

Tougher laws are needed — now!

From Front Page

Gayle to the police station, said, "I'm all right as long as my one-year-old son is awake. But when he sleeps I have too much time to think."

Finally, for the Baylis family, passing an empty bedroom that will never again be occupied is more than any family should have to bear.

As police officers, we are prepared to put our lives on the line every day. But "the system" is failing to protect us and the citizens we serve. We want Todd's death, and so many others like it, to have some meaning, to make a difference.

The members of 12 Division thank all of you who have shared our grief over Todd's death. Many of you have written or called the

station asking how you can help. We urge all of you to write your Member of Parliament, Justice Minister Allan Rock and Immigration Minister Sergio Marchi. We must let our elected leaders know where we stand on crime and immigration.

For those of you who are unclear about what changes need to be made, here is where I stand on the issues:

IMMIGRATION:

1. Automatic deportation of those people who are not Canadian Citizens but have been convicted of a criminal offense in Canada.

2. Stricter controls and checks at our borders and airports so that valid refugees and immigrants are welcome, but known criminals are turned away before they establish

residency in Canada.

3. Photo identification and fingerprinting for all refugees and landed immigrants, to prevent criminal deportees from re-entering the country under altered, stolen or false identification and to prevent the profitable sale of lost and stolen passports and immigration papers.

4. People with criminal convictions in this country must be stopped from making refugee claims.

JUSTICE:

1. A return to capital punishment for the offense of murder.

2. A minimum sentence of five years for anyone caught in possession of an illegal handgun.

3. A minimum 10 year sentence for anyone convicted of using an illegal handgun in the commission of a criminal offense.

4. A return to the minimum of a seven-year sentence in jail for those convicted of trafficking narcotics.

5. A total re-vamping of the Young Offenders Act.

6. A hard look at the parole system in Canada, to prevent dangerous criminals from getting out before serving their full sentences.

It is the feeling of the officers of B Platoon, Division 12, that these changes will keep criminals off the street and out of the country.

Let us not forget victims of crime like Vivi Leimonis, Nina de Villiers and my dear friend Officer Todd Baylis. Let their deaths be the impetus for long-overdue change.

NEWS SHORTS

Backyard blaze on Young St.

Acton firefighters were called to a fire at a Young Street home on Saturday at 10:38 am. When they arrived, the volunteer brigade found that the occupant of the house was burning rubbish in his backyard.

Firefighters extinguished the fire and advised the man of the Town by-law regarding open burning (open burning is not allowed without a permit issued by the Halton Hills Fire Department).

Hay-wagon fire on 6th Line

Acton firefighters were called to extinguish bales of hay that had caught fire and ignited a hay wagon on Monday at 5:06 pm. The blaze was located at a rural property at the Sixth Line and 32 Sideroad.

Damage is estimated at \$1,500. According to Halton Hills Fire Department, the cause of the blaze is undetermined.

False alarm at St. Joe's

At 7:40 on Monday night, firefighters were called to St. Joseph's separate school on Mill Street to investigate an alarm activation.

Firefighters found that the alarm was actually set off by a technician who was testing the system and forgot to advise the fire department.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Let us not forget victims of crime like Vivi Leimonis, Nina de Villiers and my dear friend Officer Todd Baylis. Let their deaths be the impetus for long-overdue change."

— Acton's Sue (Kinal) Cieslik, Metro Police officer, Page 2

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