean. Donald your knowledge and facts are wrong when you attempt to mouth mis-information that was put out over a year ago by the Packet and council and has been conceded it was not true. Why publicly even council refers to us as concerned citizens. Privately???

"**Close the Landfill**" is your next gem. What were city fathers of the past smoking when they came up with the decision to locate a dump on the shores of Lake Simcoe???? What was the Ontario Government of the day smoking when they allowed it??? If you would take the time to do some research you would know that there is an estimated 78,000,000 lt of leachate entering the lake annually. Dictionary.com says **Leachate: a solution or product obtained by leaching <toxic leachates from improperly managed landfills. See how easy it is to find facts and pass them on Donald???**

When this dump was started back in about 66 the bay was healthy. Now Donald you do not have to be a rocket scientist to go down to the bay by boat and take a bit of a tour. The bottom of this bay is like a moonscape showing no life. You know Donald the decision to put the dump there is not unlike the decision to build the MURF on the West St. property. In the dump case it was the cheapest solution. In the MURF case they thought it was the cheapest solution. Funny people separated by two generations making the same stupid choices.

So Donald why do you want to contaminate your neighbor and his property with weed killer. Do I not have a choice whether to have your over spray in my air or on my property??? Oh!! I forgot according to your philosophy my concerns or vote don't count unless I agree with you. Which leaves you FREE to poison my family, my air, my pets and my property. Yeh!! right.

**Reject Incineration** doesn't even deserve a comment. Your ignorance of facts and a lack of intelligence makes this subject too complicated for you to understand even the simplest facts. "**Save the Turtles**" again shows just how intelligent you are. What gives you or anyone the right to destroy these creatures. They were doing no harm and in fact that bit of swamp was a wonderful filter which was unnecessarily filled in. As for "**Elect the Absurd**" I think we have already done that thank you very much. **Ragging Grannies** were in the parade. Obviously you were not there to see and hear them singing and marching. Again it shows your lack of knowledge of facts while placing your intelligence to disrepute. Donald we will never allow anyone to stop you from mis-informing or being mis-informed. That is your right in a FREE and Democratic Society. But we

do reserve the right to analysis and comment on it's accuracy. That is what makes this country great the majority makes room for all unlike you and the **NOT PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES.**

One more footnote Donald. Had you been a witness down at the park you would have known that the Pig Trough was paraded along Centennial Dr. and throughout the park for many hours by people willing to make accurate statements and critique this council.

jim tolnoi

**July 13, 2005**

## **On the Mend & More**

My absence from this page has resulted in many e-mails and calls wondering what was going on. Seems people are missing the information we supply and believe me I am humbled by your interest. I have returned from my stay at Sunnybrook Hospital where I underwent bypass surgery. Seems that my lifetime love affair with rich wonderful food culminated with my Cardiac Arteries hoarding some of it's byproducts. Anyway to make a long story short I was plugged up pretty good to say the least. With surgery out of the way recovery will be long and arduous but I am told that one who has had this surgery will feel 20 years younger. Believe me at this very moment it sure does not feel like that but will wait and work at my recovery.

My latest adventure began about 3 years ago. I was unable to lay on my back looking up while working with my hands. Picture trying to do an oil change in the driveway. I would become nauseated and light headed. This grew increasingly worse to the point where I just wouldn't work in this position. I went to the doctor and after some neck X-rays it was diagnosed as a pinched nerve in my neck aggravated by my position. So last summer when I was digging post holes in the backyard and I came down with the exact same symptoms plus one which was excruciating pain in my bottom left molars I stopped digging and laid down. I promptly fell asleep and woke an hour later with all symptoms having disappeared. In hindsight I now know that what I was really having was my first heart attack. I have read where people did not seek help because they just don't know what is really happening and I was no different. I had two more incidents one at the end of Oct. and one early Nov. Still not questioning the episode as being anything more than my pinched nerve I went on. But now there was

another problem. Seems damage to my heart was causing congestion and a drain on energy. At this time I again visited the doctor which led to a diagnosis of congestive heart failure. Funny thing is that although we now knew that I had had heart attacks my stress test did not indicate blockage. It was thought I might have had a virus and had the aching tooth not come back I may very well not be writing this today. With that information my doctor sent me for an angiogram and it was found that I had 2 arteries 100%, 1 at 80% and 1 at 40% blocked. An additional MRI and I checked in for surgery on July 6. Luckily there was enough healthy heart tissue left that I was able to receive the surgery.

