

EDITORIAL

England is full of drafty, stone-cold churches that in some cases date back to the thirteenth century and earlier. There's something awesome about worshipping in the same building as one's forebears 40 generations earlier. Even at the height of summer the ancient stones never seem to reach more than a few degrees above freezing. In mid August this can be a very pleasant thing, but it has little to recommend it on a crisp January morning. I actually never minded the chill. It was like smelling salts for the soul; guaranteed to keep your attention alert and focused on the sermon.

Even Victorian churches are chilly edifices. The church I belonged to in the sixties was housed in a great, echoing building with wonderful acoustics but was frightfully impractical to maintain. It was located on the High Street of a fashionable market town and had a knock down real estate value that was out of any proportion to the parish finances. The day finally arrived when even tithing could not raise enough cash to cover the utility bills. Luckily that was the day the man from the supermarket chain arrived, with a proposal that we didn't refuse. The supermarket chain razed our old church and built a gleaming steel and glass structure in its place. The town needed a supermarket on the High Street and we needed a warm place to worship that wouldn't cost us a fortune to run. They built us a new church on top of the supermarket. It didn't have the same ambience but it was warm. In fact the supermarket agreed to supply all the heat and hydro for the church for the next 99 years until the lease ran out, and we got our land back again. It was a marriage of convenience and like a number of such marriages worked surprisingly well.

The proposal to expand the Regional Centre on Bronte Road to house the Police, both Boards of Education and of course, the Region is a sound idea. Grouping together to reduce living expenses by sharing services is neither a new nor a radical idea, and in this case translates into savings of some \$20 million over the next 10 years. The convenience of having civic services grouped in one complex that has easy highway access should not be dismissed lightly. We have sufficient land to accomplish this proposal painlessly and this will give us the luxury of shooting for superior aesthetics. I for one applaud Brent Marshall and his staff for their initiative.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed your recent editorial on 'The Wild Ones', a terrific example to demonstrate your point - things are not always as

they seem to be. Indeed.

Congratulations on growing a great community newspaper.

Eric Doubt
Georgetown

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the 2005 Milton Santa Claus Parade Committee, I want to ask your readers for their help in presenting the parade on Sunday November 27, at 2 pm.

The parade needs between 10 to 12 adult walking parade marshals to assist the committee in marshalling sections of the parade from the assembly area along Bronte St. S. to Main St. south on Ontario St. to E.C. Drury High School for dispersal. The marshals are needed from 12 noon to 4 pm. and should be able to walk the 2 km. route providing safety and security for the parade partici-

pants and spectators.

If you are interested in helping to marshal the parade please call Colin Best at 905-878-3623 or Laura McKee at 905-878-6347.

Also the Parade Committee thanks the following groups for their continued assistance in assembling the Parade.

Carole Murray's Swim Academy, S & L Laboratories, RAM Lighting, La Rosa Bakery & White Oaks Plaza, Mr. Fred Rigo, Town of Milton Works Staff, Halton Regional Police.

Colin Best,
Assembly Marshal

To the editor

Re: "The Turner Report," Oct. 21

Garth Turner suggests a few ways in which we can save money. In my opinion, out of consideration for that hackneyed old dog, "political correctness," he neglected to suggest what is potentially the biggest money saver of all: scrap official bilin-

gualism. An alternative on a personal level for those who are young enough and equipped with the education and/or skills in demand internationally is to leave the country for a jurisdiction with lower taxes. They are not too difficult to find within the Western world's industrialized nations.

Ron Bezant
Milton

To The Editor

On behalf of Canadian Blood Services I would like to thank everyone who attended the Milton donor clinic on October 13, 2005 where we collected an impressive 100 units. Since every unit of blood can be used to help save or improve the lives of up to three people, your donations could help as many as 300 people in need!

A special thank you goes out to the Milton Sports Centre along with all of the many wonderful volunteers who helped make the day a success and of course to all of those who came out to donate. Thank you for being everyday heroes!

As the supplier of a national

blood system, we are responsible for providing blood to all Canadians as needed. The need for blood is continually increasing and your donations have truly made a difference in the lives of others. We sincerely appreciate your generosity.

The next clinic will be held at the Milton Sports Centre, 605 Santa Maria Blvd., Milton on Saturday October 29, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Thank you for your continued support of the blood program. We look forward to seeing you at our next community clinic!

Marissa D'Onofrio,
Canadian Blood Service
Recruitment Coordinator

Encouraging today's youth



Nominations are now being accepted for the Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Awards

The strength of our community lies in solid citizens. Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders. If you know a young person, aged 6 to 17, who is involved in worthwhile community service; a special person who is contributing while living with a limitation; a youth who has performed an act of heroism; or a 'good kid' who shows a commitment to making life better for others, doing more than is normally expected of someone their age - help us recognize their contribution - nominate them today!

Nominations will be accepted until November 30.

Contact this newspaper or the Ontario Community Newspapers Association at www.ocna.org or 905.639.8720.

ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE - NOMINATE SOMEONE TODAY!



ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Sponsored by: Co-ordinated by: www.ocna.org

THE HALTON COMPASS
welcomes letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. However, we do not necessarily support or endorse the comments or opinions expressed by the writer(s). We reserve the right to edit, revise and reject letters. Letters must be signed and the address and telephone number of the writer should be included. Letters may be sent into 35 Crawford Crescent Box 129, Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0, emailed to editor@haltoncompass.com or faxed to 905-854-4761.

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