



# COMMENT

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

## Kudos for councillors

Congratulations to Milton councillors for sticking to their guns recently over some suggestions from Twiss Road residents about installing all-way stop signs and knocking back speed limits.

While we understand and empathize with residents plagued by worrisome heavy truck traffic, lowering speed limits and putting up unwarranted stops signs won't work.

Those measures have failed in the past and they are almost guaranteed to fail again. As well, at times in the past politicians have caved in to the will of irate residents and put stop signs up where traffic was light.

They have also ridiculously lowered speed limits to placate such constituencies, only to create fertile speed traps. Police officers benefit, whacking unsuspecting motorists with what amounts to a hidden tax as they innocently cruise some rural road at 80 km per hour, only to find the pace has been arbitrarily plunged to a pokey 60 for no apparent reason.

Frank politicians will also tell you that most of the people caught disobeying traffic signals in any given neighbourhood are the people who live there.

Re-routing heavy trucks, if they pose a danger, is the right and responsible way to go.

Rob Kelly



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Quality drinking water a right

### Water problem will only get worse

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank you for speaking out about our lack of drinking water in your editorial in the June 16 issue of The Champion.

We are periodically getting a brown mixture from our cold water taps that will stain a toilet bowl in half an hour.

I live in a seniors' build-

ing where I believe most of my neighbours (and I) are aged between 70 and 90 plus years, and to be without drinking water when the temperature is 28 to 30 degrees celsius can be dangerous.

Quality drinking water is a basic right.

Our councillors are always bickering about possible problems as we

expand.

We already have a problem — one that can be fixed, and if it's not done now it will be a worse problem in the future.

Replace our main water supply line, and start from there.

This problem has to be addressed.

Rodney T. Ramsden  
Milton

### Tone of letter uncalled for, responds Sharp

Dear Editor:

I would like the opportunity to respond to a few points raised in the June 4 letter to the editor by Sharon Wilson, 'Carole Sharp was off base, says interpreter for the deaf'.

Ms Wilson, who is an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter, sent her letter to the editor after reading an article in The Champion on May 18, 'They worry deaf face double standard'. As an ASL interpreter, Ms Wilson took issue with what was said about ASL and with how communication with a deaf person was portrayed in the article.

In her June 4 letter, Ms Wilson cautioned me not to speak about things in which I have no background. Unfortunately, she didn't clearly define background. I do have 22 years experience of working and living with the deaf. My son of 22 is deaf and as a family we have always supported our son and the deaf community. I am a member of the Milton Deaf Action

Group (MDAG) and use every opportunity as a volunteer to advocate for the deaf.

On May 27, the MDAG hosted a business and service provider's information evening. The event offered information on strategies and resources for employing deaf people and on making businesses/services accessible to deaf consumers. I was requested by the MDAG to be the media contact for that event.

During an interview with the media, I was asked about the business and service provider's event and was also requested to speak about my personal experiences as a parent of a child who is deaf.

I spoke from knowledge, experience, frustration, concern and love. At no time did I mean to imply that deaf people are less able or less intelligent than a person with hearing capabilities. They are as diverse in skill and ability as their hearing counterparts.

Ms Wilson's letter was welcome.

Her clear explanations on ASL helped to provide an understanding of deaf culture/issues to the hearing public. The tone of her letter, however, was destructive, hurtful and not welcome. If there were mistakes or errors in my interview, then make the correction, but do it in a constructive manner. I will continue to give my personal time and energy to working with and for the deaf community. I will probably make mistakes. If I do, I need to hear about it but in a respectful manner.

I know that deaf people want to participate in and give back to their community as parents, citizens, workers, business people, service providers, consumers and volunteers. To make this happen, deaf and hearing people have to work together. We should all be working together for one common goal, inclusion, and for this we need everyone's support and help.

Carole Sharp  
Milton



## THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Box 248, 191 Main St. E.,  
Milton, Ont. L9T 4N9

(905) 878-2341

Editorial Fax: 878-4943

Advertising Fax: 876-2364

Classified: 875-3300

Ian Oliver

Publisher

Neil Oliver

Associate Publisher

Bill Begin

General Manager

Rob Kelly

Editor

Karen Cross

Circulation Manager

Teri Casas

Office Manager

Tim Coles

Production Manager

The Canadian Champion, published every Tuesday and Friday at 191 Main St. E., Milton, Ont., L9T 4N9 (Box 248), is one of The Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd. group of suburban companies which includes: Ajax / Pickering News Advertiser; Alliston Herald/Courier; Barrie Advance; Brampton Guardian; Burlington Post; City Parent; Collingwood / Wasaga Connection; East York Mirror; Etobicoke Guardian; Georgetown Independent/ Acton Free Press; Kingston This Week; Lindsay This Week; Markham Economist & Sun; Midland / Penetanguishene Mirror; Mississauga News; Newmarket / Aurora Era Banner; Northumberland News; North York Mirror; Oakville Beaver; Orillia Today; Oshawa / Whitby / Clarington / Port Perry This Week; Peterborough This Week; Richmond Hill / Thornhill / Vaughan Liberal; Scarborough Mirror; Uxbridge / Stouffville Tribune; Today's Seniors.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with a reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. The publisher reserves the right to categorize advertisements or decline.

### Pud

by Steve Nease