I would like to say that with all the controversy surrounding our Health Care System and it's shortcomings my treatment was first class. The investigation period takes time as doctors work to eliminate symptom causes so being anxious at this point is pointless. It took days not weeks to get appointments with specialists and surgeons once it was known what we were dealing with. MRI appointment took about 3 weeks to get but believe me everyone I spoke to in the waiting area was being treated a.s.a.p. and I certainly was confident that had I needed faster service room would have been made. As for the people in the system I couldn't be more positive about their professionalism but most of all their caring. From the cleaning staff to the specialists these people do a wonderful job. I can't tell you how good it feels to have nurses and staff come to your bed and pat your hand reassuring you that you are fine and being looked after and cared for as well as they would their own family. The sharing of information honestly without hesitation is appreciated. The concern of my surgeon who held my hand and patted it with reassuring comfort. Wonderful people who I owe a lifetime of gratitude. Believe me I left there as all other patients believing my name was sweetie, honey, dear etc.

jim tolnai

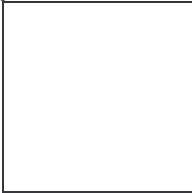
**July 5, 2005**

## **Running With The Bulls**

Just a short comment on yesterdays article in the Packet telling us about

Ralph Cipolla's adventure. Seems Ralph is in Spain and has or will be running with the Bulls. What a perfect match as who knows bull better than Ralph. So here is wishing Ralph all the luck in avoiding the horn end of the bovines but hope he will not bring back too much of other type of bull to Orillia as we have more than our share of it that Ralph and council has already spread. Woudn't Ralph look great wearing a T shirt with the city logo we prepared below letting the world know that Orillia too is famous for bull @\$%. Might be the start of a new wave of bull interested tourists. So Ralph keep safe and have fun we do wish you the best

jim tolnai



**July 2, 2005**

## **Packet Hypocritical/Biased**

I had hoped that the departure of Dave Dawson from the Packet would have made a difference in how the Packet handles issues. This past week stories done by Colin McKim on Mondays council meeting and Tuesdays pesticide were balanced and both sides were reported accurately. I commented to people that although I would not hold my breath the reporting done this past week was acceptable. Then here we are today with the Packet going back to their old ways. I am talking about the editorial page which is the height of Hypocrisy and shows their Bias in all it's glory. Why does the Packet not just come out of the closet and quit pretending to be a community newspaper. They should change their name to **The Conservative Times** and stop their charade.

Just look at the front page, page two, page three and more. Nowhere is there a mention of the PIGS display. Folks you may remember the PIG Trough at the council meeting where a whopping 40% raise was given to council by themselves to themselves commencing mid term in their mandate. Now oddly enough taxpayers were a little more than perturbed and a group called "Promoting Integrity in Government Spending" (PIGS for short) was formed. Council was

warned that if they went ahead with this obscene raise which was on top of the 12% to 16% they had already received since 1999 the **Trough** would be displayed at any and all functions in and around the city of Orillia till election day Nov. 2006. So It should not have come as a surprise that yesterday July 1 the **Trough** was on display in and around Couchiching Beach Park reminding the crowd of the betrayal by council. As the **Trough** traveled through the park people gave the Thumbs Up. A few did not like it but they were a fraction of those who appreciated the effort to hold council responsible for their action.

The embarrassment of Mayor Pinocchio was evident as he rode by the **Trough** display. So the Packet's non reporting of the event was not surprising. I have said all along that the Packet is looking after its bottom line and until Dawson and Bissett are gone nothing will change. So I guess I was right as only Dawson has departed. Anyway look at the editorial in today's paper. "**Consider it a good thing that the various factions in Ottawa seem to be at one another's throats on a daily basis. That's how things get done**". So it's OK! for the Conservatives to be at the throat of the Liberals according to the Packet on a daily basis. Then go down the page to the Darts and Laurels. Darts "**To Kelly Clune for trying to crash the Canada Day parade in the guise of fun. There has to be some rest from controversy. Take a day off**". Kelly did not try to crash the parade nor was she in it (more inaccuracy and rewriting facts by the Packet). She applied to be in the parade and was turned down based partly on the fact that it was too political. She accepted their decision and the **Trough** was displayed around the park not in the parade. Of course that did not stop the Canada Day Committee from (Inviting /Allowing) Bruce Stanton from parading. Yes Bruce Stanton who claims to be a candidate for an election that has not been called or forced, was in the Canada Day Parade. On the side of the vehicle he travelled in it said "**Bruce Stanton Conservative Candidate**". One rule for **Conservatives** one rule for others. Hey! was the NDP or Green Party candidate invited????? Had they tried to be in the parade or walked around with a sign in the park, would that have been considered crashing??? So which is it???? Oh! I get it. As long as it is your team (**Conservatives**) that is at the throats of the Liberals on a **daily basis** (without taking a day off) it is OK!???? As long as it is

your candidate crashing the parade it is OK!??? But opposition to your **Conservative** friends on council and it is **Not OK!???** Sort of like Stephen Harper who aligned himself with the Block to try and defeat the government on the budget saying that the Blocks votes are legitimate and count. Then when the Block votes with the Government and against the Conservatives their votes are **Not** legitimate. Yes we see how this works now. The Packet gets their Hipocracy/Bias from their party of choice.

jim tolnai

**July 1, 2005**

We received this from Lillian and Don Marsden and thought it most appropriate to post it especially today when we celebrate our freedoms. **In support of your efforts on behalf of all Orillia, thank you. We share the thought below as a reminder not to lose hope in our struggle to get accountability, justice and a safe, healthy environment for all:**

**"Never doubt that a small group of concerned people can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."**

**.....Margaret Mead**

**Happy Canada Day!**

**Lillian & Don Marsden**