

## Play safe this long weekend

As we sit on the verge of the first long weekend of the summer season the anticipation for many is palpable.

The cottage, the beach, or just grilling in the backyard— most of us can't wait.

However, sadly the Victoria Day weekend can be one of the most tragic times of year for carnage and death on our highways and lakes.

Police will be targeting high risk driving behaviours during Canada Road Safety Week that kicked off May 12.

The national campaign, which runs through Monday (May 18) is aimed at making Canada's roads the safest in the world.

It is a collaborative effort by Canadian police services to remind people that an essential part of the enforcement job is to save lives and reduce injuries on our roadways.

The focus of the campaign will be on behaviours that put drivers, passengers and other road users most at risk— such as the "Big 4 Killers" impaired driving (by alcohol or drug), failure or improper use of seat belt, distracted driving and aggressive driving.

As part of the campaign, and new this year, there will be a National Enforcement Day for impaired driving on Saturday (May 16).

The road worthiness of passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles will also be a focus of the campaign.

The annual blitzes have become a local tradition and emphasize both enforcement and education, according to police.

The OPP will also be patrolling the 400 series of highways.

Safety, however, starts with each and every one of us.

We encourage you to act responsibly on the highways and waterways.

If you drink, don't operate a vehicle or a boat. Use a designated driver or stay over at a friend's house if you've had a bit too much to drink.

Also, stay sober whether you're boating or swimming. Whatever you do, please don't become another statistic.

The last thing we at The Independent want to be doing on Tuesday is writing up stories about Halton Hills residents being injured or killed.

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## Letters to the editor

### Fishing line can kill birds

My daughter and I go down to Wil-low Park in Norval quite often to catch snakes and wade in the water.

This Saturday we were there and we saw a bird trapped in fishing line that was snagged in the bushes.

It was wrapped around the bird's neck as it was flapping trying to get out.

My daughter Cheyenne ran to the nearby house and asked the owner for scissors.

We were able to free the bird and release it.

Anglers need to know that some birds use spider webs to help build their nests and a tangled line looks a lot like that.

Please let them know they should remove any tangled lines because the bird would have died for sure had we not seen it.

Mike and Cheyenne Cormier,  
Halton Hills

### Give a senior a break

I requested weekly mail delivery to my door for the winter months.

I gave my age and explained the difficulty of walking from Pauline Street, all down Margaret Street and across Edward Street to the box in winter with high snow banks and no sidewalks.

Yesterday I received a four-page form with one page to be filled out by my doctor explaining my disability.

So I trundled across town to my doctor with the form.

Her secretary will phone me when the form is ready to be picked up.

My disability is that I am pushing 90 and live alone.

Wouldn't it be simpler and cheaper to automatically grant weekly winter delivery for all applicants over 85 who live alone?

Saloma Smith,  
Georgetown

### In praise of the police

We had an occasion to call for help from the Halton Regional Police Service recently.

We wish to tell you how great and swift their action was in networking to find a lost member of our family. Their networking was superior.

Their treatment was kind, understanding and compassionate. Our family member was returned to us safe and sound. People in Georgetown, we have an amazing police service. I am incredibly grateful.

Jacqueline Barnes and Morley Barnes,  
Halton Hills

### Letters policy

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