

It's time to make an example of those who dump trash illegally

Lazy pigs.

Those are the only words we can come up with to describe the people who think it's okay to dump garbage in the ditches along our rural roads.

When the snow receded recently it revealed disgusting piles of trash from black kitchen garbage bags to old furniture and drywall festooned along our sideroads.

Google illegal dumping and you quickly see this is a problem from coast to coast. Just last week in Port Hope a huge pile of roofing shingles was left next to the Ganaraska River and in Caledon, parts of Old School Rd. were closed after several pails and drums, some with an unknown substance, were dumped at the side of the road.

Illegal dumping is not a victimless crime. It costs taxpayers a pretty penny to remove drywall, shingles and old couches.

However, even more important than money is the affront this act symbolizes for our natural environment and residents.

Illegal dumping can result in a fine of up to \$5,000. However, the authorities need evidence.

If you spot someone illegally dumping, make sure to record the date and time of the incident, a description of the person or persons responsible, the vehicle type, colour and licence plate, and what types of items are being discarded.

Better yet, take a picture.

In OPP patrolled areas, police are reminding residents to contact the OPP communications centre immediately at 1-888-310-1122 to report illegal dumping. The Town of Halton Hills advises residents to call 911 if they encounter illegal dumping.

If you are charged with illegal dumping we will print your name in the paper. If you have a photo of someone illegally dumping garbage we will publish that too. After all, if you can afford a new sofa you can afford to take the old one to the waste facility. We're sick of your mess.

The Independent & Free Press

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THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

905-873-0301

Publisher: Neil Oliver

General manager: Steve Foreman
(sforeman@theifp.ca, 905-234-1011)

Retail advertising manager: Cindi Campbell
(ccampbell@theifp.ca, 905-234-1012)

Managing editor: Chris Vernon
(cvernon@metroland.com, 905-234-1020)

Distribution manager: Nancy Geissler
(ngeissler@theifp.ca, 905-234-1019)

Classifieds/Real Estate

Kristie Pells
(realestate@theifp.ca, 905-234-1016)

Advertising Sales

Jenny Hawkins
(jhawkins@theifp.ca, 905-234-1014)

Jennifer Spencer
(jspencer@theifp.ca, 905-234-1033)

Rachael Scutt
(rscutt@theifp.ca, 905-234-1015)

Kelli Kosonic
(kkosonic@theifp.ca, 905-234-1018)

Classified Call Centre

1-800-263-6480, Fax 1-866-299-1499
classifieds@metroland.com

Accounting: 1-866-773-6575

Editorial

Cynthia Gamble: News editor
(cgamble@theifp.ca, 905-234-1021)

Eamonn Maher: Staff writer/photographer
(emaher@theifp.ca, 905-234-1023)

Kathryn Boyle: Staff writer/photographer
(kboyle@theifp.ca, 905-234-1022)

Composing

Shelli Harrison (sharrison@theifp.ca 905-234-1017)

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Letters to the editor

Rebels coaches deserve praise

Re: Rebels swim team.

It is with deep and sincere gratitude that I send you this thank you for being such wonderful role models, inspiration, support and coaches towards my son and all the other kids on the Rebels swim team.

This is a huge sacrifice of time and commitment by all of you and it completely enhances our children's experience in growing to be their best.

The lessons they have learned through swimming involve supporting each other, good sportsmanship, teamwork, and a bigger understanding that it can take more than one person to achieve great success.

Being a part of something bigger gives my son a sense of belonging and camaraderie that he truly loves and appreciates being a part of and I have witnessed on several occasions what a truly amazing swim family it really is.

There are no words to truly share with you that would adequately convey

how much our family truly appreciates every minute of time you spent with, and for our kids.

We understand that you have other commitments so please always know that your efforts are greatly appreciated and honestly, we just plain love you for them.

Sherri Gramas,
Halton Hills

Eight storeys is high enough

The following letter was sent to Mayor Rick Bonnette and filed with this newspaper for publication.

Re: McGibbon Hotel condo development.

The developer of this project has diligently assembled the land and is securing buyers and financing. As you are keenly aware, the question facing Town Council is not whether it should be built, but whether it should exceed the present zoning limit of eight storeys.

Questions have arisen regarding the merits of different material brick,

glass, etc. The success of building materials principally revolves around how sensitively these materials are arranged by the architect. In this case, the developer has hired an emerging architect with top-level design experience and the latest drawings depict an animated shape, which is attractive to the eye. However, eight storeys can be just as attractive as 11, with the added advantage of being less overpowering to neighbours.

Expectations are that the project will initiate the revitalization of Downtown Georgetown and the local BIA is on side, anticipating increased business and new retail shops. Again, an eight-storey building will be quite sufficient to realize these goals. After all, no body builds retail shops on the ninth floor.

It goes without saying that financial benefit accruing to the developer is not the guiding criterion for Town Council's decision. Council's deliberations are of a wider nature. The present eight-storey zoning limit was not pulled out of a hat, but is the result of responsible town planning. To refrain from exceeding this limit, I believe, will create the most satisfaction for the greatest number of residents.

W.D. Richardson,
Georgetown